

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
 July 27, 2015

Contact: Eric Sommer
 (800) 835-2612

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 26, 2015

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: It was hot and mostly dry this week across Montana tempered by a few afternoon storms in some areas with up to 1.77 inches of precipitation at the weather station in Logan. Hot, dry weather continues to drive crop development ahead of schedule and harvest is underway ahead of the 5-year average for pulse crops, in particular dry peas are 50 percent compared with the 5-year average of 11 percent. Soil moisture conditions continued to decline from the previous week below the 5-year average with 43 percent of topsoil and 48 percent of subsoil rated as having adequate to surplus moisture levels. Small grains and oilseed crops are all turning quickly in the hot, dry days and well ahead of normal. Producers have begun harvesting a second cutting of alfalfa and other hay in areas where a second cutting of hay is possible but many drought-stricken areas are done haying for the year. Pasture and range conditions continue to decline from last week due to dry weather and a large amount of grasshopper damage with 28 percent rated good to excellent compared with 52 percent last year. Producers are moving livestock off summer ranges ahead of normal with 2 percent of cattle and 1 percent of sheep moved so far.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
First cutting.....	97	94	96	94
Second cutting	5	NA	11	7
Barley				
Turning	93	65	49	46
Harvested.....	3	NA	--	2
Camelina				
Turning	49	20	39	54
Canola				
Turning	71	49	49	36
Dry beans				
Harvested	2	NA	NA	NA
Dry peas				
Harvested.....	50	14	5	11
Durum wheat				
Headed.....	98	93	81	77
Turning	48	25	9	13
Flaxseed				
Blooming	94	90	86	93
Turning	51	20	13	32
Lentils				
Harvested.....	22	1	2	7
Mustard seed				
Turning	54	23	29	45
Oats				
Boot stage	96	94	95	98
Headed.....	95	90	88	86
Turning	70	36	21	28
Other hay				
First cutting.....	95	90	93	88
Second cutting	2	NA	2	2
Safflower				
Blooming	38	27	89	81
Spring wheat				
Turning	83	36	35	27
Winter wheat				
Harvested.....	42	12	7	7
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range	2	NA	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range	1	NA	NA	NA

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.....	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	13	8	11
Short.....	43	42	39	39
Adequate.....	36	39	47	47
Surplus.....	7	6	6	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	13	11	7	9
Short.....	39	38	34	30
Adequate.....	39	42	54	57
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	--	3
Poor.....	10	10	4	7
Fair.....	34	34	41	30
Good.....	41	41	44	46
Excellent.....	12	12	11	14
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	8	8	4	3
Poor.....	12	12	6	6
Fair.....	50	50	28	27
Good.....	29	29	61	56
Excellent.....	1	1	1	8
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	2
Poor.....	3	3	2	7
Fair.....	31	31	38	29
Good.....	54	55	53	53
Excellent.....	11	10	7	9
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	8	7	3	7
Poor.....	21	21	13	12
Fair.....	43	42	32	26
Good.....	24	26	40	39
Excellent.....	4	4	12	16
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	4	4	1	2
Poor.....	8	8	3	6
Fair.....	34	34	37	29
Good.....	45	45	49	50
Excellent.....	9	9	10	13
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	1	2
Poor.....	9	9	6	7
Fair.....	33	34	27	23
Good.....	35	35	51	51
Excellent.....	21	20	15	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_07262015.pdf