



# Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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Released: May 26, 2009

Vol. 46 No. 12

**Agricultural Summary:** Most of Colorado received above average amounts of moisture during the week ending May 24<sup>th</sup>, with the exception of the Western Slope and Denver area. The benefits of much needed precipitation are becoming evident in crop emergence and crop and pasture conditions. Temperatures were about 8 degrees above normal for this time of year. Farmers were able to work 5.5 days in the field.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	3	24	67	6
Last Week	2	25	69	4
Last Year	26	44	28	2

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	12	29	54	5
Last Week	6	28	60	6
Last Year	23	47	28	2

**Small Grains:** The winter wheat crop was reported as being 94 percent jointed and 50 percent headed last week, with the crop in mostly good condition. Spring barley was 99 percent seeded and 85 percent emerged by week's end and rated in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring wheat was 98 percent planted, 11 percentage points above last year at this time, and 85 percent emerged, 18 points above the 5 year average. The crop was rated in good to excellent condition.

**Row Crops:** The 2009 corn crop progressed to 79 percent planted, 43 percent emerged and in mostly good condition. Sorghum was 15 percent planted, 12 points behind the 5 year average. Dry onions have nearly completed the planting stage and are in mostly good condition. Sugarbeets were 94 percent planted and 53 percent up to stand, 18 points higher than last week. Summer potatoes were 55 percent planted and 20 percent emerged, both are 19 points below the 5 year average. Fall potatoes were 93 percent planted, 28 points higher than last week, and 1 percent emerged. Farmers had 20 percent of the sunflower crop planted by week's end.

## SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending May 24, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	1	6	20	52	21
Last Year	18	30	35	16	1
Spring Barley					
This Week	0	0	14	41	45
Last Year	2	10	32	35	21
Spring Wheat					
This Week	0	1	18	37	44
Last Year	2	10	32	35	21

**Pasture, Range, and Hay:** Conditions for pasture and range across Colorado were rated mostly fair to good. The alfalfa crop ended the week in mostly good condition with 10 percent of the first cutting complete.

**Livestock:** Ninety-eight percent of cows have calved since January 1<sup>st</sup> while 98 percent of the ewes have lambled during the same time frame. Death losses for cattle were rated average last week, while sheep death losses were slightly below average. Stored feed supplies were rated slightly above average for this time of year.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending May 24, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2009	1	13	40	43	3
Prev. Year - 2008	19	29	37	14	1
5-Year Avg.	12	21	36	27	4

## Spring 2009 Calving and Lambing

	2009	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	98	99
Ewes Lambled since Jan 1	98	99

## COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending May 24, 2009

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Jointed	94	88	96	97
Headed	50	24	39	58
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Planted	99	98	100	100
Emerged	92	77	87	86
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Planted	98	87	87	94
Emerged	85	63	65	67
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Planted	94	90	97	99
Up to Stand	53	35	40	56
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Planted	55	45	68	74
Emerged	20	11	28	39
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>				
Planted	93	65	86	81
Emerged	1	0	4	4
<b>Corn</b>				
Planted	79	63	91	90
Emerged	43	23	45	49
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Planted	15	8	18	27
<b>Sunflowers, All</b>				
Planted	20	9	20	17
<b>Dry Beans</b>				
Planted	9	2	0	13
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	10	4	13	15

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

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Alfalfa</b>	0	2	13	57	28
<b>Corn</b>	0	1	7	64	28
<b>Sugarbeets</b>	0	0	7	73	20
<b>Dry Onions</b>	0	2	16	65	17
<b>Livestock</b>	1	3	15	66	15

<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.