



Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Agricultural Summary: Most of Colorado experienced hot and dry weather last week with below average precipitation and above average temperatures. There were a few scattered showers reported across the State bringing limited relief, but conditions are still very dry. Topsoil and subsoil conditions remain rated mostly very short last week. Farmers were allowed 6.7 days in the field for operations.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	70	25	5	0
Last Week	66	29	5	0
Last Year	31	40	28	1

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	72	25	3	0
Last Week	68	29	3	0
Last Year	25	37	36	2

Small Grains: Spring barley and spring wheat harvest progressed to 93 and 66 percent harvested by the end of last week, respectively.

Row Crops: Corn progressed to 83 percent dented, 26 percent mature, and 2 percent harvested. The crop condition was rated in mostly very poor to fair condition. Corn harvested for silage progressed to 50 percent harvested. Dry bean progress was reported at 50 percent cut and 10 percent harvested. The crop was rated in fair to poor condition. Dry onion harvest was 50 percent complete with the crop rated in mostly good condition. Summer potatoes were 85 percent harvested, 51 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Sorghum progress increased to 98 percent headed, 83 percent turning color, 12 percent mature, and 1 percent harvested. The crop was rated in mostly very poor to poor condition. Sugarbeets were rated in mostly good to fair condition. Fall potato harvest was 33 percent complete and the crop was rated in mostly good condition. Sunflower condition ranged from very poor to fair at the end of last week.

ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 9, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	38	22	19	19	2
Last Year	6	10	26	45	13
Sorghum					
This Week	53	19	18	10	0
Last Year	12	18	43	26	1

Pasture and Range: The condition of pastureland is rated mostly very poor to poor across the State. Alfalfa hay harvest continued with 85 percent of the 3rd cutting complete and 21 percent of the 4th cutting complete. The crop's condition was rated evenly from very poor to good condition.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 9, 2012

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2012	61	26	12	1	0
Prev. Year - 2011	28	17	30	23	7
5-Year Avg.	8	13	36	36	7

Livestock: The condition of livestock was rated fair to good at the end of last week. 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 September 9, 2012

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Alfalfa				
3 rd Cutting	85	80	60	56
4 th Cutting	21	14	-	-
Corn				
Dent	83	64	59	58
Mature	26	10	6	11
Harvested	2	N/A	-	-
Corn Silage				
Harvested	50	27	24	25
Dry Beans				
Cut	50	40	27	25
Harvested	10	N/A	6	9
Dry Onions				
Harvested	50	32	42	39
Fall Potatoes				
Harvested	33	22	10	11
Sorghum				
Headed	98	97	93	97
Turning Color	83	60	55	66
Mature	12	10	15	21
Harvested	1	-	-	1
Spring Barley				
Harvested	93	84	90	90
Spring Wheat				
Harvested	66	54	66	61
Summer Potato				
Harvested	85	65	44	34

- Represents zero.
N/A Not available.

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	24	25	27	23	1
Dry Beans	11	25	41	22	1
Dry Onions	1	4	12	79	4
Fall Potatoes	0	0	20	80	0
Livestock	6	16	52	26	0
Sugarbeets	3	13	28	46	10
Sunflowers	38	25	25	12	0

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

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!

