



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 31, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warm and dry weather interspersed with isolated moisture advanced spring crop development ahead of average gains for this time of year, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northeastern counties, continued hot and windy conditions depleted soil moisture supplies and crop stress from lack of moisture was noticeable. Concern was high for viability of non-irrigated spring crops unless moisture is received. Wheat stem sawfly infestations were also noted throughout the district. East central counties received needed moisture in areas while others remained dry. Concerns remained regarding deteriorating rangeland and non-irrigated crop conditions. Winter wheat condition continued to decline in areas due to no received moisture. Isolated incidences of stripe rust were also reported in the district. Reports from Kiowa county noted some corn and sorghum producers were not able to plant acreage due to severe lack of moisture. Heavy insect pressure and consequent damage to alfalfa fields was noted in Adams county. Western counties received moisture in areas, but it was not enough to make a dent in drought conditions. In the San Luis Valley, a few beneficial rain showers were observed, but overall conditions remained very dry. Potato emergence was well ahead of the average due to increased heat units. Rangeland conditions continued to suffer due to lack of moisture. In southeastern counties, rangeland that received recent moisture was in better shape compared to drier areas. Livestock producers were notably still feeding stock and feed supplies were shortening. Winter wheat conditions continued to decline with reports of abandonment. Increase insect prevalence was noted in alfalfa. As of May 29, 2020, snowpack in Colorado was 65 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 14 percent and 3 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 3 percent very short, 16 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 53 percent average and 47 percent light. Cattle death loss was 77 percent average and 23 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	25	11	20	15
Corn				
Planted	97	91	76	87
Emerged	84	61	42	61
Dry edible beans				
Planted	31	6	5	20
Emerged	8	2	2	NA
Onions				
Planted	92	80	94	NA
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Emerged	43	13	14	10
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Planted	97	93	97	95
Emerged	81	60	59	76
Proso Millet				
Planted	46	36	37	NA
Sorghum				
Planted	42	28	30	28
Emerged	11	6	6	NA
Sugarbeets				
Planted	99	91	NA	NA
Emerged	74	46	82	91
Sunflowers				
Planted	40	27	6	11
Winter wheat				
Jointed	98	92	95	NA
Headed	67	46	62	74
Turning color	4	--	1	4

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.....	6.8	6.5	4.4	5.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	22	22	1	4
Short.....	41	39	7	12
Adequate.....	36	38	82	74
Surplus.....	1	1	10	10
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	21	23	2	5
Short.....	34	28	10	13
Adequate.....	45	49	81	77
Surplus.....	--	--	7	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.....	9	10	8	6
Fair.....	25	26	8	23
Good.....	55	50	65	55
Excellent.....	6	9	16	14
Barley				
Very poor.....	2	1	--	--
Poor.....	4	2	--	--
Fair.....	23	29	16	19
Good.....	47	49	65	60
Excellent.....	24	19	19	21
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	1	NA	NA
Poor.....	8	5	NA	NA
Fair.....	38	33	NA	NA
Good.....	44	54	NA	NA
Excellent.....	9	7	NA	NA
Onions				
Very poor.....	3	NA	--	1
Poor.....	4	NA	2	2
Fair.....	26	NA	7	15
Good.....	60	NA	88	72
Excellent.....	7	NA	3	10
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	19	22	1	5
Poor.....	16	13	2	10
Fair.....	33	29	16	20
Good.....	32	36	62	53
Excellent.....	--	--	19	12
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	2	NA	--	--
Poor.....	4	NA	2	--
Fair.....	21	NA	17	12
Good.....	62	NA	62	71
Excellent.....	11	NA	19	17
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	1	NA	--	--
Poor.....	5	NA	4	1
Fair.....	30	NA	29	26
Good.....	51	NA	60	61
Excellent.....	13	NA	7	12
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	20	20	1	3
Poor.....	21	19	3	11
Fair.....	28	29	16	26
Good.....	29	29	60	49
Excellent.....	2	3	20	11
Livestock				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor.....	4	5	3	2
Fair.....	20	19	15	12
Good.....	65	69	72	74
Excellent.....	10	7	10	12

NA – not available

(--)- zero