



Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office
P.O. Box 150969, Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone 1-800-392-3202 · 1-800-643-6885
e-mail: nass-co@nass.usda.gov

To access USDA-NASS reports <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

Released: October 5, 2009

Vol. 46 No. 31

Agricultural Summary: Precipitation and temperatures across Colorado were below average, according to the USDA, NASS Colorado Field Office. Reports of freezes shortened the growing season in some areas. These conditions allowed producers 5.7 days in the field.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	2	28	68	2
Last Week	4	20	73	3
Last Year	8	31	56	5

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	3	36	56	5
Last Week	5	32	58	5
Last Year	14	39	44	3

Small Grains: Spring wheat was reported at 87 percent harvested, 13 percentage points behind the 5-year average. The winter wheat crop progressed to 82 percent seeded and 49 percent emerged by the end of the week, slightly behind the 5-year average.

Row Crops: Late season crops continue to be rated in good condition but some still lag behind their 5-year averages. Sorghum, which continues to progress ahead of the average, was 16 percent harvested by the end of the week. Corn was 20 percent harvested this week, four percentage points above the average. Sunflowers, reported at 20 percent harvested, are 5 points behind their 5-year average. Dry beans were 60 percent harvested, two percentage points behind the average, while summer potatoes were six percentage points behind the usual harvest progress.

ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending October 4, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	2	10	24	49	15
Last Year	4	11	32	28	25
Sorghum					
This Week	0	2	25	65	8
Last Year	4	13	40	38	5

Pasture, Range, and Hay: Conditions for pasture and range across Colorado remained in good condition for the week. The alfalfa crop ended the week in mostly good condition with fourth cutting alfalfa, at 20 percent complete, lagging behind the 5-year average by 12 percentage points.

Livestock: Livestock in Colorado are rated in good condition again this week. Death losses for cattle were rated average, while sheep were rated just below average. Stored feed supplies remained above average for this time of the year.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending October 4, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2009	5	13	30	41	11
Prev. Year - 2008	7	19	44	25	5
5-Year Avg.	6	21	40	29	4

COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending October 4, 2009

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Spring Wheat				
Harvested	87	75	98	100
Winter Wheat				
Seeded	82	69	86	86
Emerged	49	30	52	55
Corn				
Dent	95	87	100	99
Mature	63	43	75	73
Harvested	20	10	25	16
Corn Silage				
Harvested	84	65	80	89
Sorghum				
Turning Color	99	95	100	92
Mature	70	58	77	56
Harvested	16	10	17	12
Summer Potatoes				
Harvested	78	58	87	84
Fall Potatoes				
Harvested	70	50	63	61
Dry Onions				
Harvested	80	60	76	84
Dry Beans				
Cut	85	63	78	87
Harvested	60	40	53	62
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	35	25	16	13
Sunflowers				
Harvested	20	12	27	25
Alfalfa				
3 rd Cutting	78	66	94	93
4 th Cutting	20	9	26	32

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	0	5	17	51	27
Sugarbeets	0	2	12	65	21
Sunflowers	3	4	26	47	20
Livestock	0	2	13	71	14

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