



# 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](mailto:nass-co@nass.usda.gov)

To access USDA-NASS reports <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

Released: April 8, 2013

Vol. 50 No. 4

**Agricultural Summary:** Colorado experienced warm temperatures and dry conditions across the state last week. Farmers made good progress planting spring crops. Overall, mountain snowpack is 69 percent of average. Farmers were allowed 6.0 days in the field for spring operations.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	25	36	39	0
Last Week	21	29	49	1
Last Year	8	38	53	0

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	42	37	21	0
Last Week	39	44	17	0
Last Year	11	38	51	0

**Small Grains:** Six percent of the winter wheat crop was reported being pastured this week, slightly above the five-year average of 5 percent. While Colorado continues to experience below average precipitation, crop condition is rated mostly fair to very poor. Spring barley was 23 percent seeded and 2 percent emerged by the end of the week. Slightly behind the 5-year averages of 25 percent planted and 11 percent emerged. Spring wheat was 18 percent seeded by week's end with 2 percent emerged.

**Row Crops:** Onion growers made favorable planting progress, with 35 percent of the crop planted by week's end, only slightly below the five year average of 37 percent. Producers began to make progress in planting sugarbeets and summer potatoes. 1 percent of sugarbeets were planted at week's end, considerably behind the 10 percent average. Summer potato plantings are progressing in line with the 5-year average with 7 percent planted by week's end.

## SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending April 7, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	22	24	40	14	0
Last Year	2	16	40	39	3

**Pasture and Range:** With warm, dry weather across the state, pasture and range feed conditions continue to be rated mostly very poor to poor. Current conditions were rated 56 percent very poor compared to 13 percent at this time in 2012.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending April 7, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2013	56	26	15	3	0
Prev. Year - 2012	13	25	48	14	0
5-Year Avg.	10	23	39	26	2

**Livestock:** Calving and lambing rates are slightly behind the average with 69 percent of cows having calved since January 1<sup>st</sup>, while 60 percent of the ewes lambled. Death losses for cattle and sheep were average. Stored feed supplies were rated short for this time of year.

## Spring 2013 Calving and Lambing

	2013	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	69	71
Ewes Lambled since Jan 1	60	62

## COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending April 7, 2013

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Winter Wheat</b>				
Pastured	6	8	1	5
Jointed	3	-	17	11
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Seeded	23	15	36	25
Emerged	4	1	29	11
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Seeded	18	9	32	18
Emerged	2	1	10	5
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Planted	35	21	43	37
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Planted	1	-	17	10
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Planted	7	-	19	7

- Represents zero.

N/A Not available.

## COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Livestock</b>	2	7	40	50	1

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