



# 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, parts of the Front Range and Eastern Plains of Colorado experienced above average precipitation while the rest of the State had below average precipitation levels. Temperatures were above average for this time of year, but reports of freezing temperatures at night in the Western regions affected some of the cherry and peach producing areas. Windy and dry conditions prevailed on the Eastern Plains and in the San Luis Valley. Overall, mountain snowpack is 49 percent of average leaving irrigators concerned with a possible reduction in water deliveries this growing season. Farmers were allowed 5.9 days in the field for spring operations.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	8	37	55	0
Last Week	10	46	44	0
Last Year	40	38	19	3

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	10	38	52	0
Last Week	15	39	46	0
Last Year	36	40	21	3

**Small Grains:** The continued warm temperatures last week pushed winter wheat progress to 18 percent jointed compared with 10 percent on average. The winter wheat reported being pastured dropped to 1 percent last week. The crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition. Spring barley was 36 percent seeded by the end of the week compared with the 5-year average of 24 percent. Emergence was at 30 percent. Spring wheat was reported 32 percent seeded, 17 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average, with 10 percent emerged at week's end.

**Row Crops:** The planting of corn started last week with 1 percent planted. Onion growers reported 45 percent of the acreage planted, ahead of schedule compared with 38

percent on average. The planting of summer potatoes increased to 21 percent last week. Sugarbeet planting last week reached 18 percent planted, ahead of the 5-year average of 9 percent.

## SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending April 8, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	2	16	40	39	3
Last Year	20	33	34	12	1

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range feed conditions improved slightly last week with the limited moisture but remains in mostly fair to poor condition across the State. Fourteen percent was rated good compared with 12 percent the previous week.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending April 8, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2012	12	25	49	14	0
Prev. Year - 2011	11	23	37	26	3
5-Year Avg.	8	21	38	31	2

**Livestock:** Seventy-four percent of cows have calved since January 1<sup>st</sup> while 67 percent of the ewes have lambled during the same time frame. Death losses for cattle and sheep were average. Stored feed supplies were rated average to short for this time of year.

## Spring 2012 Calving and Lambing

	2012	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	74	70
Ewes Lambled since Jan 1	67	63

**COLORADO CROP PROGRESS**

Development Ratings for Week Ending April 8, 2012

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Pastured	1	2	6	6
Jointed	18	12	9	10
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Seeded	36	33	26	24
Emerged	30	24	10	7
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Seeded	32	29	14	15
Emerged	10	8	2	4
<b>Corn</b>				
Planted	1	N/A	1	1
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Planted	45	30	41	38
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Planted	18	9	4	9
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Planted	21	10	6	5

**COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/**

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Livestock</b>	1	3	31	60	5

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