



# 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 MAY 27, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Planting activities kept pace with the average last week amidst mixed weather, including above normal temperatures and isolated thunderstorms in areas, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northwestern counties, reporters noted rangeland was in mostly fair to good condition and that livestock were being turned out for the summer. Water was noted to be started on irrigated meadows. Northeastern counties received locally heavy rain that delayed fieldwork slightly. Reporter comments noted pasture and dryland crop conditions continued to improve from received moisture and that several producers were able to finish planting corn last week. In east central counties, scattered moisture and locally severe weather was reported. A reporter noted some producers sprayed for Russian wheat aphid last week. Another comment noted pasture conditions declined where no moisture was received. Southwestern county reporters noted producers continued to sell off livestock in response to dire drought conditions. A reporter mentioned moisture from isolated storms helped improve topsoil moisture, but was not enough to improve overall crop or rangeland conditions. In the San Luis Valley, potato planting was nearing completion. A reporter noted the alfalfa crop was very uneven in places with fields continuing to be evaluated for replacement. Hay supplies were noted to be short and difficult to find. Some areas received a little moisture early last week. Southeastern counties saw some measureable precipitation last week, but reporters noted conditions remained dry and spring crops were not emerging without irrigation. As of May 29, 2018, snowpack in Colorado was 29 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 3 and 2 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 8 percent very short, 19 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 45 percent average and 55 percent light. Cattle death loss was 71 percent average and 29 percent light.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested .....	3	2	11	10
Barley				
Emerged .....	94	91	86	89
Corn				
Planted .....	85	67	86	87
Emerged .....	58	31	58	58
Dry edible beans				
Planted .....	8	2	14	15
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Planted .....	93	88	86	91
Emerged .....	1	--	NA	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted .....	88	82	84	94
Emerged .....	51	36	75	69
Sorghum				
Planted .....	27	8	17	19
Spring wheat				
Planted .....	92	89	86	89
Emerged .....	79	69	74	68
Sugarbeets				
Emerged .....	84	62	88	81
Sunflowers				
Planted .....	9	1	5	8
Winter wheat				
Jointed .....	96	86	97	93
Headed .....	60	34	66	52
Turning color .....	1	--	NA	NA

NA – not available

(--)- zero

### DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.8	5.4	4.6	5.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	13	12	--	9
Short .....	23	25	2	17
Adequate .....	61	60	85	65
Surplus.....	3	3	13	9
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	13	1	15
Short .....	20	24	6	20
Adequate .....	65	63	88	60
Surplus.....	1	--	5	5

NA – not available

(--)- zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor .....	9	9	--	NA
Poor.....	10	10	6	NA
Fair.....	27	27	23	NA
Good .....	42	44	63	NA
Excellent .....	12	10	8	NA
<b>Barley</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	2	2	--	1
Fair.....	32	12	19	21
Good .....	45	73	54	56
Excellent .....	20	12	27	22
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	--	NA	1	1
Poor.....	1	NA	2	3
Fair.....	7	NA	25	28
Good .....	84	NA	54	55
Excellent .....	8	NA	18	13
<b>Onions</b>				
Very poor .....	--	NA	--	1
Poor.....	3	NA	--	3
Fair.....	16	NA	5	12
Good .....	70	NA	80	71
Excellent .....	11	NA	15	13
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	17	13	--	10
Poor.....	20	19	2	15
Fair.....	27	27	22	26
Good .....	31	40	65	41
Excellent .....	5	1	11	8
<b>Potatoes outside San Luis Valley</b>				
Very poor .....	--	NA	--	NA
Poor.....	5	NA	--	NA
Fair.....	20	NA	15	NA
Good .....	70	NA	70	NA
Excellent .....	5	NA	15	NA
<b>Spring wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	35	25	--	1
Poor.....	3	2	1	1
Fair.....	9	9	6	24
Good .....	45	56	90	71
Excellent .....	8	8	3	3
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	1	1
Poor.....	6	4	3	3
Fair.....	24	24	23	25
Good .....	54	58	70	61
Excellent .....	15	13	3	10
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	5	5	4	14
Poor.....	14	14	12	15
Fair.....	25	31	34	29
Good .....	49	44	38	34
Excellent .....	7	6	12	8
<b>Livestock</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	4	4	1	3
Fair.....	19	16	10	18
Good .....	64	69	75	69
Excellent .....	12	10	14	10

NA – not available

(--) – zero