

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 17, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana was unseasonably cool and wet for the first part of the week with reports of snow in the mountains before returning to more typical hot and dry conditions toward the end of the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures for the week ranged from the mid 70s to the upper 80s and low temperatures ranged from the upper 20s to the lower 50s. Measurable precipitation was recorded at all reporting stations this week but varied widely in amounts with the highest recorded coming from Zortman at 3.10 inches of moisture. The rain was well received and needed to help flagging spring crops and range lands in all but the northeastern corner of the state where there has been a surplus of moisture leading to disease issues and problems cutting hay. Other areas received spotty precipitation and still more hail. Soil moisture conditions improved over last week and remain above last year with 70 percent of topsoil rated adequate to surplus and 64 percent of subsoil rated adequate to surplus compared with 45 percent and 51 percent last year, respectively. First cuttings of alfalfa and other hay are nearing completion ahead of last year and well ahead of the five year average and producers who are able have begun to harvest a second cutting of alfalfa. Pulse crop harvest continues ahead of the five year average for dry peas with 6 percent harvested and right at the five year average for lentils with 3 percent complete. Winter wheat harvest has begun at a slower rate than last year and the five year average with 2 percent harvested so far. Winter wheat condition is rated 61 percent good to excellent which is ahead of last year's 55 percent but below the five year average of 63 percent. Pasture and range conditions declined from the previous week with 38 percent rated good to excellent which was still higher than last year's 30 percent but below the five year average of 46 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
First cutting.....	96	94	93	87
Second cutting	4	NA	NA	NA
Barley				
Headed.....	95	86	99	86
Turning	66	45	58	30
Camelina				
Blooming	60	40	91	90
Canola				
Turning	40	36	46	24
Dry edible peas				
Harvested.....	6	5	10	5
Durum wheat				
Headed.....	85	67	90	54
Turning	4	NA	19	6
Flaxseed				
Blooming	90	86	89	78
Turning	2	NA	17	18
Lentils				
Harvested.....	3	2	1	3
Mustard seed				
Turning	49	30	22	30
Oats				
Headed.....	95	80	87	70
Turning	30	5	28	16
Other hay				
First cutting.....	95	92	89	80
Safflower				
Blooming	61	55	26	63
Turning	1	NA	NA	NA
Spring wheat				
Headed.....	90	75	96	74
Turning	7	NA	29	14
Winter wheat				
Turning.....	96	88	97	71
Harvested.....	2	--	10	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	4.6	5.4	6.5	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	11	13	13
Short.....	20	21	42	38
Adequate.....	59	60	39	45
Surplus.....	11	8	6	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	10	10	11	11
Short.....	26	27	38	31
Adequate.....	58	59	42	53
Surplus.....	6	4	9	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION¹

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Very poor.....	1	1	3	3
Poor.....	4	3	10	8
Fair.....	33	31	34	34
Good.....	40	41	41	42
Excellent.....	22	24	12	13
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor.....	2	2	5	5
Fair.....	31	32	32	31
Good.....	52	53	51	48
Excellent.....	15	13	11	15
Dry Edible Peas				
Very poor.....	2	2	5	2
Poor.....	4	4	8	5
Fair.....	32	32	34	27
Good.....	49	49	41	48
Excellent.....	13	13	12	18
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	8	4
Poor.....	3	3	12	6
Fair.....	44	44	50	28
Good.....	46	46	29	48
Excellent.....	5	5	1	14
Lentils				
Very poor.....	2	2	8	4
Poor.....	4	4	9	7
Fair.....	38	38	44	31
Good.....	48	48	38	46
Excellent.....	8	8	1	12
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	3
Poor.....	4	4	3	7
Fair.....	28	28	31	30
Good.....	61	62	55	53
Excellent.....	6	6	10	7
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	10	10	7	9
Poor.....	16	15	21	15
Fair.....	36	36	42	30
Good.....	33	34	26	32
Excellent.....	5	5	4	14
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	1	2	4	3
Poor.....	4	3	8	7
Fair.....	30	29	34	32
Good.....	50	51	45	47
Excellent.....	15	15	9	11
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	2
Poor.....	7	6	9	8
Fair.....	30	30	34	27
Good.....	37	38	35	46
Excellent.....	24	24	20	17

¹Current conditions for Camelina, Canola, Dry Edible Beans, Flaxseed, Mustard Seed, Potatoes, Safflower, and Sugarbeets are available using the QuickStats on-line database at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick_Stats/

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/MT_Weather_07172016.pdf