



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 SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Record high temperatures covered the state last week and pushed crop maturity, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northwestern counties, extreme and exceptional drought conditions persisted according to the U.S. Drought Monitor report. Isolated precipitation was received last week. Feed supplies were mostly short to adequate. In northeastern counties, conditions were ideal for fieldwork. Corn silage harvest picked up and proso millet harvest was nearly complete. Limited sugarbeet harvest began although hot temperatures curbed piling of the crop. Winter wheat seeding began as conditions allowed. Livestock producers began weaning cattle early in response to dry conditions. Inconsistent moisture and hot temperatures were a primary concern for pasture conditions moving into fall. In east central counties, the fourth cutting of alfalfa moved quickly in areas. Minimal isolated moisture was received. Winter wheat seeding continued. Limited harvest reports of corn for grain were noted. Corn silage harvest was in full swing. Southwestern counties received some moisture last week but conditions were mostly dry. Crops continued to mature and producers continued to harvest the third cutting of alfalfa. In the San Luis Valley, another dry week prevailed. Barley harvest was virtually complete. Fall potato harvest continued but was slowed by hot temperatures. Third cutting of alfalfa began. Rangeland was in need of more precipitation and producers began weaning calves. In southeastern counties, temperatures were hot and crops continued to mature. Producers were reportedly seeding winter wheat in areas following recent moisture. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 15 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 83 percent average and 17 percent light. Cattle death loss was 1 percent heavy, 78 percent average, and 21 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	72	67	67	72
4 th cutting harvested	15	8	13	15
Barley				
Harvested	95	90	97	92
Corn				
Dented	77	42	83	71
Mature	19	10	25	14
Harvested for grain	1	NA	1	--
Harvested for silage	32	17	41	40
Dry edible beans				
Cut	36	10	31	35
Harvested	9	1	5	13
Onions				
Harvested	47	22	24	37
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	5	3	11	15
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	44	29	50	46
Proso millet				
Harvested	67	46	47	NA
Sorghum				
Turning color	85	76	72	70
Mature	27	21	32	13
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	13	5	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted	29	22	28	18
Emerged	8	4	7	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	6.4	4.9	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	18	17	34	13
Short.....	38	36	38	34
Adequate	44	47	27	52
Surplus.....	--	--	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	23	21	38	14
Short.....	37	32	39	32
Adequate	40	47	23	53
Surplus.....	--	--	--	1

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	7	8	7	4
Poor.....	10	12	10	9
Fair.....	22	24	25	20
Good	51	50	53	57
Excellent	10	6	5	10
Corn				
Very poor	6	1	17	4
Poor.....	14	13	16	8
Fair.....	27	25	27	22
Good	41	47	35	56
Excellent	12	14	5	10
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	--	--	3	3
Poor.....	12	12	22	11
Fair.....	37	37	41	31
Good	34	34	33	51
Excellent	17	17	1	4
Onions				
Very poor	2	2	3	NA
Poor.....	11	11	6	NA
Fair.....	38	38	24	NA
Good	43	43	62	NA
Excellent	6	6	5	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	11	9	23	11
Poor.....	22	19	34	16
Fair.....	31	28	32	27
Good	27	34	11	40
Excellent	9	10	--	6
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	3	3	6	1
Poor.....	16	16	13	8
Fair.....	26	22	19	19
Good	43	50	46	53
Excellent	12	9	16	19
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	--	--	1	NA
Poor.....	1	1	6	NA
Fair.....	34	34	20	NA
Good	56	56	58	NA
Excellent	9	9	15	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor	3	3	18	5
Poor.....	7	11	21	8
Fair.....	21	22	42	27
Good	58	51	17	53
Excellent	11	13	2	7
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	--	--	3	1
Poor.....	--	--	8	3
Fair.....	28	28	25	15
Good	56	58	54	67
Excellent	16	14	10	14
Sunflowers				
Very poor	1	1	9	2
Poor.....	9	7	34	8
Fair.....	29	27	41	26
Good	56	62	15	57
Excellent	5	3	1	7
Livestock				
Very poor	1	1	2	1
Poor.....	5	5	6	3
Fair.....	18	9	32	14
Good	63	70	51	72
Excellent	13	15	9	10

NA – not available

(--) – zero