



# Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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**Agricultural Summary:** Colorado experienced cooler temperatures last week with snow reported in the San Luis Valley and in elevations greater than 7500 feet. Widespread rainfall was reported in most areas around the state. Normal September weather patterns allowed farmers 5.2 days in the field to continue fieldwork and other operations. Cooler cloudy days have slowed the harvest of several crops throughout the state. Heavy frost was reported throughout the state. Subsoil moisture increased slightly as a result from late week storms.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
<b>This Week</b>	7	22	68	3
<b>Last Week</b>	10	25	63	2
<b>Last Year</b>	15	39	46	0

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
<b>This Week</b>	20	41	38	1
<b>Last Week</b>	26	40	33	1
<b>Last Year</b>	22	45	32	1

**Small Grains:** Spring wheat was 95 percent harvested by week's end. Winter wheat producers continue to plant with 70 percent now seeded with 23 percent emerged by week's end. Reporters are indicating the winter wheat seeding is progressing nicely in areas that have good moisture levels.

**Row Crops:** The corn crop has reached 95 percent at or beyond the dent stage, 54 percent at or beyond the mature stage, with 4 percent harvested. Roughly 86 percent of corn for silage has been harvested. The corn crop currently is rated in mostly good to fair condition. The sorghum crop reached 72 percent at or beyond the turning color stage, 38 percent at or beyond the mature stage, with 2 percent harvested by week's end. The crop is rated in mostly good condition. Summer potatoes were 77 percent harvested by week's end. Producers continued to harvest fall potatoes last week with 34 percent harvest by week's end. While fall potatoes are rated in good to

fair condition, producers continue to keep a close eye on disease. The dry onion crop reached 72 percent harvested by week's end. The sugarbeet crop is rated in good to fair condition. Dry beans were 79 percent at or beyond the cut stage with 58 percent harvested by week's end. Dry beans were rated in mostly good condition. Sunflowers are rated in mostly good to fair condition with 5 percent of the crop now harvested.

## ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 24, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	5	14	23	42	16
Sorghum	1	10	27	60	2

**Hay:** Producers continue to cut alfalfa with 86 percent of the third cutting and 25 percent of the fourth cutting harvested. The crop is currently rated in good to fair condition.

**Pasture and Range:** Overall, pasture and range feed conditions declined slightly thanks to the early season snow and frost. Reports indicate that grasses are beginning to mature and turn color. Weed growth has slowed thanks to the cooler temperatures.

**Livestock:** Death losses for cattle and sheep were average for the week. Producers continue to feed supplements due to the lack of grazable range and pastures. Many producers are still trying to secure hay for the upcoming winter.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 24, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Pasture &amp; Range-2006</b>	9	30	37	22	2
<b>Prev. Year - 2005</b>	10	26	39	23	2
<b>5-Year Avg.</b>	15	24	35	24	2

## COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending September 24, 2006

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Seeded	70	30	69	68
Emerged	23	0	28	25
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Harvested	95	93	96	98
<b>Corn</b>				
Dough	100	99	97	99
Dent	95	85	87	92
Mature	54	34	43	47
Harvested	4	3	3	4
<b>Corn Silage</b>				
Harvested	86	63	68	71
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Turning color	72	58	70	73
Mature	38	29	34	32
Harvested	2	1	4	3
<b>Sunflowers</b>				
Harvested	5	0	5	8
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting	86	79	82	77
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting	25	20	24	22
<b>Dry Beans</b>				
Cut	79	63	77	77
Harvested	58	36	41	49
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>				
Harvested	34	20	37	36
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Harvested	77	66	74	77
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Harvest	72	56	73	73

## COLORADO CROP CONDITION RATINGS <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Sunflower</b>	3	13	30	46	8
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>	10	16	30	36	8
<b>Sugarbeets</b>	4	12	21	49	14
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>	0	5	34	42	19
<b>Dry Beans</b>	1	4	24	67	4

<sup>1/</sup> Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.