



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 28, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Corn planting started in areas across the state amidst warmer and drier weather last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northeastern and east central counties, drier weather reportedly allowed producers more days in the field last week. Spring calving was nearing completion and producers began branding and vaccination protocols in preparation of turning livestock to summer pasture. A reporter noted fertilizer and herbicide applications were made to wheat in between precipitation events last week. In southwestern counties, soil moisture supplies continued to hold steady from recent precipitation. In the San Luis Valley, fieldwork was slowed by wind and rain last week. Barley planting progressed steadily around weather events and many producers were gearing up for potato planting. A reporter noted livestock were in good condition and pastures were greening up. In southeastern counties, the weather was drier and corn planting started last week. Frost was noted, but did not appear to cause very much damage to winter wheat. Statewide, winter wheat condition was rated 76 percent good to excellent, compared to 49 percent rated good to excellent last year. As of April 26, 2019 snowpack in Colorado was 120 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 157 and 128 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 18 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 97 percent average and 3 percent light. Cattle death loss was 2 percent heavy, 87 percent average, and 11 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	76	63	83	69
Emerged	25	10	32	26
Corn				
Planted	8	2	6	14
Onions				
Planted	39	28	78	72
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Planted	8	2	9	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted	29	19	39	52
Proso millet				
Planted	3	NA	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Planted	58	32	49	53
Emerged	9	--	7	9
Winter wheat				
Pastured	24	18	2	NA
Jointed	37	15	28	43
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	87	84	90	90
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled	93	91	95	87

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.....	5.9	5.7	5.6	4.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	--	1	23	10
Short.....	7	6	30	23
Adequate.....	89	88	46	62
Surplus.....	4	5	1	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	--	1	15	12
Short.....	7	15	28	26
Adequate.....	93	81	55	59
Surplus.....	--	3	2	3

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	5	NA
Poor.....	2	5	14	NA
Fair.....	8	13	26	NA
Good.....	82	72	47	NA
Excellent.....	8	8	8	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	1	19	9
Poor.....	8	7	25	21
Fair.....	26	29	32	35
Good.....	58	60	24	32
Excellent.....	6	3	--	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	6	7
Poor.....	2	3	14	13
Fair.....	22	24	31	31
Good.....	60	56	45	43
Excellent.....	16	17	4	6
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	1	--	--
Poor.....	5	3	2	2
Fair.....	20	18	12	19
Good.....	67	72	82	71
Excellent.....	8	6	4	8

NA – not available

(--) – zero