



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 5, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Despite precipitation events and cooler temperatures early in the week, spring planting and fieldwork made substantial gains last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Northeastern and east central county reporters noted early week moisture kept producers out of the field. Snow was received in some localities. A reporter noted most crops looked good, but producers of non-irrigated crops and those with rangeland felt more moisture was needed going forward. In the southwestern district, snowpack ratings remained above last year. Portions of southernmost counties remained the only counties in the district rated as abnormally dry to experiencing moderate drought, according to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report. In the San Luis Valley, a reporter noted cattle producers experienced more cows than normal losing their calf, but the reason was not identified. Lambing was reportedly progressing well. Spring barley planting started to slow down and potato producers made significant progress planting last week. Hay supplies were noted as a little tight. Southeastern counties received rain last week, slowing progress of corn planting. A reporter mentioned limited hay was being cut and producers were taking action against weed pressure in the crop. Statewide, winter wheat condition was rated 73 percent good to excellent, compared to 53 percent rated good to excellent last year. As of May 6, 2019 snowpack in Colorado was 132 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 176 and 139 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 7 percent very short, 16 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 95 percent average and 5 percent light. Cattle death loss was 7 percent heavy, 81 percent average, and 12 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	1	NA	NA	NA
Barley				
Planted	87	76	92	85
Emerg'd	52	25	61	46
Corn				
Planted	21	8	15	28
Emerg'd	2	--	1	2
Onions				
Planted	54	39	89	83
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Planted	32	8	41	23
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted	44	29	57	69
Emerg'd	5	--	3	9
Proso millet				
Planted	5	3	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Planted	83	58	72	73
Emerg'd	27	9	17	20
Winter wheat				
Jointed	54	37	44	60
Headed	2	--	1	4
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	90	87	93	94
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	96	93	98	93

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.....	6.1	5.9	4.8	4.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	--	18	8
Short.....	10	7	24	18
Adequate.....	87	89	57	68
Surplus.....	2	4	1	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	1	--	11	10
Short.....	9	7	24	24
Adequate.....	89	93	64	63
Surplus.....	1	--	1	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.....	--	--	7	NA
Poor.....	2	2	9	NA
Fair.....	12	8	29	NA
Good.....	74	82	47	NA
Excellent.....	12	8	8	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	2	14	8
Poor.....	5	8	24	18
Fair.....	21	26	31	31
Good.....	67	58	30	39
Excellent.....	5	6	1	4
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	7
Poor.....	2	2	12	12
Fair.....	25	22	30	32
Good.....	59	60	48	42
Excellent.....	14	16	5	7
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	4	5	3	2
Fair.....	24	20	13	18
Good.....	63	67	79	72
Excellent.....	9	8	5	8

NA – not available

(--)- zero