

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 SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: A cool, wet system moved slowly through Montana before warmer temperatures began to return over the weekend, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Daytime high temperatures for the week ranged from the mid 60s to 83 degrees in Biddle. Overnight lows ranged from the mid 20s to the upper 40s with a statewide low of 26 degrees in Malta. Busby received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 3.23 inches of moisture and all other reporting stations reported receiving moisture from the system that ranged from 0.07 to 2.98 inches of moisture. The widespread moisture was welcome but did stall harvest across the state and little progress was made this week as a result. Despite this, producers harvesting corn for grain and silage continued progressing ahead of normal progress with 25 percent of corn for grain and 65 percent of corn silage harvested. Small grain harvest is nearly complete and ahead of normal with 97 percent of durum wheat harvested and 95 percent of spring wheat harvested. Winter wheat seeding is well underway with 46 percent complete and has begun to emerge, though both planting and emerging are behind the 5-year average and reporters are noting producers may not seed as much winter wheat as usual this season. Potato harvest has begun well behind last year and the 5-year average with 7 percent harvested compared with 27 percent last year and the 5-year average of 22 percent harvested. Sugarbeet harvest, however, is ahead of last year and the 5-year average with 15 percent complete so far. Pasture and rangeland conditions improved slightly, with 29 percent rated good to excellent which was better than last year's 20 percent but below the 5-year average of 34 percent. Livestock producers continue to move stock off summer pastures with 34 percent of cattle and calves moved and 51 percent of sheep and lambs moved.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Harvested.....	58	57	100	94
Canola				
Harvested.....	87	84	99	94
Corn				
Harvested for Grain	25	23	10	5
Harvested for Silage	65	40	57	54
Dry edible beans				
Harvested.....	91	90	94	76
Durum wheat				
Harvested.....	97	90	99	78
Flaxseed				
Harvested.....	79	71	100	93
Mustard seed				
Harvested.....	96	92	95	86
Other hay				
Second cutting	94	93	89	91
Potatoes				
Harvested.....	7	--	27	22
Safflower				
Harvested.....	42	41	29	32
Spring wheat				
Harvested.....	95	94	100	93
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	15	4	9	5
Winter Wheat				
Planted.....	46	23	60	53
Emergence.....	1	NA	9	7
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range	34	32	40	34
Receiving supplemental feed.....	8	8	21	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range	51	39	51	42
Receiving supplemental feed.....	11	10	24	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	3.6	5.5	6.9	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	11	13	15	25
Short.....	20	23	35	29
Adequate.....	58	57	43	42
Surplus.....	11	7	7	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	13	14	15	22
Short.....	25	28	35	29
Adequate.....	57	55	41	45
Surplus.....	5	3	9	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	3	2
Poor.....	4	4	7	7
Fair.....	30	30	32	31
Good.....	51	51	44	44
Excellent.....	15	15	14	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	13	11	15
Poor.....	21	21	25	19
Fair.....	37	38	44	32
Good.....	24	23	18	28
Excellent.....	5	5	2	6
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	2	2	1	NA
Fair.....	5	5	19	NA
Good.....	46	46	55	NA
Excellent.....	47	47	25	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	NA
Poor.....	--	--	2	NA
Fair.....	7	7	30	NA
Good.....	78	78	44	NA
Excellent.....	15	15	23	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	3	3	8	7
Fair.....	21	21	28	27
Good.....	64	64	48	46
Excellent.....	12	12	16	19

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_09252016.pdf