

# 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  
 April 18, 2016

Contact: Eric Sommer  
 (800) 835-2612

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2016

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana experienced mostly warm days and freezing nights during the week, along with much appreciated moisture. Zortman received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 2.80 inches of moisture, and all weather stations reported receiving moisture ranging from 0.06 of an inch to 2.80 inches. High temperatures ranged from the upper 60s to the low 80s with a state wide high temperature of 81 degrees recorded at Ridgeway. Mild daytime conditions have allowed producers to get out into the fields with 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork this week and planting is well ahead of last year at this time. Producers began seeding canola, corn, dry edible beans, durum wheat, flaxseed, and mustard seed with 12 percent of canola, 3 percent of corn and dry edible beans, 9 percent of durum wheat, 14 percent of flaxseed, and 5 percent of mustard seeded by the week's end.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	41	25	39	24
Emerged.....	5	--	2	1
Camelina				
Planted.....	13	1	5	10
Canola				
Planted.....	12	NA	2	6
Corn				
Planted.....	3	NA	NA	NA
Dry Edible Beans				
Planted.....	3	NA	1	3
Dry Edible Peas				
Planted.....	39	13	6	10
Durum Wheat				
Planted.....	9	NA	2	4
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	14	NA	--	5
Lentils				
Planted.....	18	8	1	8
Mustard Seed				
Planted.....	5	NA	1	5
Oats				
Planted.....	32	16	11	11
Spring Wheat				
Planted.....	34	17	18	12
Sugarbeets				
Planted.....	10	2	14	10
Winter Wheat				
Breaking dormancy.....	85	60	92	NA
Cattle and calves				
Calving completed.....	79	50	70	72
Receiving supplemental feed.....	72	82	81	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Lambing completed.....	76	50	62	57
Receiving supplemental feed.....	81	84	76	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	4.5	5.5	5.8	3.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	17	8	6
Short.....	29	33	27	19
Adequate.....	58	50	54	60
Surplus.....	3	--	11	15
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	11	13	7	8
Short.....	34	38	22	20
Adequate.....	53	47	55	61
Surplus.....	2	2	16	11

NA – not available

(--)- zero

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

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing Accessibility				
Open.....	70	71	76	64
Difficult.....	13	12	15	18
Closed.....	17	17	9	18
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	10	10	4	8
Poor.....	21	22	14	20
Fair.....	48	48	49	41
Good.....	19	18	30	28
Excellent.....	2	2	3	3
Winter Wheat				
Very poor.....	1	1	2	2
Poor.....	4	5	6	7
Fair.....	37	39	29	30
Good.....	52	51	40	48
Excellent.....	6	4	23	13

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/2016/MT\\_Weather\\_04172016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/MT_Weather_04172016.pdf)