

CROP-WEATHER REPORT



MONTANA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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Released: 2:00 p.m., MST, October 18, 2004

For Week Ending: October 17, 2004

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

Agricultural Summary

There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week. Temperatures were similar to last week's, with Montana's high temperatures mostly in the low 70's to low 80's, Glendive had the state's highest temperature of 86 degrees, while Wisdom had the state's lowest temperature of 13 degrees. There was limited precipitation throughout the state, with Red Lodge receiving the largest amount of rainfall at 1.00 inches. Montana's forecast for the week of October 25th through October 31th shows below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal temperatures for this period range from highs in the lower 50's to 60's and lows from the lower 20's to upper 30's.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Topsoil Moisture				
Very Short	26	24	49	32
Short	33	36	41	42
Adequate	40	38	10	26
Surplus	1	2	0	0
Subsoil Moisture				
Very Short	40	39	69	48
Short	34	34	26	37
Adequate	25	26	5	15
Surplus	1	1	0	0

Field Crops and Livestock Report

Almost 70 percent of the 2005 winter wheat crop is rated currently good to excellent due to the moisture at the end of August into the beginning of September. **Winter wheat** is 98 percent seeded and 73 percent emerged, which is ahead of last year and the five-year average. **Durum wheat** is 98 percent ripe, and 86 percent harvested, which is still behind last year. The second cutting of **other hay** is currently at 93 percent complete.

Range and pasture feed condition declined slightly this week. Ranchers continue moving cattle and calves as well as sheep and lambs from summer ranges. Movement of cattle and sheep from summer ranges are behind last year's average. Ranchers continue to do some supplemental feeding for cattle and sheep. Supplemental feeding of cattle and sheep is behind last year's average.

Crop Stages Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat				
Seeded	98	92	96	91
Emerged	73	63	55	57
Durum Wheat				
Ripe	98	92	100	N/A
Harvested	86	79	100	N/A
Corn				
Harvested for Silage	95	83	100	98
Dry Beans				
Harvested	90	85	100	96
Potatoes				
Harvested	82	64	88	82
Sugar Beets				
Harvested	68	31	77	77
Hay - Second Cutting				
Other Hay	93	88	100	99

Livestock Table

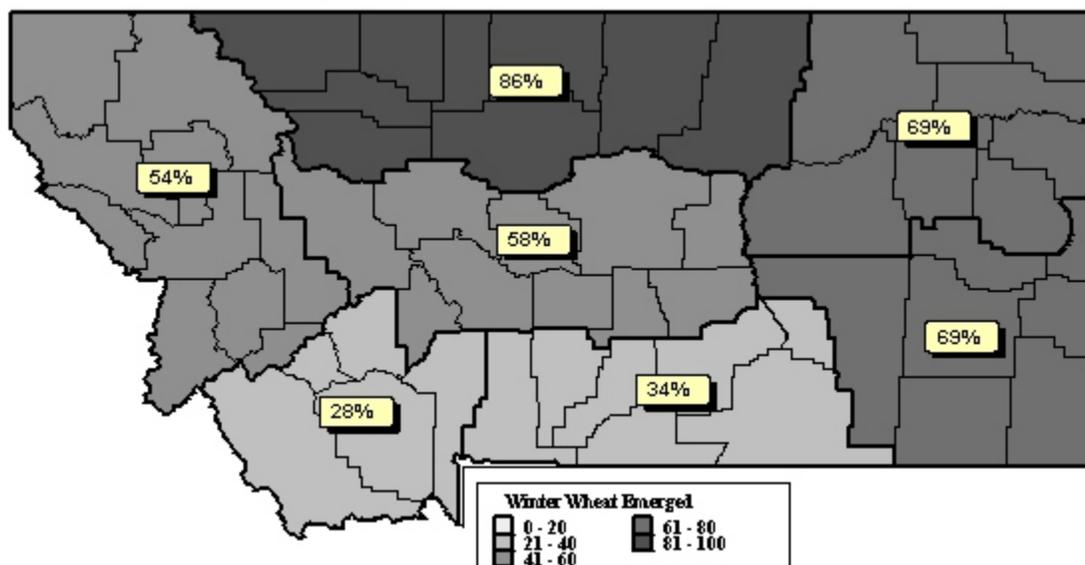
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Range & Pasture Feed Condition				
Very poor	18	17	41	28
Poor	25	24	34	32
Fair	37	37	20	27
Good	17	18	5	12
Excellent	3	4	0	1
Movement From Summer Ranges				
Cattle & Calves	68	55	71	68
Sheep & Lambs	73	56	74	71
Receiving Supplemental Feed				
Cattle	8	4	26	N/A
Sheep	12	8	20	N/A

Crop Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Winter Wheat-Condition			
Very Poor	1	N/A	N/A
Poor	4	N/A	N/A
Fair	26	N/A	N/A
Good	62	N/A	N/A
Excellent	7	N/A	N/A

