



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 JULY 12, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Winter wheat harvest continued to progress amidst hot and dry conditions last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Statewide, winter wheat harvested was 70 percent complete, compared to 19 percent last year and 45 percent on average. In northwestern counties, crop and pasture conditions declined due to lack of consistent precipitation. Winter wheat harvest in northeastern counties was well underway and advanced quickly last week. Adverse yields were reported due to wheat stem sawfly infestations and dry conditions this year. Hot and dry weather continued to be a primary concern for condition of non-irrigated spring crops. Irrigated crops were showing stress from hot and windy weather; uneven growth was noted. Availability of irrigation water supplies through the end of the season were a concern. County reports noted livestock producers were pulling stock off pastures early due to lack of grass, providing supplemental feed, and searching for other grazing arrangements. Herd reduction through culling was also noted. In east central counties, severe weather on July 12 brought isolated heavy precipitation, damaging hail, and tornadoes. Moisture was welcome, but overall conditions remained very dry. Non-irrigated crops and pastures were especially showing drought stress. In the San Luis Valley, conditions remained very dry and irrigation ditches were turned off earlier than normal. Pasture conditions continued to suffer due to lack of moisture. County reports noted mountain pastures were open less time than usual due to dry conditions and limited seasonal growth. Livestock producers were in search of other grazing arrangements. Southeastern counties received isolated moisture last week accompanied by hail. Hail damage to crops was severe in areas. Hot and windy conditions continued to negate any benefits from precipitation. Winter wheat harvest in the district was wrapping up. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 5 percent very short, 20 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 56 percent average and 44 percent light. Cattle death loss was 82 percent average and 18 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	96	93	NA	NA
2 nd cutting harvested	31	13	25	30
Barley				
Headed	92	83	84	89
Turning color	10	2	20	20
Corn				
Silked	7	1	3	8
Dry edible beans				
Emerged	99	92	95	NA
Blooming	14	2	17	16
Sorghum				
Emerged	91	89	92	NA
Winter wheat				
Mature	95	74	62	83
Harvested	70	36	19	45

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.....	6.7	6.1	6.3	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	32	23	7	9
Short.....	34	33	17	22
Adequate	34	44	74	65
Surplus.....	--	--	2	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	32	27	3	7
Short.....	38	39	19	21
Adequate	30	34	75	70
Surplus.....	--	--	3	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)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	9	8	3	2
Poor.....	12	11	4	6
Fair.....	29	28	5	21
Good	44	46	69	57
Excellent	6	7	19	14
Barley				
Very poor	--	--	4	1
Poor.....	9	3	8	2
Fair.....	28	23	20	21
Good	47	50	51	54
Excellent	16	24	17	22
Corn				
Very poor	9	5	--	2
Poor.....	15	11	2	4
Fair.....	33	29	16	17
Good	39	48	65	64
Excellent	4	7	17	13
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	17	17	--	2
Poor.....	18	19	4	8
Fair.....	31	29	28	23
Good	33	29	65	61
Excellent	1	6	3	6
Onions				
Very poor	2	2	--	1
Poor.....	5	5	--	2
Fair.....	30	29	4	19
Good	59	60	94	68
Excellent	4	4	2	10
Pasture and range				
Very poor	27	24	1	7
Poor.....	17	17	4	10
Fair.....	33	33	20	24
Good	23	26	61	49
Excellent	--	--	14	10
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	5	2	5	3
Fair.....	18	12	28	21
Good	56	59	47	53
Excellent	21	27	20	23
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	--	2	--	--
Poor.....	5	3	2	1
Fair.....	25	20	18	11
Good	55	63	67	74
Excellent	15	12	13	14
Sorghum				
Very poor	4	5	1	4
Poor.....	21	16	2	4
Fair.....	49	34	26	27
Good	22	39	64	60
Excellent	4	6	7	5
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	3	3	--	--
Poor.....	12	10	1	2
Fair.....	27	26	17	15
Good	49	48	71	67
Excellent	9	13	11	16
Sunflowers				
Very poor	4	3	--	--
Poor.....	13	12	--	3
Fair.....	56	47	19	25
Good	27	35	75	61
Excellent	--	3	6	11
Winter wheat				
Very poor	23	19	1	4
Poor.....	22	20	3	10
Fair.....	34	38	14	27
Good	20	20	50	43
Excellent	1	3	32	16
Livestock				
Very poor	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	6	5	3	1
Fair.....	20	20	11	11
Good	65	65	70	75
Excellent	8	9	16	13

NA – not available

(--)- zero