

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
 September 25, 2017

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana experienced cooler temperatures along with moisture throughout most of the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from high 50s to the lower 80s. Low temperatures ranged from low 20s to the lower 40s. Forty-one stations reported over half-inch or more of moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in West Yellowstone with 2.34 inches of moisture. Moisture received throughout the state over the past several weeks has improved the topsoil and subsoil condition. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 61 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 31 percent the previous year. Subsoil was rated 68 percent very short to short, compared with 38 percent last year. Reporters noted that additional moisture was needed for planting of winter wheat, with many producers still holding their planting to see if conditions improve. Winter wheat seeded is 23 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 43 percent. Potato harvest has started with 9 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year's progress of 6 percent. Corn for grain harvest has started with 6 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 25 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Coloring.....	98	95	NA	NA
Harvested.....	70	65	58	85
Canola				
Harvested.....	95	94	87	92
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	6	5	25	9
Harvested for silage.....	80	68	61	56
Mustard seed				
Harvested.....	93	91	95	85
Potatoes				
Harvested.....	9	3	6	19
Safflower				
Coloring.....	95	90	NA	NA
Harvested.....	48	46	42	36
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	23	16	43	50
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture.....	35	28	34	34
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture.....	45	38	49	45

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 field work	4.5	4.8	3.6	5.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	27	36	11	21
Short	34	29	20	23
Adequate.....	38	35	58	50
Surplus.....	1	--	11	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	37	46	13	21
Short	31	35	25	26
Adequate.....	27	19	57	48
Surplus.....	5	--	5	5

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.....	7	7	--	2
Poor	20	13	4	6
Fair	42	36	30	31
Good.....	30	39	51	45
Excellent.....	1	5	15	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	42	50	13	16
Poor	26	27	21	21
Fair	22	15	37	32
Good.....	9	6	24	26
Excellent.....	1	2	5	5
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor	1	1	2	NA
Fair	10	9	5	NA
Good.....	57	57	46	NA
Excellent.....	32	33	47	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	30	31	--	NA
Poor	18	24	--	NA
Fair	51	45	7	NA
Good.....	1	--	78	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	15	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	2	2	--	1
Poor	10	12	3	5
Fair	52	43	21	24
Good.....	34	37	64	51
Excellent.....	2	6	12	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/2017/MT_Weather_09242017.pdf