

# 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 NOVEMBER 27, 2016

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Mild days, cold nights and limited precipitation prevailed across the state of Montana over this last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Daytime high temperatures for the week ranged from the lower 40s to 60 degrees in Colstrip. Overnight lows ranged from the single digits to the lower 30s with a statewide low of 8 degrees in Gardiner and West Yellowstone. Heron recorded the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 0.77 of an inch of moisture. Most other reporting stations reported receiving zero to 0.49 of an inch of moisture. Producers harvesting corn for grain are progressing ahead of the normal rate of speed for Montana with 87 percent complete, compared with 79 percent last year and the 5-year average of 82 percent. Winter wheat emergence is now at 95 percent, behind last year's 98 percent but ahead of the 5-year average of 91 percent. Winter wheat condition is currently rated 77 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent last year. Potato harvest continues behind last year and the 5-year average with 94 percent harvested compared with 100 percent for both last year and the 5-year average. Pasture and rangeland condition remained steady from last week with 34 percent rated good to excellent which was better than last year's 20 percent. Livestock producers continue to move stock off summer pastures at a slower pace than normal with 88 percent of cattle and calves moved and 91 percent of sheep and lambs moved. Livestock receiving supplemental feed remains well below last year thanks to good fall grazing conditions with 22 percent of cattle and calves and 27 percent of sheep and lambs being fed.

**Note:** This report concludes the weekly crop progress report for 2016. Next year's Montana weekly report will begin in April 2017.

Monthly reports will be released for December on Tuesday, January 3, 2017; for January on Monday, January 30, 2017; for February on Monday, February 27, 2017; and for March on Monday, March 27, 2017.

Our thanks to the weekly reporters for providing crop progress observations during the 2016 season.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for Grain .....	87	83	79	82
Potatoes				
Harvested.....	94	89	100	100
Winter Wheat				
Emergence .....	95	94	98	91
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range .....	88	81	100	96
Receiving supplemental feed .....	22	16	67	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range .....	91	88	100	98
Receiving supplemental feed .....	27	20	79	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.4	5.4	1.5	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	9	10	10	NA
Short.....	19	18	23	NA
Adequate.....	62	61	60	NA
Surplus.....	10	11	7	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	10	11	12	NA
Short.....	24	23	31	NA
Adequate.....	57	57	48	NA
Surplus.....	9	9	9	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

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

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	12	13	13	NA
Poor.....	16	17	27	NA
Fair.....	38	36	40	NA
Good.....	29	29	19	NA
Excellent.....	5	5	1	NA
Winter Wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	2	2	2	NA
Fair.....	21	22	25	NA
Good.....	49	48	57	NA
Excellent.....	28	28	16	NA

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\\_11272016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/MT_Weather_11272016.pdf)