



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 JULY 24, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Harvest of winter wheat approached completion in several counties by the end of the week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 82 percent of the State is under drought conditions, down one percentage point from the previous week. Forty percent of the State is experiencing severe to exceptional drought conditions, up 8 percentage points from last week. Extreme drought conditions are affecting 5 percent of the State, equal to last week. In northeastern and east central counties, continued high temperatures and limited moisture allowed winter wheat harvest to advance rapidly. Current reports state the conditions this growing season are unlike any other, and while yields are low, the overall quality of the winter wheat crop continues to be higher than expected. Moisture received over the weekend provided a much-needed reprieve from temperatures that have been more than ten degrees above average in some areas. Areas in Kiowa, Kit Carson, Morgan, and Washington Counties received over an inch of moisture late in the week. Irrigation water supplies were adequate with no reports regarding restricted usage. Non-irrigated crops and pastures continue to show signs of stress due to heat and inconsistent rain. In southwestern counties, reporters noted crops are developing well after receiving decent moisture for the month of July. Rain has improved pasture and rangeland conditions, which allows producers to continue grazing livestock. A reporter in Mesa County stated irrigation water is being cut, limiting the amount of water producers can utilize. In the San Luis Valley, above average temperatures and scattered thunderstorms were widespread last week. Reporters note the potato and barley crops continue to develop well, but more moisture would aide in crop development as irrigation alone can't keep up. According to county reports, irrigation water supply is a concern, with well levels dropping significantly. In southeastern counties, above average temperatures and windy conditions were observed last week. Bent and Prowers Counties received wind gusts above 40 miles per hour over the weekend. Areas of Bent, Otero, and Prowers Counties received over an inch of precipitation, while the rest of the district remained primarily dry. The northeast corner of Bent County received the most moisture last week, with over two inches of rain received. Stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 31 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 85 percent average and 15 percent light. Cattle death loss was 95 percent average and 5 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
2 nd cutting harvested.....	43	26	55	57
3 rd cutting harvested	3	--	3	3
Barley				
Turning color	38	17	54	59
Corn				
Silked	38	20	49	46
Doughed.....	10	5	3	2
Dry edible beans				
Blooming	25	15	51	44
Sorghum				
Headed.....	10	--	12	16
Turning color	1	--	--	--
Winter wheat				
Harvested.....	88	57	88	87

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	6.2	6.6	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	20	23	13	12
Short	45	47	29	29
Adequate	35	30	57	57
Surplus	--	--	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	32	40	21	14
Short	40	42	29	28
Adequate	28	18	50	56
Surplus	---	--	--	2

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.....	4	3	8	5
Poor.....	9	5	18	12
Fair.....	32	32	21	20
Good.....	53	49	41	51
Excellent.....	2	11	12	12
Barley				
Very poor.....	6	4	6	2
Poor.....	6	5	10	3
Fair.....	25	30	30	23
Good.....	43	43	37	50
Excellent.....	20	18	17	22
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	2	--	4
Poor.....	14	14	5	8
Fair.....	50	40	21	24
Good.....	31	29	55	52
Excellent.....	5	15	19	12
Dry edible beans				
Very poor.....	5	--	--	3
Poor.....	25	16	12	14
Fair.....	30	23	38	26
Good.....	13	34	33	47
Excellent.....	27	27	17	10
Onions				
Very poor.....	2	1	--	1
Poor.....	3	2	9	3
Fair.....	35	35	40	23
Good.....	55	55	46	62
Excellent.....	5	7	5	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	25	16	6	9
Poor.....	26	27	13	15
Fair.....	24	26	27	29
Good.....	20	25	30	38
Excellent.....	5	6	24	9
Potatoes inside the San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	1
Poor.....	3	3	13	5
Fair.....	20	20	25	19
Good.....	57	57	42	52
Excellent.....	18	18	18	23
Potatoes outside the San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	--	--	2	2
Fair.....	50	40	33	18
Good.....	50	60	55	65
Excellent.....	--	--	10	14
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	--	1	--	5
Poor.....	14	14	1	9
Fair.....	50	47	18	29
Good.....	25	33	71	51
Excellent.....	11	5	10	6
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	--	--	--	4
Fair.....	50	40	25	20
Good.....	50	40	50	58
Excellent.....	--	20	25	17
Sunflowers				
Very poor.....	--	3	--	1
Poor.....	3	8	8	7
Fair.....	60	61	30	31
Good.....	36	23	56	57
Excellent.....	1	5	6	4
Livestock				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	1
Poor.....	1	7	3	3
Fair.....	14	23	15	16
Good.....	74	58	55	67
Excellent.....	10	12	26	13

NA – not available

(--) – zero