



# COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-0969



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Rodger Ott  
(800) 392-3202

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JUNE 23, 2024

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Hot temperatures advanced crops quickly across the State last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for June 18, drought conditions were present across 16 percent of the State. Abnormally dry conditions were spread over 27 percent of the State. Moderate drought conditions were present across about 16 percent of the State, and severe drought was rated at less than 1 percent. Portions of Larimer and Weld Counties were categorized under moderate drought in the latest report, and moderate drought also expanded in Mesa County. Northeastern counties received isolated moisture, with most concentrated across Larimer, Weld, Morgan, and Logan Counties. Northern Larimer County received more than 2 inches of moisture. In eastern counties, limited precipitation was received. Reports noted hot weather slowed other hay and pasture growth. Area conditions were dry and windy. Producers noted crops were beginning to show heat stress. Reports also noted limited winter wheat harvest had begun. In southwestern counties, welcome and widespread moisture was received last week. Portions of Dolores and San Miguel Counties received 2 inches or more. Reports noted the first cutting of alfalfa progressed, although increased alfalfa weevil presence affected quality in areas. In the San Luis Valley, first cutting of alfalfa also began and precipitation was fairly widespread across the Valley. Area livestock remained in good condition. Southeastern counties remained dry last week. Reports noted winter wheat and spring crops in areas were struggling due to low moisture levels. Livestock respiratory illness was a noted concern due to dry, windy conditions.

Alfalfa harvest picked up last week, with 66 percent of the crop harvested by week's end, close to the 5-year average of 69 percent. Heading of the barley crop progressed significantly last week, with 44 percent of the crop headed by week's end. Emergence of the corn crop was virtually complete, with 95 percent of the acres reported as emerged. Dry edible bean planting continued, with 82 percent of the crop planted and 63 percent emerged. Potato emergence across the State continued behind the average, with 81 percent of acres in the San Luis Valley and 85 percent of acres across the rest of the State emerged. Planting of the proso millet crop progressed last week, with 74 percent of the crop planted. The sunflower crop was reported as 82 percent planted, catching up to the previous year and the 5-year average of 80 percent. The winter wheat crop was 95 percent headed by week's end, ahead of the previous year. Eighty-two percent of the winter wheat crop had colored, significantly ahead of the previous year of 47 percent and the 5-year average of 57 percent. Winter wheat mature was 32 percent last week, ahead of the 5-year average of 10 percent. Winter wheat harvested, at 1 percent, was ahead of last year. Stored feed supplies were reported as 2 percent very short, 11 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. Cattle death loss was reported as 57 percent average and 43 percent light. Sheep death loss was reported as 94 percent average and 6 percent light.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested .....	66	43	56	69
Barley				
Headed.....	44	15	18	26
Corn				
Emerged.....	95	83	92	96
Dry edible beans				
Planted .....	82	62	88	80
Emerged.....	63	35	63	49
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Emerged.....	81	61	54	83
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Emerged.....	85	67	83	95
Proso millet				
Planted .....	74	56	60	78
Sorghum				
Planted .....	80	66	79	86
Emerged.....	43	30	58	56
Headed.....	1	--	--	--
Sunflowers				
Planted .....	82	56	83	80
Winter wheat				
Headed.....	95	92	94	96
Coloring.....	82	41	47	57
Mature .....	32	4	7	10
Harvested.....	1	--	--	2

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

### DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.2	6.5	4.7	5.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	17	12	3	14
Short.....	18	21	7	23
Adequate .....	52	57	74	57
Surplus .....	13	10	16	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	13	12	4	15
Short.....	16	21	17	28
Adequate .....	53	56	68	53
Surplus .....	18	11	11	4

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	4
Poor .....	8	8	4	7
Fair.....	19	20	18	22
Good.....	68	58	65	56
Excellent.....	4	13	12	11
<b>Barley</b>				
Very poor.....	1	2	--	2
Poor .....	4	3	--	7
Fair.....	40	18	9	24
Good.....	35	56	29	39
Excellent.....	20	21	62	28
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	3	2	--	1
Poor .....	11	8	1	6
Fair.....	28	30	13	27
Good.....	51	54	61	50
Excellent.....	7	6	25	16
<b>Onion</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor .....	7	5	--	3
Fair.....	50	50	40	29
Good.....	25	20	20	54
Excellent.....	18	25	40	13
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	9
Poor .....	26	17	5	13
Fair.....	26	28	16	25
Good.....	38	43	44	38
Excellent.....	5	7	35	15
<b>Potatoes inside San Luis Valley</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor .....	5	5	--	6
Fair.....	25	25	--	17
Good.....	55	55	90	57
Excellent.....	15	15	10	19
<b>Potatoes outside the San Luis Valley</b>				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	1
Poor .....	1	--	--	2
Fair.....	18	15	--	17
Good.....	78	85	100	72
Excellent.....	2	--	-	8
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor .....	3	3	--	2
Fair.....	45	35	6	38
Good.....	49	59	87	51
Excellent.....	3	3	7	8
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor.....	--	2	--	1
Poor .....	--	3	--	2
Fair.....	30	18	34	30
Good.....	70	73	47	48
Excellent.....	--	4	19	19
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	16	15	--	10
Poor .....	22	23	11	15
Fair.....	26	27	28	26
Good.....	33	33	49	37
Excellent.....	3	2	12	12
<b>Livestock</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	1
Poor .....	3	2	1	5
Fair.....	15	15	20	20
Good.....	70	72	48	59
Excellent.....	11	10	31	15

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero