

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
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 19, 2015

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana was cooler to normal in terms of temperature this week, with highs ranging from the upper 70s to lower 90s and lows ranging from the upper 20s to lower 50s with scattered precipitation. Both the cooler temperatures and precipitation offered some respite to developing crops, though the rain was somewhat of a hindrance for producers already harvesting. The precipitation that was received was not enough to prevent soil moisture conditions from declining from the previous week with 45 percent of topsoil and 51 percent of subsoil rated as having adequate to surplus moisture levels. Harvest of dry peas and lentils has begun ahead of last year with 14 percent and 1 percent complete, respectively. Small grain crops are turning well ahead of the 5-year average with 65 percent of barley, 25 percent of durum wheat, 36 percent of oats and spring wheat, and 99 percent of winter wheat turned. Conversely, oilseed crops are turning slightly behind the 5-year average with the exception of canola which is 49 percent turned. Pasture and range conditions continue to decline from last week with 30 percent rated good to excellent compared with 52 percent last year. Reporters note that livestock producers in some areas of the State have begun moving their animals off summer ranges and are already feeding hay.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
First cutting.....	94	91	91	87
Barley				
Turning.....	65	41	26	25
Camelina				
Blooming.....	96	80	87	93
Turning.....	20	1	28	40
Canola				
Turning.....	49	38	34	19
Dry peas				
Harvested.....	14	--	1	5
Durum wheat				
Headed.....	93	81	59	57
Turning.....	25	5	--	4
Flaxseed				
Blooming.....	90	85	77	83
Turning.....	20	11	3	22
Lentils				
Harvested.....	1	--	--	4
Mustard seed				
Blooming.....	95	88	80	93
Turning.....	23	21	17	33
Oats				
Boot stage.....	94	89	91	93
Headed.....	90	79	71	71
Turning.....	36	8	7	14
Other hay				
First cutting.....	90	88	84	80
Safflower				
Blooming.....	27	23	77	70
Spring wheat				
Headed.....	97	92	83	72
Turning.....	36	11	16	12
Winter wheat				
Turning.....	99	93	76	71
Harvested.....	12	4	4	3

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.....	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	13	13	7	10
Short.....	42	39	36	34
Adequate.....	39	42	51	52
Surplus.....	6	6	6	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	11	10	6	9
Short.....	38	37	30	27
Adequate.....	42	44	59	60
Surplus.....	9	9	5	4

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.....	3	3	--	2
Poor.....	10	10	5	6
Fair.....	34	33	40	30
Good.....	41	41	42	46
Excellent.....	12	13	13	16
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	8	8	4	2
Poor.....	12	11	6	4
Fair.....	50	50	26	21
Good.....	29	30	63	57
Excellent.....	1	1	1	16
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	3
Poor.....	3	3	2	6
Fair.....	31	31	38	30
Good.....	55	55	54	53
Excellent.....	10	10	6	8
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	7	6	3	7
Poor.....	21	20	13	11
Fair.....	42	42	32	25
Good.....	26	28	39	40
Excellent.....	4	4	13	17
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	4	4	1	2
Poor.....	8	8	3	5
Fair.....	34	34	37	29
Good.....	45	45	51	51
Excellent.....	9	9	8	13
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	3	1	2
Poor.....	9	9	6	7
Fair.....	34	34	28	24
Good.....	35	34	50	49
Excellent.....	20	20	15	18

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_07192015.pdf