



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 OCTOBER 25, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: A storm system brought snow and cold temperatures to several areas of the state on Sunday, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Harvest made good progress prior to the storm and several crops neared harvest completion or were ahead of the average. Received precipitation improved soil moisture supplies but more is needed to recuperate from continued drought conditions. In northeastern and east central counties, harvest continued until the weekend snowstorm. Reports noted harvest was quick in areas with poorer stands or crop failure. Received moisture varied by locality. According to county reports, winter wheat emergence remained uneven in areas due to high winds and persistent dry conditions. Crop producers expressed concern regarding extreme drought conditions and were actively considering adjustment of planting intentions for fall crops and next spring's crops. In most areas, rangeland condition and feed availability for livestock producers remained primary concerns. In the San Luis Valley, several inches of snow were received over the weekend and all growing season activities were complete. County reports noted more moisture is needed but rangeland and livestock were in mostly good condition. Harvest in southeastern counties continued to advance quickly around precipitation events. Conditions during the week were dry and windy. A county report noted extreme temperature swings caused illness issues for cattle. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 13 percent very short, 27 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 87 percent average and 13 percent light. Cattle death loss was 96 percent average and 4 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	85	75	68	74
Corn				
Harvested for grain	70	53	51	42
Dry edible beans				
Harvested	92	78	85	NA
Onions				
Harvested	99	93	NA	NA
Proso Millet				
Harvested	99	94	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Mature.....	97	92	96	94
Harvested	65	43	65	46
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	85	68	76	53
Sunflowers				
Harvested	79	68	67	44
Winter wheat				
Emerged.....	78	68	77	80

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.....	6.1	6.7	6.2	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	42	52	18	10
Short.....	39	33	36	29
Adequate.....	19	15	45	59
Surplus.....	--	--	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	38	50	14	10
Short.....	42	35	36	31
Adequate.....	20	15	50	58
Surplus.....	--	--	--	1

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.....	38	36	4	9
Poor.....	29	30	9	16
Fair.....	26	26	31	26
Good.....	7	8	51	42
Excellent.....	--	--	5	7
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	10	15	NA	NA
Poor.....	22	20	NA	NA
Fair.....	50	49	NA	NA
Good.....	15	13	NA	NA
Excellent.....	3	3	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	11	21	4	2
Poor.....	20	25	12	8
Fair.....	45	36	25	33
Good.....	23	17	41	46
Excellent.....	1	1	18	11
Livestock				
Very poor.....	3	3	1	1
Poor.....	6	6	3	2
Fair.....	42	25	11	13
Good.....	43	58	73	73
Excellent.....	6	8	12	11

NA – not available

(--) – zero