



Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Agricultural Summary: As warm, dry conditions persisted last week, field activities gained prevalence and were maintained at an accelerated pace similar to the week prior. Precipitation was received along the Western Slope while isolated events occurred in the eastern district with trace amounts elsewhere. Emergence of dry areas was noted by reporters in the northeastern district as precipitation has waned in previous weeks. However, no immediate concerns of crop quality were addressed. Statewide, farmers were allowed 6.5 days in the field for operations.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	9	34	53	4
Last Week	8	34	54	4
Last Year	6	20	69	5

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	17	33	49	1
Last Week	17	32	50	1
Last Year	24	32	43	1

Small Grains: Harvesting activities for spring wheat continued behind average, with 83 percent of the spring wheat crop harvested by week's end. Winter wheat was 71 percent planted as of last week, up from 42 percent a week earlier. This is ahead of 53 percent last year and 64 percent on average. Thirty-four percent was emerged, continuing ahead of last year and the average.

Row Crops: Maturity of corn was estimated at 39 percent, up 23 percentage points from the week earlier. Harvest activities gained momentum last week, with 6 percent harvested by week's end. Eighty-five percent of the corn crop intended for silage has been harvested, compared with 86 percent last year and 84 percent on average. Dry beans were 72 percent cut while 42 percent has been harvested, up from last week's respective figures of 45 and 22 percent. On average, dry beans are 52 percent harvested by now. Onions were 51 percent

harvested, behind 58 percent last year and the average of 71 percent. San Luis Valley potatoes were 36 percent harvested, up from 22 percent previously. Potatoes outside the San Luis Valley were 92 percent harvested, compared with 95 percent last year and the average of 80 percent. Sorghum was 86 percent coloring, 44 percent mature, and 5 percent was harvested compared with the averages of 93, 41, and 5 percent, respectively. Twenty-four percent of the sugarbeet crop was harvested, compared with 9 percent a year ago and 14 percent on average.

ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 28, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn					
This Week	2	5	26	51	16
Last Year	12	12	30	33	13

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions were rated 65 percent fair to good across the State. Last year, 54 percent was rated fair to good while 53 percent is fair to good on average. The third and fourth cuttings of alfalfa hay were estimated at 89 and 26 percent complete, respectively. On average, the third and fourth cuttings are 85 and 30 percent complete, respectively.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending September 28, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2014	6	21	26	39	8
Prev. Year - 2013	20	25	32	22	1
5-Year Avg.	21	21	30	23	5

Livestock: Death losses for cattle and sheep remained mostly average to light. Stored feed supplies were rated 5 percent very short, 12 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus, unchanged from the previous week's figures.

COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending September 28, 2014

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Alfalfa				
3 rd Cutting	89	79	85	85
4 th Cutting	26	20	24	30
Corn				
Dented	97	90	96	96
Mature	39	16	49	58
Harvested	6	-	10	12
Corn Silage				
Harvested	85	69	86	84
Dry Beans				
Cut	72	45	65	73
Harvested	42	22	50	52
Onions				
Harvested	51	44	58	71
Potatoes				
Inside SLV				
Harvested	36	22	34	45
Outside SLV				
Harvested	92	79	95	80
Sorghum				
Turning Color	86	68	89	93
Mature	44	34	24	41
Harvested	5	3	3	5
Spring Wheat				
Harvested	83	75	100	89
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	24	15	9	14
Winter Wheat				
Planted	71	42	53	64
Emerged	34	10	24	26

- Represents zero.

N/A Not available.

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	3	11	24	45	17
Dry Beans	0	1	42	44	13
Livestock	0	1	19	68	12
Onions	0	1	16	62	21
Potatoes Inside SLV	6	12	26	47	9
Sorghum	3	15	52	29	1
Sugarbeets	1	3	19	56	21
Sunflowers	1	8	42	41	8

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