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National Agricultural Statistics Service
Montana Crop Progress



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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
USDA, NASS, Montana Field Office
10 West 15th Street · Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626
(800) 835-2612 · (406) 441-1250 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/mt

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For the Month Ending:
March 29, 2015

Livestock Report

Livestock grazing conditions are better than last year with 67 percent open compared with 41 percent last year thanks to continued mild weather. Supplemental feeding of livestock is continues with 96 percent of cattle and 96 percent of sheep being fed. Livestock birthing continues well behind last year at this time with 23 percent of calving complete and 15 percent of lambing complete compared with 47 percent and 30 percent, respectively.

Range and Livestock Table	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Livestock Grazing			
Open	67	49	41
Difficult	24	24	19
Closed	9	27	40
Livestock Birthing			
Calving	23	10	47
Lambing	15	5	30
Livestock Receiving Supplemental Feed			
Cattle & Calves	96	96	98
Sheep & Lambs	96	97	96

na – not available

Soil Report

Most of the state received measurable precipitation during the month of March but continued warm temperatures for most of the month led to further depletion of snow cover. Topsoil moisture rated adequate and surplus is 72 percent compared with 77 percent last year. Subsoil moisture was rated 71 percent adequate and surplus compared to 77 percent last year.

Soil Moisture Table	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Topsoil Moisture			
Very Short	6	3	3
Short	22	16	20
Adequate	56	75	70
Surplus	16	6	7
Subsoil Moisture			
Very Short	6	4	3
Short	23	16	20
Adequate	48	68	72
Surplus	23	12	5

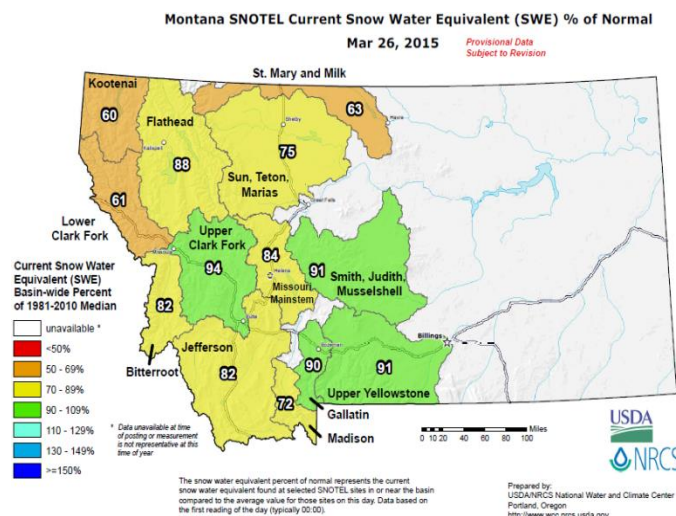
*****Special Publication Notice*****

Starting with next Monday's publication, NASS will begin publishing weekly Crop Progress Reports each Monday through October for the 2015 crop season.

Field Crops Report

Winter wheat condition is above last year at this time with 58 percent good to excellent compared with 50 percent last year. Snow coverage is 0 percent good to excellent compared with 7 percent last month and 26 percent last year. Lack of winter-like conditions has winter wheat showing signs of spring with 35 percent breaking winter dormancy.

Crop Condition and Progress Table	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Winter Wheat			
Very Poor	2	8	0
Poor	7	14	7
Fair	33	34	43
Good	30	35	47
Excellent	28	9	3
Winter Wheat – Wind Damage			
None	75	71	76
Light	18	22	20
Moderate	5	5	4
Heavy	2	2	0
Winter Wheat – Freeze & Drought Damage			
None	70	65	79
Light	21	25	17
Moderate	7	8	4
Heavy	2	2	0
Winter Wheat – Protectiveness of Snow Cover			
Very Poor	69	37	8
Poor	17	31	13
Fair	14	25	53
Good	0	7	25
Excellent	0	0	1
Winter Wheat Breaking Dormancy	35	na	na



