



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 17, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Harvest activities continued last week where conditions allowed and eastern districts received limited moisture, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report, more eastern localities were experiencing moderate to extreme drought conditions compared to the prior report. In northeastern and east central counties, harvest activities continued without delay. Corn harvest was fully underway. Temperatures were below freezing a few nights. Winter wheat seeding continued in a few areas but was close to completion. Emergence and stand quality remained a primary concern for producers due to dry conditions. Livestock producers continued weaning activities. Supplemental feed was being provided in areas due to poor pasture conditions. In southwestern counties, storms brought good moisture to areas. Some frost was noted and snow fell in the mountains. County reports noted dry bean harvest was delayed due to moisture. In the San Luis Valley, potato harvest was nearly complete. However, remaining progress was delayed due to frost and temperatures were cold enough to damage unharvested potatoes. In southeastern counties, light frost was observed last week. Isolated rain and hail were also noted. Statewide, stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 14 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 80 percent average and 20 percent light. Cattle death loss was 52 percent average and 48 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	75	55	73	64
Corn				
Mature	91	85	95	88
Harvested for grain	45	34	51	33
Dry edible beans				
Cut	95	93	97	NA
Harvested	67	55	75	83
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	99	87	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Mature	95	84	91	83
Harvested	42	35	40	29
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	77	61	66	40
Sunflowers				
Harvested	30	19	64	29
Winter wheat				
Planted	92	88	97	93
Emerged	58	47	66	67

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.....	6.5	6.9	6.7	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	41	32	52	17
Short	29	38	33	26
Adequate	30	30	15	56
Surplus.....	--	--	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	40	34	50	18
Short	28	38	35	28
Adequate	32	28	15	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)
Corn				
Very poor	7	10	26	7
Poor.....	19	15	22	9
Fair.....	18	20	28	22
Good	43	44	20	50
Excellent	13	11	4	12
Pasture and range				
Very poor	23	17	36	14
Poor.....	25	21	30	16
Fair.....	23	27	26	25
Good	16	22	8	39
Excellent	13	13	--	6
Sorghum				
Very poor	11	8	15	6
Poor.....	15	12	20	8
Fair.....	20	21	49	29
Good	39	41	13	47
Excellent	15	18	3	10
Sunflowers				
Very poor	1	--	11	3
Poor.....	9	8	21	6
Fair.....	39	30	53	28
Good	41	55	15	54
Excellent	10	7	--	9
Winter wheat				
Very poor	3	NA	21	6
Poor.....	16	NA	25	11
Fair.....	31	NA	36	29
Good	37	NA	17	43
Excellent	13	NA	1	11
Livestock				
Very poor	2	2	3	1
Poor.....	7	7	6	3
Fair.....	23	20	25	15
Good	49	53	58	71
Excellent	19	18	8	10

NA – not available

(--) – zero