

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 31, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Scattered thunderstorms brought rain, hail and wind to many areas across Montana, with the largest accumulation of precipitation reported at Brockway where 1.45 inches fell, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures for the week ranged from the upper 80s to 102 degrees in Mizpah, and low temperatures ranged from the lower 30s to the upper 50s. Lightning coupled with dry, windy conditions in the northwestern area of the state created ideal fire conditions and a handful of fires started over the course of the week. Storms delayed harvest in many parts of the state and producers in the northeastern part of the state began to plow under corn that was too severely damaged by hail to harvest. An excess of moisture is beginning to negatively impact dry peas waiting to be harvested in the north central region of the state. Small grains harvest is underway ahead of the 5-year average for all but spring wheat harvest which has just begun. Pasture and rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate with 37 percent good to excellent which is above last year's 26 percent but below the 5-year average of 43 percent. Reporters are noting that livestock wells are going dry in addition to the poor quality of rangelands and producers have begun to move animals off summer pastures with 1 percent of cattle and 1 percent of sheep moved.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Second cutting	35	12	21	17
Barley				
Turning	89	82	96	72
Harvested	9	1	19	7
Camelina				
Blooming	95	80	100	99
Turning	27	5	71	70
Canola				
Turning	58	51	76	51
Dry edible beans				
Harvested	3	1	3	1
Dry edible peas				
Harvested	35	17	64	29
Durum wheat				
Headed	95	93	99	86
Turning	51	23	76	34
Flaxseed				
Turning	31	17	75	46
Lentils				
Harvested	11	5	29	17
Mustard seed				
Turning	86	60	69	55
Oats				
Turning	88	59	81	55
Harvested	8	NA	2	NA
Other hay				
Second cutting	19	7	13	7
Safflower				
Blooming	86	76	46	78
Turning	23	18	NA	NA
Spring wheat				
Turning	60	35	91	53
Harvested	1	NA	4	2
Winter wheat				
Harvested	54	20	62	27
Livestock moved from summer ranges				
Cattle and calves	1	NA	4	NA
Sheep and lambs	1	NA	4	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.7	6.3	5.4	5.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	12	11	13	15
Short.....	23	23	42	39
Adequate.....	57	58	37	40
Surplus.....	8	8	8	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	11	11	14	14
Short.....	26	26	38	33
Adequate.....	58	58	39	47
Surplus.....	5	5	9	6

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	4
Poor.....	4	4	10	9
Fair.....	32	32	34	35
Good.....	41	40	42	43
Excellent.....	22	23	11	9
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	3
Poor.....	2	3	9	6
Fair.....	32	31	31	33
Good.....	52	51	47	44
Excellent.....	14	15	12	14
Dry Edible Peas				
Very poor.....	3	3	NA	NA
Poor.....	5	5	NA	NA
Fair.....	34	35	NA	NA
Good.....	46	45	NA	NA
Excellent.....	12	12	NA	NA
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	8	6
Poor.....	3	3	46	15
Fair.....	44	44	16	28
Good.....	48	47	29	47
Excellent.....	3	4	1	4
Lentils				
Very poor.....	4	4	8	6
Poor.....	4	4	28	13
Fair.....	44	44	24	31
Good.....	40	40	39	46
Excellent.....	8	8	1	4
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	3
Poor.....	5	5	3	7
Fair.....	28	28	31	31
Good.....	60	60	54	51
Excellent.....	6	6	11	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	12	11	8	9
Poor.....	17	17	21	16
Fair.....	34	35	45	32
Good.....	33	32	22	30
Excellent.....	4	5	4	13
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	1	1	4	4
Poor.....	4	4	9	8
Fair.....	29	29	34	32
Good.....	51	51	44	46
Excellent.....	15	15	9	10
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	2
Poor.....	7	7	10	10
Fair.....	31	30	32	27
Good.....	37	38	35	46
Excellent.....	23	23	21	15

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_07312016.pdf