Winter Wheat Emerged

by District for week ending October 17, 2004



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MST, October 16, 2004 1/

STATION	TEMPERATURE PAST WEEK			PRECIPITATION						
	High	Low	Avg.	Past Week	April 1, 2004 to Date			October 1, 2003 to Date		
					Total 2/ Inches	Normal 3/ Inches	% Normal	Total 2/ Inches	Normal 3/ Inches	% Normal
	Degrees			In.	Inches			Normal	Inches	
NORTHWEST										
Drummond	70	19	47	0.01	9.70	8.50	114	13.62	12.64	108
Hamilton	73	24	49	0.00	8.87	8.03	110	13.65	13.56	101
Kalispell	68	28	49	0.26	10.58	9.92	107	16.97	17.25	98
Libby	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Missoula	71	25	49	0.02	12.34	8.52	145	17.02	13.85	123
Polson	71	33	52	0.24	9.36	10.27	91	14.45	16.18	89
Superior	75	28	53	0.00	11.38	8.86	128	17.46	16.62	105
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
West Glacier	65	32	49	0.03	M	M	M	M	M	M
NORTH CENTRAL										
Chester	66	24	47	0.78	8.40	8.45	99	9.73	10.60	92
Choteau	70	27	48	0.67	M	M	M	M	M	M
Conrad	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cut Bank	72	30	48	0.71	7.29	10.31	71	7.96	12.52	64
Ft. Benton	82	27	50	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Gold Butte	69	24	49	0.53	9.95	10.95	91	13.50	13.71	98
Harlem	68	23	48	0.00	8.64	9.35	92	11.70	11.54	101
Havre	66	25	48	0.13	10.45	8.67	121	11.49	11.48	100
Malta	84	30	52	0.10	8.86	10.33	86	12.40	12.91	96
Shelby	69	27	48	0.76	M	M	M	M	M	M
Turner	80	25	50	0.03	13.01	9.23	141	17.31	11.27	154
Valier	70	36	49	0.90	8.87	10.22	87	10.86	12.24	89
NORTHEAST										
Culbertson	80	18	48	0.18	9.43	11.32	83	12.88	13.60	95
Glasgow	70	27	47	0.04	9.62	9.05	106	12.16	11.26	108
Glendive	86	27	51	0.23	9.89	10.94	90	12.58	13.66	92
Jordan	69	27	48	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Plentywood	79	26	48	0.00	M	M	M	M	M	M
Scobey	M	M	M	M	8.61	10.56	82	12.60	12.51	101
Sidney	67	20	47	0.20	7.70	11.37	68	11.64	14.35	81
Wolf Point	71	23	46	0.03	7.44	9.70	77	11.18	12.00	93
CENTRAL										
Cascade	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Flatwillow	75	27	49	0.24	7.74	10.30	75	14.60	13.33	110
Great Falls	68	33	50	0.58	12.50	10.98	114	13.65	14.92	91
Hartlowton	73	24	51	0.72	7.94	11.13	71	10.34	14.11	73
Helena	72	27	50	0.08	10.48	8.53	123	12.17	11.34	107
Lewistown	63	30	47	0.61	9.56	13.15	73	13.20	17.89	74
Melstone	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Roundup	72	31	51	0.53	7.58	10.52	72	10.27	13.28	77
Stanford	65	32	48	0.43	8.94	13.20	68	13.45	17.17	78
White Sulphur Spr	62	25	44	0.29	10.47	10.14	103	12.54	13.25	95
SOUTHWEST										
Anaconda	67	22	47	0.00	9.96	9.42	106	14.64	13.40	109
Belgrade	71	27	46	0.11	11.75	10.63	111	14.40	14.74	98
Bozeman MSU	74	29	49	0.38	13.19	13.68	96	19.82	19.34	102
Butte	68	21	45	0.00	9.80	9.44	104	11.24	12.81	88
Dillon	71	27	49	0.00	8.96	9.22	97	10.38	11.68	89
Ennis	68	28	49	0.00	6.66	10.22	65	11.20	13.62	82
Wisdom	65	13	41	0.00	10.86	8.23	132	14.77	11.92	124
SOUTH CENTRAL										
Billings	67	38	51	0.58	8.54	10.23	83	12.15	14.81	82
Gardiner	73	32	50	0.34	8.20	7.06	116	9.60	9.89	97
Hardin	83	34	53	0.56	8.19	8.75	94	11.20	12.12	92
Livingston	66	29	46	0.37	10.36	11.88	87	13.09	15.77	83
Rapelje	72	31	52	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Red Lodge	71	28	47	1.00	10.82	15.63	69	14.55	23.83	61
SOUTHEAST										
Baker	67	24	45	0.16	10.08	11.31	89	13.05	14.43	90
Broadus	80	31	53	0.26	7.83	10.13	77	10.04	13.63	74
Ekalaka	71	27	47	0.19	7.67	13.21	58	12.24	17.30	71
Miles City	68	34	49	0.06	7.29	10.55	69	9.52	13.52	70

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.

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