

# 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 AUGUST 7, 2016

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana had another week hot, dry week marked by scattered afternoon thunderstorms that brought lightning, hail and highly variable amounts of rain with the largest accumulation of precipitation reported at Pompey's Pillar where 1.49 inches fell, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures for the week ranged from the mid 80s to 102 degrees in Brandenburg, and low temperatures ranged from the upper 20s to the lower 50s. Reporters nearly state-wide, excepting the northeast, are noting that fields and pastures are becoming very dry and brown and there were more lightning and machine caused fires this week as a result. There was more hail damage this week, particularly in the central and northeastern parts of the state that impacted crops, such as flaxseed, that had previously missed hail damage. Harvest continues ahead of the 5-year average for all small grains, and producers have begun to harvest durum wheat which is 6 percent harvested. Pasture and rangeland conditions continue to deteriorate with 36 percent good to excellent which is above last year's 25 percent but below the 5-year average of 42 percent. Reporters are noting that pasture conditions at high elevations are faring better but drying out quickly. Producers have begun to move animals off summer pastures with 9 percent of cattle and 8 percent of sheep moved which is well ahead of the 5-year average for both.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Second cutting .....	58	35	44	36
Barley				
Turning .....	95	89	99	86
Harvested .....	28	9	41	18
Camelina				
Turning .....	43	27	91	88
Canola				
Turning .....	75	58	85	73
Harvested .....	2	--	29	10
Dry edible beans				
Harvested .....	15	3	12	6
Dry edible peas				
Harvested .....	62	35	75	44
Durum wheat				
Turning .....	79	51	95	56
Harvested .....	6	NA	10	NA
Flaxseed				
Turning .....	63	31	90	58
Lentils				
Harvested .....	38	11	53	29
Mustard seed				
Turning .....	96	86	79	72
Harvested .....	6	--	21	6
Oats				
Turning .....	95	88	91	76
Harvested .....	25	8	27	16
Other hay				
Second cutting .....	36	19	31	19
Safflower				
Blooming .....	91	86	64	84
Turning .....	37	23	1	36
Spring wheat				
Turning .....	78	60	98	70
Harvested .....	19	1	22	9
Winter wheat				
Harvested .....	82	54	80	50
Livestock moved from summer ranges				
Cattle and calves .....	9	1	6	3
Sheep and lambs .....	8	1	8	2

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

**SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.9	5.7	6.5	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	12	13	17
Short.....	24	23	38	40
Adequate.....	55	57	41	39
Surplus.....	7	8	8	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	13	11	13	13
Short.....	26	26	38	38
Adequate.....	57	58	40	45
Surplus.....	4	5	9	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION<sup>1</sup>**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Barley</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	4	3
Poor.....	5	4	10	8
Fair.....	32	32	34	36
Good.....	39	41	41	42
Excellent.....	23	22	11	11
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor.....	2	2	7	5
Fair.....	31	32	33	32
Good.....	53	52	47	47
Excellent.....	14	14	12	15
<b>Dry Edible Peas</b>				
Very poor.....	3	3	NA	NA
Poor.....	8	5	NA	NA
Fair.....	36	34	NA	NA
Good.....	41	46	NA	NA
Excellent.....	12	12	NA	NA
<b>Durum wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	2	2	6	5
Poor.....	3	3	37	13
Fair.....	44	44	24	26
Good.....	48	48	32	51
Excellent.....	3	3	1	5
<b>Lentils</b>				
Very poor.....	4	4	6	5
Poor.....	4	4	16	8
Fair.....	48	44	31	25
Good.....	36	40	46	50
Excellent.....	8	8	1	12
<b>Oats</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	4
Poor.....	5	5	4	7
Fair.....	28	28	28	33
Good.....	60	60	56	50
Excellent.....	6	6	11	6
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	13	12	9	11
Poor.....	18	17	22	15
Fair.....	33	34	44	32
Good.....	31	33	22	32
Excellent.....	5	4	3	10
<b>Spring wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	4	4
Poor.....	4	4	8	8
Fair.....	29	29	34	33
Good.....	52	51	45	46
Excellent.....	14	15	9	9
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	1	1	8	6
Fair.....	12	14	29	28
Good.....	67	67	50	48
Excellent.....	20	18	13	17

<sup>1</sup>Current conditions for Camelina, Canola, Dry Edible Beans, Flaxseed, Mustard Seed, Potatoes, and Safflower are available using the QuickStats online database at: [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick\\_Stats/](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick_Stats/)

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\\_08072016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/MT_Weather_08072016.pdf)