Weather Information for the Month ending 03/29/15

Station ID	Temperature				Precipitation March			Precipitation October 1 to date		
	High	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	% Nrm	Total	DFN	% Nrm
NORTHWEST										
Alberton	75	6	40	+4	1.61	+0.71	179	12.66	+6.99	223
Corvallis	75	11	43	+5	0.26	-0.36	42	6.00	+1.81	143
Creston	68	5	40	+6	1.59	+0.38	131	12.11	+4.05	150
Deer Lodge	69	-2	39	+5	0.25	-0.20	56	3.08	+0.67	128
Hamilton	76	12	42	+5	0.71	-0.14	84	8.36	+2.51	143
Heron	66	10	42	+6	4.20	+1.66	165	20.11	-1.33	94
Kalispell	67	4	39	+5	1.66	+0.61	158	11.63	+3.90	150
Libby	66	-2	38	+6	2.92	+1.18	168	17.29	+2.68	118
Missoula	74	9	41	+4	0.46	-0.44	51	7.98	+2.31	141
Olney	62	-5	34	+3	2.23	+0.97	177	15.27	+3.55	130
Polson	70	9	42	+5	1.27	+0.31	132	9.37	+3.02	148
Saint Ignatius	75	2	43	+5	0.96	-0.12	89	10.23	+4.11	167
Seeley Lake	69	-11	37	+6	0.93	-0.31	75	11.46	+0.23	102
Superior	78	9	44	+5	2.63	+1.45	223	11.98	+3.80	146
Thompson Falls	71	12	44	+5	2.57	+0.89	153	14.84	+1.46	111
Yaak	70	-1	39	+4	2.63	+0.06	102	11.44	-11.05	51
NORTH CENTRAL										
Brady	74	-4	41	+9	0.33	-0.35	49	3.22	+0.21	107
Bynum	71	-4	40	+8	0.46	-0.16	74	3.48	+0.25	108
Chester	73	-5	38	+7	0.53	+0.06	113	4.22	+1.88	180
Chinook	75	-3	38	+8	0.34	-0.18	65	1.99	-1.03	66
Choteau	68	-7	42	+8	0.33	+0.03	110	3.41	+1.68	197
Cut Bank	67	-5	39	+9	0.30	-0.21	59	2.86	+0.46	119
Dunkirk	74	-9	36	+5	0.41	-0.23	64	2.78	-0.28	91
Fort Assiniboine	75	-2	38	+7	0.22	-0.38	37	2.86	-0.31	90
Fort Benton	75	-5	37	+5	0.40	+0.06	118	2.86	+0.44	118
Fort Belknap	78	0	41	+5	0.31	-0.48	39	4.38	+0.79	122
Goldbutte	73	-9	38	+7	0.76	+0.12	119	4.37	+1.31	143
Havre	75	-4	40	+8	0.53	-0.13	80	3.83	+0.76	125
Heart Butte	69	-2	38	+9	0.86	-1.12	43	7.46	-7.50	50
Loma	80	-1	40	+6	0.37	-0.33	53	4.69	+1.27	137
Port of Morgan	74	-3	40	+11	0.63	+0.08	115	2.86	-0.05	98
Malta	69	-5	38	+8	0.38	+0.13	152	2.12	+0.43	125
Rudyard	73	-3	38	+6	0.26	-0.14	65	2.96	+1.15	164
Saco	74	-6	37	+8	0.41	-0.13	76	2.04	-0.81	72
Shelby	71	-4	38	+7	0.41	-0.20	67	3.84	+0.96	133
Turner	69	-9	38	+9	0.49	+0.12	132	2.55	+0.32	114
Zortman	68	-2	38	+4	1.15	+0.40	153	6.54	+3.31	202
NORTHEAST										
Bredette	75	-12	36	+7	1.00	+0.55	222	2.89	+0.52	122
Brockway	78	-7	40	+8	0.15	-0.23	39	1.44	-0.67	68
Circle	80	-9	40	+8	0.72	+0.14	124	2.93	-0.23	93
Culbertson	80	-8	38	+7	0.80	+0.35	178	2.83	+0.19	107
Glasgow	75	-5	39	+9	0.71	+0.28	165	3.05	+0.54	122
Glendive	76	-4	41	+10	0.59	+0.08	116	3.01	-0.13	96
Jordan	78	-5	39	+7	0.53	-0.04	93	2.93	-0.34	90
Nashua	75	-5	40	+7	0.58	+0.22	161	2.06	-0.14	94
Plentywood	77	-13	32	+4	0.36	-0.21	63	3.02	+0.30	111
Saint Marie	72	-8	38	+8	0.48	+0.05	112	1.50	-1.01	60
Savage	79	-6	38	+7	0.50	+0.02	104	2.35	-0.67	78
Scobey	73	-14	37	+10	0.59	+0.09	118	1.44	-0.78	65
Sidney	79	-7	39	+7	0.51	-0.01	98	3.50	+0.07	102
Wolf Point	82	-5	39	+8	0.67	+0.21	146	1.62	-0.98	62
