



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

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Agricultural Summary: Last week most of Colorado experienced below average precipitation levels with above average temperatures for this time of year. Many areas of the State set new record high temperatures. Overall, mountain snowpack is 74 percent of average. Farmers were allowed 5.7 days in the field for spring operations.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	8	36	56	0
Last Week	8	25	67	0
Last Year	34	44	20	2

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	8	34	58	0
Last Week	9	31	60	0
Last Year	31	45	22	2

Small Grains: Three percent of the winter wheat crop was reported being pastured this week, unchanged from 3 percent last week, but below the 9 percent on average. The crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition due to a dry winter but good germination last fall. Spring barley was 12 percent seeded by the end of the week, on pace with the 5-year average. The warm temperatures prompted emergence which was reported at 1 percent complete. Producers made good progress seeding spring wheat which was 10 percent complete at week's end compared to 3 percent on average at this time.

Row Crops: Onion growers made progress finishing the week at 5 percent of the acreage planted compared with 8 percent on average. Producers took advantage of the favorable weather by planting 1 percent of the summer

potato acreage last week.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending March 18, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	3	11	42	40	4
Last Year	17	31	38	13	1

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range feed conditions were rated mostly fair to poor across the State. Last year, 66 percent was rated fair to good at this time compared with 62 percent fair to good this year.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending March 18, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2012	12	26	44	18	0
Prev. Year - 2011	7	23	41	26	3
5-Year Avg.	10	23	37	28	2

Livestock: Forty-eight percent of cows have calved since January 1st while 36 percent of the ewes have lambled during the same time frame. Death losses for cattle and sheep were average. Stored feed supplies were also rated average for this time of year.

Spring 2012 Calving and Lambing

	2012	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	48	44
Ewes Lambled since Jan 1	36	35

COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending March 18, 2012

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Winter Wheat				
Pastured	3	3	5	9
Spring Barley				
Seeded	12	4	12	7
Emerged	1	N/A	0	0
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	10	2	5	3
Dry Onions				
Planted	5	1	14	8
Summer Potatoes				
Planted	1	N/A	0	0

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

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	2	25	69	4