



Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Agricultural Summary: Drought conditions continue across Colorado. Some isolated showers were received last week but there were reports of fires caused by lightening from the storms. The San Luis Valley and some western areas received above average levels of precipitation. Temperature levels were slightly above average for this time of year. Irrigated crops have progressed ahead of normal due to the hot temperatures but concerns over dwindling water reserves remain. Non-irrigated crops are continuing to decline in the dry and hot conditions. Range conditions continue to decline and are still in critical condition. Farmers were allowed 6.8 days in the field for operations.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	54	33	13	0
Last Week	44	34	22	0
Last Year	10	28	57	5

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	57	33	10	0
Last Week	51	36	13	0
Last Year	14	23	60	3

Small Grains: Spring barley progressed to 45 percent turning color with 7 percent harvested by the end of last week. The crop is rated in mostly good condition. Spring wheat was 38 percent turning color with 5 percent harvested. The crop was reported in mostly good to fair condition by the end of the week.

Row Crops: Corn progressed rapidly due to the dry, sunny conditions with 59 percent silked, 28 percentage-points ahead of the 5-year average. The crop condition ratings ranged evenly from very poor to good, but the limited moisture is causing it to decline. Dry bean progress was reported 49 percent flowered and the crop, along with summer potatoes, was rated in mostly fair to good condition. Sorghum progress increased to 21 percent headed but the crop condition declined from last week and ranged from poor to good condition. Sugarbeets, fall potatoes, and onions were all rated in mostly good condition. Sunflower condition declined and ranged from poor to good at the end of last week.

SMALL GRAIN AND ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending July 22, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	21	23	26	27	3
Last Year	2	3	28	59	8
Spring Barley					
This Week	1	3	24	67	5
Last Year	0	2	40	49	9
Spring Wheat					
This Week	11	14	21	50	4
Last Year	0	13	48	32	7
Sorghum					
This Week	20	28	19	31	2
Last Year	4	14	59	21	2

Pasture and Range: The condition of pastureland declined last week and is rated mostly very poor to poor across the State. There have been several reports of pasture grasses growing very little or going dormant due to the dry conditions. Alfalfa hay harvest reached 67 percent of the 2nd cutting complete and 7 percent of the 3rd cutting complete. The crop was reported in mostly fair to good condition.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending July 22, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2012	46	33	18	3	0
Prev. Year - 2011	18	18	21	33	10
5-Year Avg.	9	13	28	42	8

Livestock: The condition of livestock is rated good to fair. Producers across the State are relocating or reducing their livestock numbers due to the poor condition of pastureland and the continued high feed costs. Death losses for cattle and sheep were average. Stored feed supplies have been reduced due to the drought and high demand and were rated short for this time of year.

COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending July 22, 2012

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Alfalfa				
2 nd Cutting	67	56	46	51
3 rd Cutting	7	-	-	-
Corn				
Silked	59	20	15	31
Dough	1	-	-	1
Dry Beans				
Flowered	49	22	18	38
Sorghum				
Headed	21	10	22	23
Spring Barley				
Turning Color	45	35	56	60
Harvested	7	N/A	8	4
Spring Wheat				
Turning Color	38	31	39	44
Harvested	5	N/A	1	1

- Represents zero.

N/A Not available.

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	18	21	31	26	4
Dry Beans	8	13	49	28	2
Dry Onions	1	2	27	61	9
Fall Potatoes	0	0	22	68	10
Livestock	6	13	40	40	1
Sugarbeets	3	9	24	51	13
Summer Potatoes	0	10	45	42	3
Sunflowers	19	27	20	31	3

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

