



Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Agricultural Summary: Conditions last week were ideal for harvesting small grains as producers made considerable progress. Some locations experienced isolated precipitation while elevated temperatures and high winds across the state depleted fields of adequate moisture supplies. As a result, condition ratings of most crops in addition to pasture and rangeland showed consistent declines. However, reporters indicated heat was beneficial for maturing crops in portions of Colorado. On average, farmers were allowed 6.6 days in the field for operations.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	24	43	33	0
Last Week	20	33	46	1
Last Year	66	29	5	0

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	36	44	20	0
Last Week	34	39	27	0
Last Year	68	29	3	0

Small Grains: Harvest of small grains continued at a brisk pace last week. By week's end, harvest of barley and spring wheat were both 68 percent complete, a gain of 26 and 18 percentage points, respectively. Amidst the favorable weather conditions, producers also managed to seed 3 percent of the state's winter wheat crop.

Row Crops: Corn was 87 percent in the dough stage, up from 68 percent the previous week. Corn in the denting stage trailed the average, ending the week at 33 percent. Eleven percent of Colorado's corn crop intended for silage has been harvested, with 8 percent of that harvested last week. The sorghum crop was 79 percent headed, 43 percent was turning color, and 3 percent was mature, behind last year and the average in all stages of development. The onion harvest was 14 percent complete by week's end, behind 31 percent last year and the average of 28 percent. Potatoes in the San Luis valley were 9 percent harvested while all potatoes elsewhere were at 34 percent harvested.

Harvest activities of both crops were on par with corresponding averages. Twenty-five percent of dry beans have been cut, compared with 37 percent last year and 15 percent on average.

SMALL GRAIN AND ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 1, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	14	12	28	40	6
Last Year	43	20	17	17	3
Spring Barley					
This Week	0	4	33	54	9
Last Year*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring Wheat					
This Week	13	12	34	37	4
Last Year	10	13	19	53	5

*Harvest over 50% complete

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions ratings declined last week, ending with 51 percent rated very poor to poor compared with 47 percent the previous week. On average, 35 percent is normally rated very poor to poor. The 3rd cutting of alfalfa was 54 percent complete, up from 38 percent the week prior.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 1, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2013	24	27	30	19	0
Prev. Year - 2012	59	26	13	2	0
5-Year Avg.	18	17	30	30	5

Livestock: Livestock condition ratings showed a noticeable decline from last week with 51 percent now rated good to excellent, down from 61 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 September 1, 2013

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Alfalfa				
3 rd Cutting	54	38	78	50
Corn				
Dough	87	68	94	84
Dent	33	17	61	41
Mature	1	-	9	5
Corn Silage				
Harvested	11	3	25	13
Dry Beans				
Cut	25	12	37	15
Dry Onions				
Harvested	14	7	31	28
Fall Potatoes				
Harvested				
San Luis Valley	9	4	21	9
All Other	34	29	63	32
Sorghum				
Headed	79	63	96	93
Turning Color	43	31	57	58
Mature	3	2	9	11
Spring Barley				
Harvested	68	42	82	71
Spring Wheat				
Harvested	68	50	52	44
Winter Wheat				
Planted	3	N/A	-	3

- Represents zero.

N/A Not available.

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS ^{1/}

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	12	13	34	36	5
Dry Beans	7	14	39	38	2
Dry Onions	0	2	26	67	5
Fall Potatoes					
San Luis Valley	0	1	24	65	10
All Other	0	0	52	46	2
Livestock	3	7	39	50	1
Sorghum	16	24	35	25	0
Sugarbeets	0	4	25	65	6
Sunflowers	15	15	40	27	3

^{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.