



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 MARCH 22, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: A spring snowstorm brought needed moisture to areas of the state last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northeastern and east central counties, received moisture benefitted rangeland conditions and winter wheat. Reports noted calving and lambing was adversely affected by storm conditions. In the San Luis Valley, minimal moisture was received and conditions remained dry. Barley planting and spring tillage continued in limited fashion. Producers noted the ground was still frozen in areas. Southeastern counties received isolated rain last week. Reports noted high winds continued to deplete soil moisture supplies. Rangeland and non-irrigated crop conditions declined in areas that have consistently gone without moisture. Alfalfa growth started to pick up and some irrigation canals began delivering water. As of March 20, 2020, snowpack in Colorado was 107 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 98 and 99 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 2 percent heavy, 56 percent average, and 42 percent light. Cattle death loss was 2 percent heavy, 79 percent average, and 19 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	4	3	1	NA
Winter wheat				
Pastured.....	9	9	16	12
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	49	32	42	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	42	22	37	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.....	4.6	4.9	3.3	5.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	8	11	2	11
Short.....	24	41	9	25
Adequate	66	48	82	61
Surplus.....	2	--	7	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	7	9	3	11
Short.....	26	30	15	27
Adequate	66	61	80	60
Surplus.....	1	--	2	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)
Pasture and range				
Very poor	5	10	2	8
Poor.....	12	12	10	22
Fair.....	34	47	50	36
Good	41	28	34	31
Excellent	8	3	4	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	7	10	--	2
Poor.....	12	11	5	15
Fair.....	26	33	27	34
Good	46	43	55	42
Excellent	9	3	13	7
Livestock				
Very poor	3	2	1	--
Poor.....	5	6	3	2
Fair.....	35	32	26	21
Good	53	52	65	69
Excellent	4	8	5	8

NA – not available

(--) – zero