



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
March 3, 2025

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2025

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: February brought cooler temperatures and snowstorms to Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The heavier accumulations were noted in western and central counties. Survey reports from Valley County indicated limited snow cover as this point of the season. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor published for February 27, roughly 41 percent of the State was drought free, compared with 4 percent on January 28. Other drought categorizations included: abnormally dry (D0) at 24 percent; moderate drought (D1) at 21 percent; severe drought (D2) at 10 percent; and extreme drought (D3) at 4 percent. Calving and lambing were both underway and were 4 and 3 percent complete, respectively, compared with 13 and 9 percent complete a year ago. Supplemental feeding remained heavy for both cattle and sheep. The majority of pastures and ranges were rated in very poor or poor condition, with grazing accessibility increased to 62 percent open, compared with 64 percent open a year ago. The 2025 winter wheat crop was reported as 67 percent good to excellent, an increase of 22 percentage points when compared with last year.

Note: A monthly report will be released for March on March 31, 2025.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	4	1	13	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	97	94	97	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled.....	3	1	9	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	94	90	96	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short.....	17	28	7	NA
Short.....	29	34	45	NA
Adequate.....	52	35	48	NA
Surplus.....	2	3	--	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	22	33	23	NA
Short.....	38	35	48	NA
Adequate.....	39	30	29	NA
Surplus.....	1	2	--	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Grazing accessibility				
Open	62	36	64	NA
Difficult	25	50	23	NA
Closed	13	14	13	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	26	34	24	NA
Poor	45	28	38	NA
Fair	22	34	34	NA
Good	6	4	3	NA
Excellent	1	--	1	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor	1	2	--	NA
Poor	11	5	2	NA
Fair	21	22	53	NA
Good	67	70	41	NA
Excellent	--	1	4	NA
Winter wheat – wind damage				
None	70	80	38	NA
Light	22	11	38	NA
Moderate	5	7	24	NA
Severe	3	2	--	NA
Winter wheat – freeze and drought damage				
None	75	86	43	NA
Light	16	8	24	NA
Moderate	8	4	23	NA
Severe	1	2	10	NA
Winter wheat – protectiveness of snow cover				
Very poor	18	11	12	NA
Poor	40	10	58	NA
Fair	9	22	27	NA
Good	10	56	3	NA
Excellent	23	1	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero