

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 June 15, 2015

Contact: Eric Sommer  
 (800) 835-2612

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JUNE 14, 2015

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana was mostly hot and dry with occasional thunderstorms this week before cooling down to closer to normal temperatures over the weekend. The warm weather was a welcome sight for crops stunted by cool weather but west of the Continental Divide saw worsening drought conditions due to lack of moisture which continues to hurt crops and pastures in that part of Montana. Precipitation was highly variable across the State with some locations receiving over an inch and others none at all. Producers began first cuttings of hay ahead of normal but reporters are noting that the grass is very short and some areas won't be able to harvest any dryland hay this year. Pulse and oilseed crops have begun blooming ahead of normal thanks to sunny, warm conditions. Pasture and range conditions improved slightly, though again, some parts of the State are faring better than others depending on how much moisture they have received and many areas continue to report that the grasses are still very short.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
First cutting.....	4	NA	NA	NA
Barley				
Boot stage.....	65	29	7	16
Headed.....	3	NA	0	1
Camelina				
Emerged.....	80	62	29	76
Blooming.....	31	15	NA	NA
Canola				
Emerged.....	95	93	86	90
Blooming.....	43	19	10	10
Corn				
Emerged.....	97	83	89	86
Dry beans				
Planted.....	95	88	85	90
Emerged.....	77	62	70	61
Dry peas				
Blooming.....	16	7	26	12
Durum wheat				
Emerged.....	96	83	74	74
Boot stage.....	18	2	--	3
Flaxseed				
Emerged.....	95	84	89	82
Blooming.....	8	--	2	3
Lentils				
Emerged.....	89	83	91	90
Blooming.....	24	5	16	7
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	95	87	88	89
Emerged.....	86	85	82	82
Blooming.....	42	7	17	7
Oats				
Emerged.....	98	95	87	86
Boot stage.....	41	17	16	14
Other hay				
First cutting.....	3	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes				
Planted.....	95	89	79	91
Emerged.....	69	41	62	50
Safflower				
Planted.....	95	87	83	88
Emerged.....	64	63	73	62
Blooming.....	4	--	--	1
Spring wheat				
Boot stage.....	42	17	7	10
Winter wheat				
Boot stage.....	95	90	47	61
Headed.....	63	38	21	18
Cattle				
Moved to summer ranges.....	96	93	90	88
Sheep				
Moved to summer ranges.....	96	91	90	86

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.2	4.7	5.4	4.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	6	6	5	3
Short.....	29	28	24	12
Adequate.....	57	57	59	62
Surplus.....	8	9	12	23
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	6	7	5	5
Short.....	23	22	23	14
Adequate.....	60	58	66	64
Surplus.....	11	13	6	17

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	4	4	4	4
Fair.....	33	33	48	33
Good.....	43	44	39	48
Excellent.....	19	18	9	15
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	5	3	1	NA
Poor.....	5	3	3	NA
Fair.....	44	44	26	NA
Good.....	44	48	70	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	--	NA
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	2	2	1	2
Fair.....	31	31	40	24
Good.....	56	56	53	68
Excellent.....	10	10	6	6
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	4	4	4	3
Poor.....	16	17	12	10
Fair.....	41	40	31	27
Good.....	32	32	43	43
Excellent.....	7	7	10	17
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	3	3	1	1
Poor.....	4	3	3	3
Fair.....	33	32	42	34
Good.....	51	51	48	53
Excellent.....	9	11	6	9
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	2
Poor.....	7	7	7	7
Fair.....	34	35	29	28
Good.....	37	37	51	46
Excellent.....	20	19	11	17

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/2015/MT\\_Weather\\_06142015.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2015/MT_Weather_06142015.pdf)