

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 OCTOBER 8, 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 the low 50s to the mid-70s. Low temperatures ranged from six degrees in Chester, Havre, and Dunkirk to the low 30s. One hundred-two weather stations reported moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Rudyard with 1.52 inches of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 46 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 29 percent the previous year. Subsoil was rated 70 percent very short to short, compared with 36 percent last year. Reporters noted that low temperatures and snow likely meant the end of planting in the North Central portion of the state if fields don't dry within 10 to 15 days. Hard frosts were also reported, and reporters noted light damage to vegetables and potatoes. Winter wheat seeded was 75 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 78 percent. Potato harvest was 75 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 51 percent. Corn for grain harvest was 23 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 30 percent. Sugarbeet harvest was 24 percent complete, compared to last year's progress of 23 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Harvested	85	80	84	95
Corn				
Harvested for grain	23	14	30	22
Harvested for silage	93	86	89	86
Potatoes				
Harvested	75	35	51	55
Safflower				
Harvested	57	54	54	57
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	24	NA	23	25
Winter wheat				
Planted	75	53	78	79
Emerged	34	2	48	38
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture	51	41	43	49
Receiving Supplemental Feed	15	NA	10	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture	64	52	65	63
Receiving Supplemental Feed	18	NA	12	NA

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	4.3	5.7	2.6	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	17	19	10	14
Short	29	38	19	23
Adequate.....	44	42	56	55
Surplus.....	10	1	15	8
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	30	40	12	16
Short	40	40	24	27
Adequate.....	26	18	57	51
Surplus.....	4	2	7	6

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.....	8	4	--	2
Poor	10	15	4	6
Fair	35	46	30	31
Good.....	42	33	51	44
Excellent.....	5	2	15	17
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	40	40	13	16
Poor	26	25	20	20
Fair	20	21	37	32
Good.....	12	12	25	27
Excellent.....	2	2	5	5
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor	2	1	2	NA
Fair	18	8	5	NA
Good.....	48	62	46	NA
Excellent.....	32	29	47	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	36	32	NA	NA
Poor	21	19	NA	NA
Fair	42	48	NA	NA
Good.....	1	1	NA	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	2	2	--	1
Poor	11	10	2	5
Fair	44	49	21	25
Good.....	37	34	65	50
Excellent.....	6	5	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_10082017.pdf