

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 28, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: The month of August ended on a dry note for much of Montana with some much cooler nights for most of the week before returning to summertime conditions by the weekend, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Daytime high temperatures for the week ranged from the upper 70s to 97 degrees in Culberston, Terry and Wolf Point. Overnight lows ranged from the lower 20s to the upper 40s with a statewide low of 21 degrees in Wisdom. Precipitation was minimal and the largest amount recoded this week was 0.33 of an inch in Zortman. Comments regarding hot, dry weather were the norm across the northern tier of the state and there was a report from Richland county advising that a sudden lack of irrigation water may impact yield in late season crops like sugarbeets and corn in that area. Statewide, small grain harvest was progressing ahead of normal, with 82 percent of barley, 66 percent of Durum wheat, 83 percent of oats, and 73 percent of spring wheat harvested by week's end. Hay production also continues ahead of average and reporters noted that livestock producers may overwinter more calves than usual due to relatively inexpensive feed prices. Pasture and rangeland conditions continued to deteriorate under hotter and drier than normal weather, with just 31 percent rated good to excellent which was better than last year's 21 percent but below the 5-year average of 36 percent. Producers continues to move animals off summer pastures with 20 percent of cattle and 20 percent of sheep moved, 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 | 88 | 80 | 78 | 76 |
| Barley | | | | |
| Harvested | 82 | 66 | 90 | 67 |
| Camelina | | | | |
| Turning | 80 | 60 | 100 | 100 |
| Harvested | 34 | 12 | 60 | 51 |
| Canola | | | | |
| Harvested | 51 | 31 | 80 | 54 |
| Corn | | | | |
| Harvested for Silage | 7 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| Dry edible beans | | | | |
| Harvested | 78 | 69 | 83 | 40 |
| Dry edible peas | | | | |
| Harvested | 92 | 87 | 99 | 88 |
| Durum wheat | | | | |
| Harvested | 66 | 42 | 59 | 39 |
| Flaxseed | | | | |
| Turning | 97 | 89 | 99 | 96 |
| Harvested | 26 | 12 | 84 | 41 |
| Lentils | | | | |
| Harvested | 79 | 71 | 89 | 78 |
| Mustard seed | | | | |
| Harvested | 66 | 45 | 74 | 47 |
| Oats | | | | |
| Harvested | 83 | 69 | 74 | 64 |
| Other hay | | | | |
| Second cutting | 83 | 73 | 61 | 62 |
| Safflower | | | | |
| Turning | 79 | 65 | 55 | 72 |
| Harvested | 24 | 2 | -- | 1 |
| Spring wheat | | | | |
| Harvested | 73 | 53 | 80 | 55 |
| Cattle and calves | | | | |
| Moved from summer range | 20 | 19 | 16 | 10 |
| Receiving supplemental feed | 8 | 8 | 8 | NA |
| Sheep and lambs | | | | |
| Moved from summer range | 20 | 19 | 16 | 11 |
| Receiving supplemental feed | 7 | 7 | 8 | NA |

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

| Commodity | Current week | Previous week | Previous year | 5-year average |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Days suitable for fieldwork..... | 6.0 | 5.6 | 6.8 | 6.1 |
| Topsoil moisture | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Very short..... | 15 | 14 | 16 | 19 |
| Short..... | 28 | 24 | 40 | 37 |
| Adequate..... | 52 | 55 | 38 | 37 |
| Surplus..... | 5 | 7 | 6 | 7 |
| Subsoil moisture | | | | |
| Very short..... | 15 | 15 | 14 | 16 |
| Short..... | 31 | 27 | 39 | 33 |
| Adequate..... | 51 | 54 | 39 | 45 |
| Surplus..... | 3 | 4 | 8 | 6 |

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION¹

| | Current week | Previous week | Previous year | 5-year average |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Canola | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 1 | 1 | NA | NA |
| Poor..... | 1 | 1 | NA | NA |
| Fair..... | 23 | 22 | NA | NA |
| Good..... | 60 | 57 | NA | NA |
| Excellent..... | 15 | 19 | NA | NA |
| Corn | | | | |
| Very poor..... | -- | -- | 3 | 2 |
| Poor..... | 3 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| Fair..... | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 |
| Good..... | 53 | 52 | 46 | 44 |
| Excellent..... | 14 | 14 | 12 | 15 |
| Durum wheat | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 3 | -- | 6 | NA |
| Poor..... | 7 | 3 | 24 | NA |
| Fair..... | 46 | 42 | 31 | NA |
| Good..... | 40 | 47 | 37 | NA |
| Excellent..... | 4 | 8 | 2 | NA |
| Flaxseed | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 1 | 1 | NA | NA |
| Poor..... | 1 | 1 | NA | NA |
| Fair..... | 44 | 44 | NA | NA |
| Good..... | 44 | 44 | NA | NA |
| Excellent..... | 10 | 10 | NA | NA |
| Pasture and range | | | | |
| Very poor..... | 14 | 13 | 11 | 11 |
| Poor..... | 21 | 20 | 24 | 18 |
| Fair..... | 34 | 34 | 44 | 35 |
| Good..... | 26 | 28 | 20 | 28 |
| Excellent..... | 5 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| Potatoes | | | | |
| Very poor..... | -- | -- | -- | NA |
| Poor..... | 2 | 2 | -- | NA |
| Fair..... | 5 | 5 | 20 | NA |
| Good..... | 48 | 48 | 53 | NA |
| Excellent..... | 45 | 45 | 27 | NA |
| Sugarbeets | | | | |
| Very poor..... | -- | -- | -- | 2 |
| Poor..... | 1 | 1 | 8 | 5 |
| Fair..... | 17 | 12 | 29 | 29 |
| Good..... | 65 | 66 | 49 | 46 |
| Excellent..... | 17 | 21 | 14 | 18 |

¹Current conditions for Camelina, 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 08282016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics%20by%20State/Montana/Publications/Crop%20Progress%20&%20Condition/2016/MT%20Weather%2008282016.pdf)