



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 24, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Mostly warm and dry weather last week helped push crop development with emergence and growth picking up for several crops, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northeastern counties, needed moisture was received late last week. However, high winds continued to deplete topsoil moisture supplies. County reports noted some sugarbeet acreage was replanted due to prior damage from wind. Failed acreage of winter wheat was also noted in areas, along with spotty corn emergence due to field crusting and cold temperatures. East central counties received good moisture in some areas last week while others remained dry. Areas that received moisture reported short-term relief from drought conditions. Heavy concerns remained in dry areas for rangeland grass production and condition of non-irrigated crops. In the San Luis Valley, another dry week was reported. Potato planting advanced quickly and was wrapping up for some producers. Reports noted while livestock were in mostly good condition, rangeland growth remained limited due to no moisture. Availability of early grazing was reduced. In southeastern counties, severe weather produced isolated hail and heavy rain in areas. High winds were also reported and irrigation water supplies remained low. Corn that had emerged was reportedly in good condition. County reports noted some corn producers were not able to seed some acreage to corn due to continued dry conditions and low irrigation water supplies from diminished snowpack. As of May 22, 2020, snowpack in Colorado was 62 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 19 percent and 2 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 5 percent very short, 18 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 42 percent average and 58 percent light. Cattle death loss was 64 percent average and 36 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	11	2	13	7
Barley				
Emerged	95	92	92	89
Corn				
Planted	91	79	69	75
Emerged	61	30	21	42
Dry edible beans				
Planted	6	2	3	9
Emerged	2	NA	NA	NA
Onions				
Planted	80	65	87	NA
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Planted	95	87	88	87
Emerged	13	3	5	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted	93	78	88	90
Emerged	60	23	38	57
Proso Millet				
Planted	36	16	24	NA
Sorghum				
Planted	28	20	9	15
Emerged	6	NA	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Planted	91	73	NA	NA
Emerged	46	30	73	79
Sunflowers				
Planted	27	18	--	5
Winter wheat				
Jointed	92	77	93	94
Headed	46	22	39	52

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.....	6.5	6.0	4.2	4.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	22	22	1	3
Short.....	39	37	7	10
Adequate.....	38	40	87	76
Surplus.....	1	1	5	11
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	23	22	2	5
Short.....	28	29	13	13
Adequate.....	49	48	81	77
Surplus.....	--	1	4	5

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.....	5	5	3	2
Poor.....	10	10	7	6
Fair.....	26	25	12	24
Good.....	50	51	63	55
Excellent.....	9	9	15	13
Barley				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor.....	2	1	1	1
Fair.....	29	19	16	21
Good.....	49	51	63	56
Excellent.....	19	29	20	22
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	NA	NA	NA
Poor.....	5	NA	NA	NA
Fair.....	33	NA	NA	NA
Good.....	54	NA	NA	NA
Excellent.....	7	NA	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	22	19	1	6
Poor.....	13	13	3	10
Fair.....	29	30	16	22
Good.....	36	38	68	52
Excellent.....	--	--	12	10
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	20	22	1	3
Poor.....	19	22	3	10
Fair.....	29	28	21	26
Good.....	29	26	62	50
Excellent.....	3	2	13	11
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	5	5	2	2
Fair.....	19	20	16	14
Good.....	69	66	72	72
Excellent.....	7	9	10	12

NA – not available

(--) – zero