



# 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: March 30, 2009

Vol. 46 No. 4

**Agricultural Summary:** Colorado received some much needed moisture last week from a statewide blizzard. This storm put precipitation amounts above normal for most of the state but a couple regions still experienced below normal moisture. Temperatures were slightly below average during the week. Overall, mountain snowpack is 99 percent of the average, a bump up from last week's 92 percent. Farmers were allowed 3.7 days in the field for spring operations.

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range feed conditions were rated mostly fair to poor across the State. Only 10 percent was rated very poor compared to 37 last week.

**Livestock:** Sixty-two percent of cows have calved since January 1<sup>st</sup> while 47 percent of the ewes have lambed during the same time frame. Death losses for cattle and sheep are rated average. Stored feed supplies are rated slightly above average for this time of year.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	14	40	42	4
Last Week	42	47	10	1
Last Year	15	30	49	6

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	15	42	42	1
Last Week	22	39	38	1
Last Year	12	32	53	3

**Field Crops:** The winter wheat crop was reported being 13 percent pastured and 2 percent jointed last week. The crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition. Spring barley was 18 percent seeded and 1 percent emerged by week's end. Spring wheat was 8 percent planted and 1 percent emerged. Dry onions were 27 percent planted, 2 percent below of the 5 year average, while sugarbeets were 7 percent planted.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending March 29, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2009	10	37	34	18	1
Prev. Year - 2008	5	27	46	22	0
5-Year Avg.	9	27	42	21	1

## Spring 2009 Calving and Lambing

	2009	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	62	59
Ewes Lambed since Jan 1	47	48

## SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending March 29, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	4	12	34	44	6
Last Year	10	22	37	26	5

**COLORADO CROP PROGRESS**

Development Ratings for Week Ending March 29, 2009

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Pastured	13	15	9	8
Jointed	2	0	1	2
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Seeded	18	15	11	17
Emerged	1	0	1	3
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Planted	12	8	9	8
Emerged	1	0	1	1
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Planted	7	5	4	7
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Planted	27	20	23	29

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

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Livestock</b>	1	4	21	66	8

<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.

USDA NASS  
Colorado Field Office

Colorado State University  
Cooperative Extension Service

Colorado Department  
of Agriculture