



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 APRIL 21, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Isolated precipitation held soil moisture supplies steady last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northwestern counties, snow cover receded from meadows and south-facing slopes, but moving stock to pasture was noted as still a few weeks off. Northeastern county reporters noted calving was nearing completion and fieldwork progressed around precipitation events. Below freezing temperatures at night hindered some progress. In east central counties, beneficial moisture was received and reporters noted winter wheat was growing quickly. In the San Luis Valley, warmer and drier conditions aided producer fieldwork. Barley emergence picked up and seed potato growers were noted as just beginning to plant last week. Alfalfa damaged last winter was reported as being replanted to another crop for this year. In southeastern counties, last week was dry and windy. A reporter noted producers were preparing to plant corn, despite cooler ground. Statewide, winter wheat condition was rated 73 percent good to excellent, compared to 36 percent rated good to excellent last year. As of April 22, 2019 snowpack in Colorado was 128 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 159 and 130 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 17 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 1 percent heavy, 82 percent average, and 17 percent light. Cattle death loss was 1 percent heavy, 86 percent average, and 13 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	63	37	57	48
Emerged	10	2	13	NA
Corn				
Planted	2	--	2	4
Onions				
Planted	28	11	56	54
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Planted	2	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted	19	9	25	34
Sugarbeets				
Planted	32	14	26	33
Winter wheat				
Pastured.....	18	25	3	7
Jointed.....	15	11	19	29
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	84	78	85	85
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled	91	85	89	80

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.....	5.7	4.6	4.6	4.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	--	25	10
Short.....	6	7	28	23
Adequate.....	88	89	46	63
Surplus.....	5	4	1	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	1	1	17	13
Short.....	15	18	34	29
Adequate.....	81	79	48	56
Surplus.....	3	2	1	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	2	NA	5	NA
Poor.....	5	NA	16	NA
Fair.....	13	NA	29	NA
Good.....	72	NA	43	NA
Excellent.....	8	NA	7	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	1	2	24	11
Poor.....	7	9	23	23
Fair.....	29	39	32	34
Good.....	60	46	21	29
Excellent.....	3	4	--	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	11	8
Poor.....	3	4	18	14
Fair.....	24	34	35	33
Good.....	56	54	34	39
Excellent.....	17	8	2	6
Livestock				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	3	4	3	2
Fair.....	18	21	18	20
Good.....	72	68	74	70
Excellent.....	6	6	5	8

NA – not available

(--) – zero