CENTRAL										
Denton	75	-1	40	+9	0.44	-0.20	69	3.23	-0.11	97
Grass Range	74	0	42	+9	0.37	-0.54	41	3.50	-0.68	84
Great Falls	74	-6	42	+10	0.10	-0.83	11	4.50	+0.19	104
Harlowton	73	0	40	+7	0.54	-0.13	81	2.90	-0.39	88
Helena	76	3	43	+9	0.15	-0.43	26	3.48	+0.40	113
Holter Dam	71	-9	44	+7	0.52	+0.06	113	4.15	+1.50	157
Judith Gap	72	-3	38	+9	0.12	-0.69	15	1.70	-2.05	45
Lewistown	73	-6	40	+9	0.49	-0.59	45	4.00	-1.17	77
Melstone	75	-2	43	+7	0.40	-0.39	51	2.02	-2.04	50
Millegan	70	-9	38	+8	0.89	-0.37	71	6.55	+0.83	115
Neihart	70	-10	38	+6	0.54	-0.72	43	7.04	+0.77	112
Roundup	78	-1	44	+8	0.23	-0.35	40	2.09	-1.11	65
Ryegate	73	-1	44	+10	0.40	-0.11	78	2.11	-0.98	68
Stanford	70	-2	41	+8	0.34	-0.56	38	4.26	-0.10	98
Townsend	70	-3	41	+5	0.45	-0.05	90	2.64	+0.21	109
Valentine	75	0	40	+8	0.36	-0.31	54	2.65	-0.71	79
White Sulphur Springs	73	-2	43	+11	0.18	-0.60	23	2.79	-0.66	81
SOUTHWEST										
Boulder	72	-5	39	+7	0.34	-0.14	71	2.71	-0.04	99
Bozeman	72	0	41	+7	0.61	-0.68	47	4.85	-1.48	77
Butte	68	-4	36	+7	0.41	-0.36	53	3.17	-0.52	86
Dillon	74	-1	41	+7	0.14	-0.35	29	1.34	-0.84	61
Divide	72	-5	36	+7	0.09	-0.62	13	1.57	-1.80	47
Ennis	73	-2	39	+6	0.39	-0.42	48	2.95	-0.87	77
Logan	76	-1	36	+5	0.04	-0.90	4	2.00	-2.57	44
Twin Bridges	71	-2	41	+7	0.26	-0.18	59	2.03	-0.01	100
West Yellowstone	65	-20	30	+6	0.44	-1.28	26	8.02	-3.04	73
Wisdom	65	-6	35	+10	0.35	-0.26	57	4.93	+0.94	124
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Big Timber	74	0	44	+10	0.08	-0.77	9	3.07	-1.71	64
Billings	80	5	46	+10	0.37	-0.65	36	3.26	-1.83	64
Busby	82	-2	41	+8	0.11	-0.64	15	4.09	-0.83	83
Gardiner	69	2	42	+7	0.18	-0.41	31	2.94	-0.19	94
Hardin	81	4	45	+8	0.13	-0.48	21	4.01	+0.08	102
Huntley	82	1	43	+9	0.11	-0.72	13	2.58	-1.71	60
Hysham	82	4	44	+8	0.19	-0.57	25	2.86	-0.99	74
Joliet	77	-8	39	+5	0.32	-0.85	27	4.37	-1.06	80
Livingston	74	-2	44	+9	0.31	-0.46	40	3.71	-0.68	85
Melville	68	2	41	+11	0.40	-0.68	37	3.48	-1.17	75
Pompey's Pillar	78	-2	40	+5	0.18	-0.58	24	2.26	-2.06	52
Rapelje	75	-1	42	+8	0.30	-0.64	32	3.24	-1.36	70
Red Lodge	72	-11	39	+8	0.51	-1.59	24	7.12	-1.90	79
Wilsall	68	-2	41	+10	0.65	-0.74	47	5.07	-1.34	79
Yellowtail	81	9	45	+5	0.68	-0.60	53	3.60	-2.97	55
SOUTHEAST										
Baker	82	-3	39	+7	0.62	-0.09	87	3.19	-0.77	81
Biddle	78	-3	42	+9	0.58	-0.19	75	2.62	-1.38	65
Brandenberg	83	-2	43	+7	0.07	-0.65	10	3.02	-1.49	67
Broadus	82	1	43	+8	0.68	-0.11	86	2.87	-1.07	73
Colstrip	80	4	41	+6	0.20	-0.61	25	3.51	-0.79	82
Ekalaka	78	-8	41	+9	0.58	-0.15	79	3.50	-1.28	73
Forsyth	81	3	43	+7	0.14	-0.60	19	3.18	-0.84	79
Miles City	83	-4	41	+7	0.27	-0.25	52	1.82	-1.64	53
Mizpah	85	-2	41	+7	0.35	-0.17	67	3.05	-0.24	93
Plevna	81	-4	39	+8	0.44	-0.27	62	2.89	-1.07	73
Ridgeway	80	-1	40	+9	0.57	-0.07	89	2.83	-0.86	77
Terry	83	-2	40	+8	0.12	-0.27	31	1.84	-0.72	72
Wibaux	79	-7	38	+9	0.60	+0.07	113	2.52	-0.52	83