



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Bill Meyer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 13, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Fall harvest made significant progress last week, amidst an early fall snowstorm, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Several areas also observed their first hard freeze and record-low temperatures were set in many localities. Northeastern county reporters noted sugarbeet harvest was fully underway last week, and harvest of corn, sorghum, and sunflowers also picked up. Freezing temperatures last week aided dry down of crops yet to be harvested, reporters noted. Counties in the area received scattered rain and enough snow to accumulate. East central county reporters noted low temperatures between 10 and 15 degrees were observed, along with snowy and windy conditions. Producers continued fall seeding and harvest activities around inclement weather. In southwestern counties, a reporter noted drought conditions worsened and minimal precipitation was received. According to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report, severe drought was introduced across several southwestern counties and moderate drought conditions also expanded in northwestern counties. In the San Luis Valley, producers rushed to wrap up fall potato harvest before the big freeze, according to county reporters. Although potato harvest approached completion mid-week, reporters noted producers who did not finish in time likely had some potatoes frozen. Precipitation was minimal. Observed temperatures were reportedly down to single digits. In southeastern counties, reporters observed a very hard freeze, bringing crops to maturity. Corn harvest also started to pick up. Livestock producers continued seasonal weaning activities, but some heavy sickness in calves was observed due to the large temperature swings. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 3 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 2 percent heavy, 67 percent average, and 31 percent light. Cattle death loss was 68 percent average and 32 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 th cutting harvested	57	48	58	54
Corn				
Mature	83	65	83	82
Harvested for grain	27	17	28	20
Harvested for silage	98	91	NA	NA
Dry edible beans				
Cut	85	74	NA	NA
Harvested	52	42	91	77
Onions				
Harvested	86	75	NA	NA
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	94	79	82	82
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	91	82	92	NA
Proso Millet				
Harvested	94	85	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Mature	82	59	68	68
Harvested	38	17	18	16
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	49	31	24	30
Sunflowers				
Harvested	41	8	7	9
Winter wheat				
Planted	91	79	85	88
Emerged	63	50	65	61

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	6.5	3.8	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	10	6	6
Short.....	33	36	23	28
Adequate	52	53	70	64
Surplus.....	--	1	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	12	8	11	9
Short.....	28	30	28	28
Adequate	57	60	60	62
Surplus.....	3	2	1	1

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	3	2	NA	NA
Poor.....	4	4	NA	NA
Fair.....	13	10	NA	NA
Good	65	76	NA	NA
Excellent	15	8	NA	NA
Corn				
Very poor	1	--	2	1
Poor.....	8	6	6	4
Fair.....	27	22	24	22
Good	56	61	62	58
Excellent	8	11	6	15
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	9	11	NA	NA
Fair.....	60	42	NA	NA
Good	29	46	NA	NA
Excellent	2	1	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	2	2	29	8
Poor.....	7	10	25	15
Fair.....	26	28	20	26
Good	58	51	24	43
Excellent	7	9	2	8
Sorghum				
Very poor	1	1	4	1
Poor.....	3	2	6	7
Fair.....	28	26	25	30
Good	61	62	61	55
Excellent	7	9	4	7
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	--	--	3	1
Poor.....	--	--	6	3
Fair.....	15	15	24	16
Good	71	76	51	62
Excellent	14	9	16	18
Sunflowers				
Very poor	--	--	1	1
Poor.....	--	--	2	5
Fair.....	24	24	26	26
Good	70	66	66	56
Excellent	6	10	5	12
Winter wheat				
Very poor	1	NA	2	NA
Poor.....	7	NA	8	NA
Fair.....	24	NA	32	NA
Good	45	NA	51	NA
Excellent	23	NA	7	NA
Livestock				
Very poor	1	--	1	--
Poor.....	3	2	2	1
Fair.....	10	8	18	14
Good	73	75	69	74
Excellent	13	15	10	11

NA – not available

(--)- zero