



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
October 13, 2020

Contact: Bill Meyer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 11, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Another dry week with above normal temperatures advanced harvest progress last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Harvest of most spring crops was ahead of average. In northeastern counties, corn for grain harvest progressed although moisture content was still high in several locales. Corn silage harvest was virtually complete and sugarbeet harvest continued. A county report noted sugarbeet yields were around average or slightly below. Seeding of winter wheat approached completion. Livestock producers continued to heavily cull herds in response to drought and provide supplemental feed. Feed supplies were notably shortening due to early feeding. Drought continued to worsen in east central counties and no moisture was received last week. The latest U.S. Drought Monitor report showed extreme drought (D3) expanded throughout the district. A county report noted winter wheat emergence was better than anticipated with continued dry conditions. In southwestern counties, exceptional drought (D4) conditions expanded and the entire district was experiencing at least extreme drought. Some light rain and snow was received over the weekend but was limited to the high country. In the San Luis Valley, potato harvest continued to move quickly and most growers were finished by week's end. A county report mentioned some potato fields had a high percentage of large potatoes. Southeastern counties experienced another hot and dry week with no moisture. Harvest continued and less wind was noted last week. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 15 percent very short, 23 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 63 percent average and 37 percent light. Cattle death loss was 86 percent average and 14 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	59	46	54	51
Corn				
Mature	90	69	78	78
Harvested for grain	42	30	24	19
Dry edible beans				
Cut	94	79	82	NA
Harvested	58	36	49	71
Onions				
Harvested	89	70	83	NA
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	97	84	90	80
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	95	85	88	NA
Proso Millet				
Harvested	82	77	91	NA
Sorghum				
Mature	85	56	75	66
Harvested	23	18	32	18
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	51	43	44	28
Sunflowers				
Harvested	39	13	32	12
Winter wheat				
Planted	94	86	88	84
Emerged	56	35	59	55

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	7.0	5.7	5.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	46	40	15	8
Short.....	41	45	33	28
Adequate	13	15	52	63
Surplus.....	--	--	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	41	38	12	8
Short.....	45	48	28	27
Adequate	14	14	57	63
Surplus.....	--	--	3	2

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	9	6	3	NA
Poor.....	13	17	4	NA
Fair.....	23	22	13	NA
Good	49	50	65	NA
Excellent	6	5	15	NA
Corn				
Very poor	15	10	1	1
Poor.....	25	28	8	5
Fair.....	32	35	27	22
Good	24	23	56	59
Excellent	4	4	8	13
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	2	2	--	NA
Poor.....	29	28	9	NA
Fair.....	37	38	60	NA
Good	31	31	29	NA
Excellent	1	1	2	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	33	19	2	7
Poor.....	29	39	7	12
Fair.....	30	32	26	26
Good	8	10	58	47
Excellent	--	--	7	8
Sorghum				
Very poor	6	8	1	2
Poor.....	18	20	3	6
Fair.....	58	54	28	24
Good	16	16	61	59
Excellent	2	2	7	9
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	3	3	--	1
Poor.....	9	9	--	2
Fair.....	37	37	15	14
Good	43	43	71	67
Excellent	8	8	14	16
Sunflowers				
Very poor	1	3	--	--
Poor.....	10	15	--	3
Fair.....	77	72	24	24
Good	12	10	70	62
Excellent	--	--	6	11
Livestock				
Very poor	1	1	1	--
Poor.....	5	4	3	2
Fair.....	29	35	10	12
Good	59	54	73	75
Excellent	6	6	13	11

NA – not available

(--)- zero