

# 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 APRIL 28, 2019

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Scattered storms and windy conditions were observed across Montana during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 84 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 92 percent in the previous week and 84 percent in the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were 85 percent adequate to surplus which is above last year's 70 percent. Reporters in Phillips County noted that wind has dried out the soil profile and cool temperatures have limited grass growth. Barley planted is at 23 percent complete, above last year's progress of 17 percent. Durum wheat planted was reported at 13 percent, which is ahead of last year's 1 percent, but slightly behind the 5-year average of 16 percent. Cattle receiving supplemental feed was reported as 68 percent this week, compared to 70 percent in the same week last year. Grazing accessibility increased with 83 percent of pastures open, compared to 74 percent in the previous week. Calving progress was reported at 83 percent complete compared to 76 percent in the previous week, and 86 percent at this time last year. Judith Basin and Fergus County's reported a snowstorm hit hard this past weekend, which could halt fieldwork and livestock being moved to pasture in the area. Winter wheat was reported with 92 percent of the crop breaking dormancy. Winter wheat conditions were rated as 78 percent good to excellent compared to 58 percent this time last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	23	11	17	41
Canola				
Planted.....	24	14	1	21
Corn				
Planted.....	10	1	3	9
Dry edible beans				
Planted.....	6	3	1	13
Dry edible peas				
Planted.....	35	16	9	39
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	13	4	1	16
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	29	11	--	14
Lentils				
Planted.....	23	4	3	23
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	7	3	--	11
Oats				
Planted.....	8	5	2	23
Safflower				
Planted.....	2	--	--	8
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	23	10	5	34
Sugarbeets				
Planted.....	40	17	9	37
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy.....	92	70	84	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	83	76	86	86
Moved to pasture.....	18	4	22	16
Receiving supplemental feed.....	68	81	70	62
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	78	74	71	77
Moved to pasture.....	20	4	16	11
Receiving supplemental feed.....	75	82	76	64

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work.....	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	5	--	4	4
Short.....	11	8	12	15
Adequate.....	76	84	54	67
Surplus.....	8	8	30	14
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	2	2	13	6
Short.....	13	11	17	17
Adequate.....	78	80	46	65
Surplus.....	7	7	24	12

NA – not available

(--)- zero

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

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing accessibility				
Open.....	83	74	79	78
Difficult.....	12	15	15	12
Closed.....	5	11	6	10
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	--	--	15	6
Poor.....	5	8	17	15
Fair.....	44	35	37	43
Good.....	40	46	21	30
Excellent.....	11	11	10	6
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	--	3	2
Poor.....	4	1	7	5
Fair.....	17	11	32	31
Good.....	40	57	15	39
Excellent.....	38	31	43	23

NA – not available

(--)- zero