



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warm and dry conditions accelerated crop maturity last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Isolated precipitation was received in several counties, but most remained hot and dry again last week, causing concern for non-irrigated crop and rangeland conditions which have suffered from a continued lack of moisture. Corn silage harvest progressed significantly with good conditions for fieldwork last week, but winter wheat planting remains behind in areas as producers wait for moisture to improve seeding conditions. A reporter in the northeastern district noted that some dryland corn was harvested for silage last week in lieu of harvesting for grain due to dry conditions. In the San Luis Valley, reporters noted that rain showers delayed fieldwork, but barley harvest was near completion. A reporter noted mountain pastures in these counties remain wet with continued moisture. Statewide, corn was rated 65 percent good to excellent, compared with 74 percent last year and 56 percent on average. Stored feed supplies were rated 1 percent short, 88 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 52 percent average and 48 percent light. Cattle death loss was 78 percent average and 22 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
3 rd cutting	78	73	81	79
4 th cutting	13	9	23	19
Barley				
Harvested	92	85	94	96
Corn				
Dough	95	90	99	99
Dented	71	54	86	88
Mature	19	9	21	30
Harvested	2	--	--	2
Corn Silage				
Harvested	52	32	49	57
Dry Beans				
Cut	50	33	26	44
Harvested	18	7	9	21
Onions				
Harvested	49	34	51	46
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	13	9	19	26
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	38	29	71	73
Sorghum				
Turning color	80	65	85	80
Mature	13	5	17	22
Spring wheat				
Harvested	81	70	70	80
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	1	NA	--	6
Winter wheat				
Planted	23	11	33	29
Emerged	3	NA	12	6

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	6.8	7.0	6.7	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	3	5	8	19
Short	33	27	29	30
Adequate	63	68	61	48
Surplus	1	--	2	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	2	5	6	25
Short	31	25	28	30
Adequate	66	69	65	44
Surplus	1	1	1	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
Very poor.....	3	2	--	6
Poor.....	11	11	2	10
Fair.....	22	23	19	26
Good.....	57	58	62	47
Excellent.....	7	6	17	11
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	12
Poor.....	10	13	3	9
Fair.....	24	28	22	23
Good.....	51	48	60	44
Excellent.....	14	10	14	12
Dry Beans				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	2
Poor.....	6	3	2	8
Fair.....	24	18	28	37
Good.....	65	73	61	46
Excellent.....	5	6	8	7
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	1	--	5
Fair.....	9	14	9	24
Good.....	81	79	78	61
Excellent.....	8	6	13	9
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	5	5	3	NA
Fair.....	18	19	9	NA
Good.....	68	67	70	NA
Excellent.....	9	9	18	NA
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	--	1	3	17
Poor.....	12	10	6	18
Fair.....	27	27	29	25
Good.....	50	50	54	34
Excellent.....	11	12	8	6
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	15	11	--	NA
Fair.....	20	16	15	NA
Good.....	50	55	66	NA
Excellent.....	15	18	19	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Fair.....	11	11	NA	NA
Good.....	85	85	NA	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	14
Poor.....	3	2	5	15
Fair.....	10	10	30	33
Good.....	72	77	58	36
Excellent.....	14	10	7	2
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	1	3	1	4
Fair.....	5	10	14	18
Good.....	79	72	71	63
Excellent.....	14	14	14	15
Sunflowers				
Very poor.....	1	2	--	13
Poor.....	3	5	3	15
Fair.....	16	13	26	28
Good.....	70	74	63	38
Excellent.....	10	6	8	6

NA – not available

(--)- zero