



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Bill Meyer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Much of the state received precipitation by week's end, but fieldwork was limited due to weather conditions, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Good moisture in the form of rain and snow was received in several counties, continuing to improve soil moisture and pasture conditions. In general, cooler temperatures slowed the rate of planting and emergence for many spring crops. Reporters in eastern counties noted freeze damage to wheat is possible due to cold nighttime temperatures. Isolated heavy snow and severe weather in the Southeast district is a concern for the wheat crop and livestock producers who are evaluating possible livestock losses. Reporters in the San Luis Valley noted potato planting has begun around weather events; variable wet, cold and windy weather with some isolated hail was reported. As of May 1st, snowpack in Colorado was at 102 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 114 and 103 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 4 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 45 percent average and 55 percent light. Cattle death loss was 1 percent heavy, 77 percent average, and 22 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	77	62	72	68
Emerged	29	10	30	32
Corn				
Planted	16	8	17	19
Onions				
Planted	66	59	86	77
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted	61	46	69	52
Emerged	4	1	5	6
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Planted	13	NA	9	6
Spring wheat				
Planted	48	33	48	53
Emerged	11	1	14	21
Sugarbeets				
Planted	45	31	73	54
Emerged	9	1	24	11
Winter wheat				
Pastured	15	12	NA	NA
Jointed	55	43	65	46
Cows calved	87	84	90	90
Ewes lambled	79	72	87	88

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	4.3	4.8	3.9	5.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	3	3	2	12
Short	10	17	9	26
Adequate.....	80	76	76	58
Surplus.....	7	4	13	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	6	6	4	18
Short	23	26	15	30
Adequate.....	70	66	75	50
Surplus.....	1	2	6	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa				
Very poor	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	4	2	NA	NA
Fair.....	16	15	NA	NA
Good	70	74	NA	NA
Excellent	10	9	NA	NA
Livestock				
Very poor	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	3	1	5
Fair.....	19	18	14	25
Good	70	71	75	62
Excellent	9	8	10	7
Pasture and Range				
Very poor	2	4	7	16
Poor.....	13	23	12	25
Fair.....	39	35	33	32
Good	40	34	41	25
Excellent	6	4	7	2
Winter Wheat				
Very poor	3	6	1	11
Poor.....	13	16	11	16
Fair.....	37	36	23	30
Good	42	35	53	37
Excellent	5	7	12	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero