



# Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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**Agricultural Summary:** Isolated rains continued last week with persistent dry conditions reported in other areas. Several reporters indicated that high winds last week depleted soil moisture in portions of Colorado. Generally, changes in crop conditions varied by locality. Most improvements in ratings were particular to areas with adequate irrigation supplies or precipitation in recent weeks. The harvest of small grains was more prevalent last week as dry conditions were ideal for field operations. On average, farmers were allowed 6.3 days in the field for operations.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	20	33	46	1
Last Week	18	34	46	2
Last Year	64	30	6	0

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	34	39	27	0
Last Week	33	41	26	0
Last Year	64	31	5	0

**Small Grains:** Small grain harvest activities gained momentum last week, with barley and spring wheat ending on 42 and 50 percent harvested, respectively. Harvest of both crops gained over 15 percentage points from the previous week.

**Row Crops:** Sixty-eight percent of Colorado's corn crop was in the dough stage by week's end, compared with 82 percent last year and the average of 65 percent, and seventeen percent of the crop was in the dough stage. Producers harvested 3 percent of the corn crop for silage last week, slightly behind 12 percent last year and 6 percent on average. Sorghum was 63 percent headed as of yesterday, 31 percent was turning color, and 2 percent had reached maturity. Sorghum development and harvest continue to lag behind last year and the average. Harvest of dry onions was 7 percent complete, compared with 24 percent last year and 18 percent on average. Harvest of potatoes in the San Luis Valley began last week, ending with 4 percent complete. Elsewhere, the potato harvest saw a modest gain of 5 percentage points from the previous week, ending with 29 percent complete. Colorado producers cut 12 percent of the dry bean crop last week.

## SMALL GRAIN AND ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending August 25, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	12	10	26	47	5
Last Year	36	21	22	19	2
Spring Barley					
This Week	0	2	42	53	3
Last Year*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring Wheat					
This Week	13	12	34	37	4
Last Year	7	11	22	54	6

\*Harvest over 50% complete

**Pasture and Range:** Pasture and range conditions ratings showed a slight improvement, ending with 47 percent rated very poor to poor compared with 50 percent last week. On average, 36 percent is rated very poor to poor. The 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting of alfalfa was virtually complete by week's end while the third cutting saw a gain of 17 percentage points from the previous week, ending with 38 percent cut.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending August 25, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2013	21	26	29	22	2
Prev. Year - 2012	52	29	16	3	0
5-Year Avg.	18	18	29	30	5

**Livestock:** Livestock condition ratings showed a slight improvement from last week with 61 percent now rated good to excellent, up from 56 percent previously. Death losses remained at average levels for cattle and sheep. Overall, stored feed supplies remained rated as average for this time of year.

## COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week ending August 25, 2013

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	97	93	100	96
3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	38	21	67	39
<b>Corn</b>				
Dough	68	45	82	65
Dent	17	5	38	23
Mature	-	N/A	3	1
<b>Corn Silage</b>				
Harvested	3	N/A	12	6
<b>Dry Beans</b>				
Cut	12	N/A	15	5
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Harvested	7	3	24	18
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>				
Harvested				
San Luis Valley	4	N/A	13	5
All Other	29	24	52	24
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Headed	63	55	90	87
Turning Color	31	24	39	50
Mature	2	1	-	5
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Harvested	42	25	67	51
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Harvested	50	33	39	32

- Represents zero.

N/A Not available.

## COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Alfalfa</b>	14	11	34	37	4
<b>Dry Beans</b>	5	10	36	49	0
<b>Dry Onions</b>	0	8	22	69	1
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>					
San Luis Valley	0	0	29	68	3
All Other	0	0	51	49	0
<b>Livestock</b>	2	5	32	60	1
<b>Sorghum</b>	18	19	36	27	0
<b>Sugarbeets</b>	0	2	22	74	2
<b>Sunflowers</b>	13	16	39	30	2

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

### USDA TO SURVEY SMALL GRAINS FARMERS

During the first two weeks of September, NASS will survey growers of small grains, including wheat, oats, and barley. In addition, NASS will ask for grain currently stored on the farm. Survey results will be published in several reports, including the annual *Small Grains Summary* and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on September 30.