



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 3, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Precipitation was mostly confined to western counties last week as fieldwork and harvest continued, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report, moderate and severe drought expanded in eastern districts over the prior week. In northwestern counties, soil moisture supplies remained very short to short according to county reports. Light moisture was received in areas. Pasture and rangeland was rated mostly poor to fair in the district. Harvest and fieldwork continued in northeastern and east central counties last week. Overnight lows were colder with some temperatures reported below freezing. Minimal precipitation was received. Grain corn harvest remained limited to non-irrigated corn while producers waited for irrigated acreage to dry down. Sugarbeet harvest picked up where conditions allowed last week. County reports noted sorghum maturity was spotty with some not expected to mature in time. Sorghum harvest was slow in areas. Dry conditions remained a primary concern as areas continued to see no precipitation. Winter wheat seeding continued, but emergence was delayed and inconsistent as a result of poor topsoil moisture. Livestock producers continued weaning activities and were providing supplemental feed in areas. In southwestern counties, isolated moisture was received and the third cutting of alfalfa was nearly complete. Dry bean harvest continued. In the San Luis Valley, late-week rain delayed fall potato harvest. Prior to the wet weather producers made good progress. Southeastern counties remained mostly dry with some moisture received in the northern and western parts of the district. Winter wheat seeding continued and sorghum harvest made good progress in areas. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 16 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 83 percent average and 17 percent light. Cattle death loss was 60 percent average and 40 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	92	87	95	94
4 th cutting harvested	40	29	43	44
Corn				
Mature	67	53	67	59
Harvested for grain.....	22	16	28	15
Harvested for silage.....	99	93	96	NA
Dry edible beans				
Cut.....	86	74	76	80
Harvested	42	34	33	54
Onions				
Harvested	93	81	69	78
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	59	39	80	68
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	88	75	83	NA
Proso millet				
Harvested	88	87	76	NA
Sorghum				
Mature.....	73	53	56	47
Harvested for grain	14	10	18	10
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	40	29	42	19
Winter wheat				
Planted	77	57	83	73
Emerged.....	37	25	33	40

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	6.9	7.0	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	29	19	40	14
Short	41	46	45	32
Adequate	30	35	15	52
Surplus.....	--	--	--	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	33	30	38	14
Short	35	40	48	31
Adequate	32	30	14	54
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)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	7	8	6	4
Poor.....	10	11	17	10
Fair.....	24	21	22	21
Good	54	52	50	56
Excellent	5	8	5	9
Corn				
Very poor	13	14	10	3
Poor.....	17	20	28	10
Fair.....	20	25	35	25
Good	42	33	23	52
Excellent	8	8	4	10
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	--	--	2	NA
Poor.....	10	10	28	NA
Fair.....	40	39	38	NA
Good	33	34	31	NA
Excellent	17	17	1	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	15	15	19	11
Poor.....	23	20	39	20
Fair.....	26	22	32	28
Good	24	30	10	35
Excellent	12	13	--	6
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	4	6	NA	NA
Poor.....	16	20	NA	NA
Fair.....	28	33	NA	NA
Good	37	31	NA	NA
Excellent	15	10	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor	8	9	8	4
Poor.....	11	10	20	8
Fair.....	19	19	54	31
Good	47	48	16	50
Excellent	15	14	2	7
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	--	--	3	1
Poor.....	--	--	9	4
Fair.....	25	25	37	21
Good	50	50	43	60
Excellent	25	25	8	14
Sunflowers				
Very poor	--	--	3	1
Poor.....	9	8	15	5
Fair.....	33	35	72	34
Good	50	49	10	52
Excellent	8	8	--	8
Livestock				
Very poor	2	5	1	1
Poor.....	8	8	4	2
Fair.....	24	27	35	19
Good	53	48	54	68
Excellent	13	12	6	10

NA – not available

(--)- zero