

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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Contact: Eric Sommer
 (800) 835-2612

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 26, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warm temperatures were observed across Montana during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reporters in Phillips, Stillwater and Sweet Grass counties reported grasshoppers are impacting the forage and grain crops. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 70 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 75 percent in the previous week and 74 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 77 percent adequate to surplus compared to 71 percent the previous year. Barley turning color was estimated at 58 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 48 percent. Dry edible peas harvest has begun, with an estimated 4 percent of the crop harvested, which is ahead of the previous year but behind the 5-year average of 26 percent. Lentil harvest started earlier than the previous year, with an estimated 2 percent of the crop harvested. Durum wheat headed is estimated at 87 percent complete, jumping ahead of the previous year of 85 percent. The Durum wheat crop continues to progress ahead of the previous year, with an estimated 27 percent of the crop in the coloring stage, compared to 23 percent last year. The oilseed crop is moving into the next stage, with an estimated 10 percent of the flaxseed crop turning color, and mustard seed turning color is estimated at 38 percent complete. Oats turning color is estimated at 28 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 18 percent. Spring wheat turning color is estimated at 47 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 22 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 48 percent. The first cutting for alfalfa and other hay is almost complete, with alfalfa harvested estimated at 87 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 82 percent. First cutting of other hay is estimated at 80 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 74 percent. Second cutting for alfalfa and other hay has begun in some areas, with 4 percent of alfalfa and 3 percent of other hay harvested. Winter wheat was reported with 93 percent of the crop turning color, ahead of the previous year at 84 percent. Harvest continues slowly for winter wheat, with an estimated 10 percent of the crop harvested, behind the 5-year average of 27 percent. Winter wheat conditions were rated as 83 percent good to excellent, compared to 55 percent this time last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	87	75	82	NA
2 nd cutting harvested	4	NA	NA	NA
Barley				
Headed	95	86	93	96
Turning color	58	30	48	72
Canola				
Blooming	95	86	95	NA
Turning color	48	25	42	56
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Blooming	90	76	NA	NA
Dry edible peas				
Harvested	4	1	--	26
Durum wheat				
Headed	87	65	85	91
Turning color	27	5	23	35
Flaxseed				
Blooming	91	81	83	NA
Turning color	10	2	22	29
Lentils				
Harvested	2	--	--	14
Mustard seed				
Blooming	96	90	94	NA
Turning color	38	25	33	50
Oats				
Booted	98	92	96	NA
Headed	85	73	84	NA
Turning color	28	15	18	47
Other hay				
1 st cutting harvested	80	69	74	NA
2 nd cutting harvested	3	NA	NA	NA
Safflower				
Blooming	50	38	44	52
Turning color	10	4	1	NA
Spring wheat				
Booted	98	93	NA	NA
Headed	92	81	93	95
Turning color	47	25	22	48
Winter wheat				
Turning color	93	81	84	NA
Harvested	10	3	1	27

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.....	6.3	6.7	6.8	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	2	2	--	22
Short.....	28	23	26	31
Adequate.....	66	71	69	43
Surplus.....	4	4	5	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	1	1	1	17
Short.....	22	20	28	33
Adequate.....	72	73	69	46
Surplus.....	5	6	2	4

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION¹

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	2
Poor.....	2	4	9	7
Fair.....	12	14	21	32
Good.....	46	37	50	44
Excellent.....	39	45	20	15
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	--	1	5	6
Fair.....	8	15	19	30
Good.....	76	67	68	51
Excellent.....	16	17	8	11
Dry peas				
Very poor.....	1	--	2	7
Poor.....	2	2	5	11
Fair.....	23	25	22	30
Good.....	64	55	59	42
Excellent.....	10	18	12	10
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	5
Poor.....	1	--	4	13
Fair.....	46	60	20	38
Good.....	42	32	59	37
Excellent.....	11	8	17	7
Lentils				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	6
Poor.....	1	1	4	12
Fair.....	20	25	30	38
Good.....	73	62	54	37
Excellent.....	6	12	12	7
Oats				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	6
Poor.....	3	5	5	8
Fair.....	40	27	34	26
Good.....	50	63	56	52
Excellent.....	7	5	5	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	--	5	1	13
Poor.....	5	6	4	15
Fair.....	22	20	22	30
Good.....	60	51	56	35
Excellent.....	13	18	17	7
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	2	--	1	8
Poor.....	3	3	13	12
Fair.....	15	18	22	29
Good.....	65	57	54	42
Excellent.....	15	22	10	9
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	1	5
Fair.....	14	16	11	25
Good.....	69	68	75	55
Excellent.....	17	16	13	15
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	3	1	3
Poor.....	2	3	20	10
Fair.....	13	10	24	27
Good.....	40	28	30	35
Excellent.....	43	56	25	25

¹Current conditions for 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