

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
 10 West 15th Street, Suite 3100, Helena, MT 59626
 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Wet weather and cooler temperatures were observed across the State last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 75 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 87 percent in the previous week and 49 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 65 percent adequate to surplus compared to 39 percent the previous year. Reporters in Chouteau, Valley and Richland counties reported an abundance of rain the past week continues to hinder harvest progress and diminish crop conditions due to sooty mold and sprouted grain. A reporter in Powder River County stated the wet conditions have allowed dust free conditions for vaccinating calves and ultrasounding cows. Statewide, barley harvest was estimated at 85 percent complete, behind the previous year of 95 percent. Durum wheat harvested was reported at 51 percent complete, well behind last year at 88 percent. Oats harvested for grain was estimated at 92 percent complete, behind last year at 96 percent. Flaxseed harvested was reported at 35 percent complete, behind the previous year at 74 percent. Approximately 70 percent of the canola crop was harvested by the end of the week, behind last year at 87 percent and well behind the 5-year average of 90 percent. Harvesting of pulse crops is nearing the end, with an estimated 93 percent of the lentil crop harvested. Dry peas harvested made little progress due to wet conditions and was estimated at 94 percent complete, compared to 92 percent the previous week. Winter wheat harvested is estimated at 96 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 95 percent and behind the 5-year average of 99 percent. Winter wheat planted for the 2020 crop season was estimated at 15 percent complete, ahead of last year at 7 percent but well behind the 5-year average of 32 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	90	86	NA	NA
Barley				
Harvested	85	80	95	97
Canola				
Harvested	70	64	87	90
Corn				
Harvested for silage	40	29	50	55
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Harvested	76	58	84	NA
Dry edible peas				
Harvested	94	92	NA	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested	51	44	88	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested	35	25	74	NA
Lentils				
Harvested	93	90	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested	87	65	83	84
Oats				
Harvested	92	88	96	NA
Other hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	82	76	95	NA
Safflower				
Turning color	91	80	92	NA
Harvested	25	15	42	33
Spring wheat				
Harvested	80	69	97	95
Winter wheat				
Harvested	96	91	95	99
Planted	15	5	7	32
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture	15	10	NA	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work.....	3.9	2.8	4.8	5.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	6	3	15	14
Short.....	19	10	36	28
Adequate.....	63	72	45	51
Surplus.....	12	15	4	7
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	7	4	18	17
Short.....	28	23	43	30
Adequate.....	62	62	39	48
Surplus.....	3	11	--	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	2
Poor.....	4	4	5	8
Fair.....	23	24	17	31
Good.....	61	62	60	47
Excellent.....	11	10	17	12
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	14	11	NA	NA
Poor.....	38	18	NA	NA
Fair.....	34	44	NA	NA
Good.....	14	25	NA	NA
Excellent.....	--	2	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	7	3	NA	NA
Fair.....	50	25	NA	NA
Good.....	29	44	NA	NA
Excellent.....	14	28	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	3	11	16
Poor.....	7	5	15	19
Fair.....	32	24	35	34
Good.....	49	50	33	25
Excellent.....	10	18	6	6
Safflower				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	6
Poor.....	1	2	3	5
Fair.....	30	29	26	30
Good.....	63	63	56	48
Excellent.....	5	5	15	11
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	9	9	--	1
Poor.....	11	11	3	5
Fair.....	17	13	12	25
Good.....	47	56	54	48
Excellent.....	16	11	31	21

NA – not available

(--) – zero