



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 APRIL 10, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warm temperatures and extreme wind were experienced across most of the State last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 83 percent of the State is under drought conditions, unchanged from last week. Thirty-two percent of the State is experiencing severe to exceptional drought conditions, down two percentage points from last week. Extreme drought conditions are affecting 4 percent of the State, down 3 percentage points from the previous week. In northeastern and east central counties, extremely windy conditions decreased soil moisture and prevented significant fieldwork. A reporter noted the extreme winds eroded the soil and likely damaged the winter wheat crop. Southwestern counties received minimal moisture last week, but freezing temperatures may have affected the fruit crop in bloom. Grazing pastures are starting to green up, and a reporter noted producers are starting to prepare fields for planting. In the San Luis Valley, cool temperatures and windy conditions minimally affected barley planting. A reporter noted that livestock are in good condition as pastures begin to green up for the grazing season. The southeastern counties remained primarily dry, and windy conditions persisted. Overall, calving and lambing continued with few issues, with 73 percent of cows calved and 65 percent of ewes lambed, both behind the previous year and the 5-year average. As of April 10, 2022, snowpack in Colorado was 88 percent measured as percent of median snowfall, down 3 percentage point from the previous week. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 85 and 89 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 11 percent very short, 35 percent short, 52 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 64 percent average and 36 percent light. Cattle death loss was 1 percent heavy, 73 percent average, and 26 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	10	6	29	24
Winter wheat				
Pastured	8	3	14	16
Jointed	15	4	18	10
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	73	68	83	75
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled	65	53	69	70

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	4.9	5.2	6.4	5.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	20	15	15	13
Short	43	38	38	25
Adequate	36	46	47	60
Surplus	1	1	--	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	28	31	31	15
Short	50	41	35	27
Adequate	22	28	34	57
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.....	21	18	23	11
Poor.....	24	22	30	20
Fair.....	23	27	37	34
Good.....	31	23	10	33
Excellent.....	1	10	--	2
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	12	14	13	8
Poor.....	31	25	21	15
Fair.....	37	42	40	35
Good.....	19	18	23	37
Excellent.....	1	1	3	5
Livestock				
Very poor.....	1	1	3	1
Poor.....	6	6	8	4
Fair.....	32	24	27	21
Good.....	47	51	55	67
Excellent.....	14	18	7	7

NA – not available

(--)- zero