

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 AUGUST 14, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana had another hot, dry week marked by scattered afternoon thunderstorms that brought lightning, hail and highly variable amounts of rain, with the largest accumulation of precipitation reported at Superior where 1.84 inches fell, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures for the week ranged from the mid 80s to 97 degrees in Mizpah, and low temperatures ranged from the upper 20s to the lower 50s. There was more hail damage this week, particularly in the central part of the state that impacted crops, such as alfalfa fields, potatoes and small grains. Harvest continues ahead of the 5-year average for all small grains, with 52 percent of barley, 25 percent of durum wheat, 53 percent of oats, 37 percent of spring wheat, and 94 percent of winter wheat harvested this week. Pasture and rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate with 34 percent rated good to excellent which is above last year's 24 percent but below the 5-year average of 41 percent. Producers continues to move animals off summer pastures with 16 percent of cattle and 16 percent of sheep moved which is well ahead of the 5-year average for both.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Second cutting	73	58	62	52
Barley				
Harvested	52	28	58	34
Camelina				
Turning	48	43	99	97
Canola				
Turning	92	75	94	83
Harvested	18	2	44	20
Corn				
Harvested for Silage	1	NA	2	NA
Dry edible beans				
Harvested	40	15	38	17
Dry edible peas				
Harvested	76	62	84	61
Durum wheat				
Turning	92	79	99	73
Harvested	25	6	17	13
Flaxseed				
Turning	80	63	96	75
Harvested	1	NA	35	10
Lentils				
Harvested	60	38	73	47
Mustard seed				
Harvested	35	6	46	17
Oats				
Harvested	53	25	51	33
Other hay				
Second cutting	63	36	46	39
Safflower				
Blooming	95	91	85	92
Turning	62	37	18	45
Spring wheat				
Turning	97	78	100	82
Harvested	37	19	39	21
Winter wheat				
Harvested	94	82	90	76
Livestock moved from summer ranges				
Cattle and calves	16	9	9	4
Sheep and lambs	16	8	10	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.8	6.9	6.6	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	14	15	17
Short.....	24	24	38	40
Adequate.....	54	55	40	39
Surplus.....	7	7	7	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	13	14	15
Short.....	26	26	38	35
Adequate.....	56	57	39	46
Surplus.....	4	4	9	4

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.....	2	1	4	4
Poor.....	5	5	10	9
Fair.....	33	32	34	35
Good.....	38	39	41	40
Excellent.....	22	23	11	12
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor.....	3	2	7	6
Fair.....	31	31	33	33
Good.....	52	53	47	44
Excellent.....	14	14	12	16
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	--	2	6	5
Poor.....	3	3	34	12
Fair.....	42	44	27	29
Good.....	47	48	32	50
Excellent.....	8	3	1	4
Lentils				
Very poor.....	4	4	NA	NA
Poor.....	4	4	NA	NA
Fair.....	48	48	NA	NA
Good.....	37	36	NA	NA
Excellent.....	7	8	NA	NA
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	NA
Poor.....	5	5	4	NA
Fair.....	28	28	28	NA
Good.....	60	60	56	NA
Excellent.....	6	6	11	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	13	9	10
Poor.....	19	18	22	17
Fair.....	34	33	45	32
Good.....	29	31	21	31
Excellent.....	5	5	3	10
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	2	1	--	NA
Fair.....	5	5	20	NA
Good.....	48	49	53	NA
Excellent.....	45	45	27	NA
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	2	1	4	3
Poor.....	4	4	8	8
Fair.....	29	29	33	32
Good.....	52	52	46	48
Excellent.....	13	14	9	9
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	1	1	8	6
Fair.....	12	12	29	29
Good.....	67	67	50	45
Excellent.....	20	20	13	19

¹Current conditions for Camelina, Canola, Dry Edible Beans, Flaxseed, Mustard Seed, and Safflower 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_08142016.pdf