



CROP-WEATHER REPORT

Released: 2:00 p.m., Monday
May 8, 2006

Week of May 1 – May 7, 2006

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cool weather with below normal precipitation.

Small grain planting behind last year and average.

Irrigation water supplies better than last year.

Cooler seasonal temperatures continued across the State last week. Most stations reported both below normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Temperatures ranged widely with high temperatures mostly in the mid 60's to mid 70's, and lows in the teens to low 30's. Precipitation was mostly below normal across the State with the southern half receiving the majority of the moisture.

Topsoil moisture was rated adequate to surplus in 60 percent of the State, 3 points above last week. In the 2002 drought year, only 40 percent of the State had adequate or better topsoil at this time. High mountain snow continued to melt and rivers were starting to have high flows. Irrigation water supplies were adequate in 86 percent of the State, compared with 61 percent last year and 27 percent in 2002. Fieldwork continued to lag behind for small grains and corn while producers had almost completed seeding sugarbeets. Producers need warmer temperatures to help range grass, improve field conditions, and complete shearing.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	TOPSOIL			
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg
	Percent			
Very Short	2	3	7	13
Short	38	40	26	38
Adeq	59	57	59	47
Surp	1	0	8	2

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Pltd	76	71	79	84
Barley Emgd	53	45	37	50
Barley Jntd	1	0	0	1
Oats Pltd	52	41	64	57
Oats Emgd	27	19	25	27
Spring Wheat Pltd	50	29	61	60
Spring Wheat Emgd	23	10	18	25
Winter Wht Jntd	23	9	40	30
Sugarbeet Pltd	94	84	92	85
Sugarbeet Emgd	25	8	26	25
Corn Pltd	27	12	27	32
Corn Emgd	2	0	0	2

FIELD CROP REPORT: An average of 5.6 days were suitable for fieldwork during the past week compared with 3.7 days last year. Almost one-quarter of the winter wheat crop was jointed and condition held steady with 76 percent rated good or better. Small grain seeding continued to lag behind but emergence made some progress. Barley had been planted on 76 percent of the expected acreage, behind both last year and the average, while emergence remained a little ahead of the average pace. The barley crop was just starting to joint. Producers finished seeding 52 percent of the oats and 50 percent of the spring wheat, both behind the 5-year average and last year. Sugarbeet planting progressed to 94 percent in the ground with one-quarter of the crop already emerged, approximately a week ahead of average. Corn planting slowed due to moisture received in the Southeast and fell behind the average pace. The corn crop was just starting to emerge

CROP CONDITION TABLE

ITEM	V POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL
	Percent				
Winter Wht	0	2	22	75	1

LIVESTOCK CONDITION TABLE

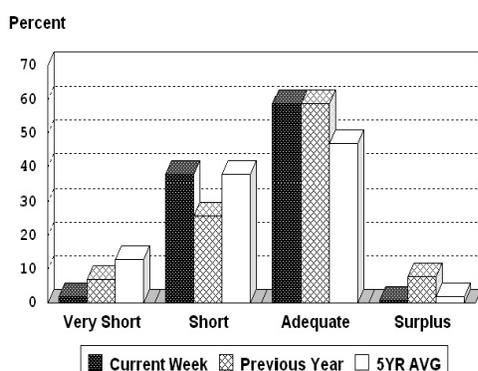
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Spring Calves Born	92	88	93	93
Farm Flock Ewes Lambd	92	87	95	94
Farm Flock Sheep Shorn	95	91	96	95
Range Flock Ewes Lambd	41	30	40	40
Range Flock Sheep Shorn	69	58	81	81

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Range and pasture conditions improved slightly and continued to be better than the last few years with 46 percent rated good and zero excellent, compared with 17 percent good and 4 percent excellent last year. Calving slowed a bit with 92 percent of the calves on the ground, just behind the average pace. Farm flock lambing and shearing were 92 and 95 percent complete, compared with the averages of 94 and 95 percent. Range flock lambing and shearing were 41 and 69 percent complete, compared with the averages of 40 and 81 percent. Weather continued to hold progress on range flock shearing 12 points behind the average. Calf and lamb losses remained mostly normal.

PASTURE AND RANGE FEED

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Very Poor	0	1	16	14
Poor	11	9	28	25
Fair	43	45	35	40
Good	46	45	17	20
Excellent	0	0	4	1

Topsoil Moisture
May 7, 2006



WEATHER SUMMARY: Temperatures during the week ending Friday, May 5th, were below normal across the State with exceptions in the West. Averages ranged from 4.6 degrees below normal in Deaver to 3.4 degrees above normal in Jackson. The high temperature was 75 in Wheatland while the low was 16 in Big Piney. Precipitation was below normal except for widely scattered areas. The most precipitation was reported at the Uinta County Airport with 1.05 inches, Cheyenne with 0.69 inches, and Laramie with 0.51 inches. A few scattered stations in the northern half of the State reported only a trace to no precipitation at all.

