



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-0969



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 24, 2022

Contact: Rodger Ott
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 23, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Harvest activities continued to advance across the State last week where conditions allowed and precipitation was mostly limited to western counties, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for October 18, just over 43 percent of the State was categorized in moderate drought or worse, unchanged from the previous week. Over 14 percent of the State is experiencing severe to exceptional drought conditions, up slightly from last week. The exceptional drought conditions noted across portions of Phillips and Sedgwick Counties remain unchanged from last week, accounting for less than one percent of the State. Limited moisture was received across the State last week, but western counties reported significant snowfall at higher elevations. Above average temperatures across the State were observed early in the week before cold and freezing temperatures moved in over the weekend. Sunflower harvest picked up last week in eastern Colorado and was nearly complete in southwestern counties. Potato harvest in the San Luis Valley was nearly complete by week's end. Reporters noted freezing temperatures stopped potato harvest and remaining alfalfa growth. Livestock producers in the area were bringing stock home from summer pasture and beginning to wean calves. Fourth cutting of alfalfa advanced last week across the State and was just behind the 5-year average of 73 percent. Statewide, emergence of the 2023 winter wheat crop was 65 percent complete, compared with last year at 67 percent and the 5-year average of 72 percent. Corn for grain harvest continued to progress, but still fell short of the previous year at 56 percent and the 5-year average of 46 percent. Livestock remained in mostly good condition. Stored feed supplies were rated 9 percent very short, 29 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 86 percent average and 14 percent light. Cattle death loss was 3 percent heavy, 75 percent average, and 22 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	70	66	84	73
Corn Harvested for grain	32	27	56	46
Dry edible beans Harvested	95	89	80	NA
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley Harvested	95	88	NA	NA
Sorghum Mature	86	80	97	94
Harvested	47	39	58	44
Sugarbeets Harvested	48	45	86	65
Sunflowers Harvested	27	21	40	43
Winter wheat Emerged	65	60	67	72

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	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.2
Topsoil moisture (percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	32	30	35	21
Short	45	44	37	29
Adequate	22	26	28	48
Surplus	1	--	--	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	36	33	37	21
Short	37	41	28	30
Adequate	26	26	35	48
Surplus	1	--	--	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.....	18	18	7	NA
Poor.....	22	25	17	NA
Fair.....	35	34	25	NA
Good.....	23	21	40	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	11	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	13	21	19
Poor.....	23	24	28	21
Fair.....	27	29	20	24
Good.....	33	30	24	30
Excellent.....	4	4	7	6
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	5	5	9	NA
Poor.....	12	14	12	NA
Fair.....	38	38	17	NA
Good.....	36	34	48	NA
Excellent.....	9	9	14	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Fair.....	50	55	NA	NA
Good.....	50	45	NA	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	NA	NA
Sunflowers				
Very poor.....	11	16	1	NA
Poor.....	18	17	12	NA
Fair.....	44	46	35	NA
Good.....	26	21	47	NA
Excellent.....	1	--	5	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	16	NA	6	5
Poor.....	19	NA	15	11
Fair.....	40	NA	33	33
Good.....	24	NA	41	41
Excellent.....	1	NA	5	10
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	--	2	2
Poor.....	3	3	7	4
Fair.....	9	11	23	22
Good.....	63	62	52	61
Excellent.....	25	24	16	11

NA – not available

(--) – zero