



# 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 AUGUST 25, 2024

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Seasonal monsoon storms brought moisture across the State, which slowed crop progress and harvest activities, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for August 20, drought conditions were present across 8 percent of the State, down 2 percent from last week. Abnormally dry conditions were spread across more than 44 percent of the State, down from the previous week. Moderate drought retracted slightly due to received moisture. Extreme drought conditions retreated in east Boulder County, while severe drought conditions expanded in Adams, Denver, Jefferson and Weld Counties. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, varying amounts of precipitation were received across several counties last week. Portions of Phillips and Sedgwick Counties received over 3 inches of rain. Moisture was widespread in northeastern counties and spottier in southeastern counties. Temperatures were below average for western counties while eastern counties were primarily above average. Temperatures in many southeastern counties were more than six degrees above average, with areas of Baca County more than 10 degrees above average, according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center. In northeastern counties, cooler temperatures and moisture conditions slowed crop maturation and harvest progress. Corn harvested for silage progressed in Logan and Morgan Counties between rainstorms. In the San Luis Valley, barley harvest continued, and the potato crop has matured well. Moisture was received throughout most of the district, with isolated areas of Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache Counties getting more than two inches of moisture. Reports noted harvest of seed potatoes should begin soon.

Second cutting of alfalfa progressed well last week, but remained notably behind the average, with 83 percent harvested by week's end, compared to 94 percent last year and a 5-year average of 96 percent. Third cutting of alfalfa continued across the State with 33 percent reported as harvested. Barley harvest continued in the San Luis Valley and started in other parts of the State, with 38 percent of the crop harvested, falling behind last year and the 5-year average of 51 percent. Development of the corn crop continued, with 55 percent of the crop doughed and 21 percent dented. Corn silage harvest progressed significantly ahead of average and was 22 percent complete by week's end. Dry beans bloomed progressed last week at 78 percent bloomed, behind last year at 91 percent and the 5-year average of 96 percent. Onion harvest continued in the northeastern portion of the State, with 12 percent of the crop harvested. Sorghum headed progressed well, with 80 percent headed by weeks end and coloring of the crop was reported at 24 percent. Planting of the 2025 winter wheat crop began last week in northeastern counties, with 2 percent of intended acres reported planted.

Stored feed supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus. Cattle death loss was reported as 39 percent average and 61 percent light. Sheep death loss was reported as 83 percent average and 17 percent light.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	83	75	94	96
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested.....	33	20	35	43
Barley				
Coloring.....	95	90	NA	NA
Harvested.....	38	25	51	51
Corn				
Silked.....	93	91	97	97
Doughed.....	55	48	67	66
Dented.....	21	5	21	21
Harvested for silage.....	22	11	16	8
Dry edible beans				
Bloomed.....	78	71	91	96
Onions				
Harvested.....	12	2	28	8
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested.....	30	25	47	16
Sorghum				
Headed.....	80	68	85	91
Coloring.....	24	17	14	21
Winter Wheat				
Planted.....	2	NA	--	2

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.....	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	20	10	10	21
Short.....	32	32	27	32
Adequate.....	41	51	61	46
Surplus.....	7	7	2	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	18	9	9	20
Short.....	29	25	23	31
Adequate.....	51	58	66	48
Surplus.....	2	8	2	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)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	10	3	2	6
Poor .....	12	10	6	10
Fair.....	22	27	20	21
Good .....	50	52	64	53
Excellent.....	6	8	8	10
<b>Barley</b>				
Very poor.....	15	5	1	NA
Poor .....	11	7	2	NA
Fair.....	20	26	16	NA
Good .....	40	47	55	NA
Excellent.....	14	15	26	NA
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	12	2	3	10
Poor .....	20	11	10	13
Fair.....	30	36	17	23
Good .....	37	43	59	43
Excellent.....	1	8	11	11
<b>Dry edible beans</b>				
Very poor.....	5	1	2	2
Poor .....	5	7	16	12
Fair.....	6	14	31	29
Good .....	79	69	37	42
Excellent.....	5	9	14	15
<b>Onions</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor .....	5	2	--	4
Fair.....	55	47	37	26
Good .....	20	32	41	61
Excellent.....	20	19	22	7
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	7	1	1	12
Poor .....	16	6	1	15
Fair.....	26	28	25	26
Good .....	48	56	59	37
Excellent.....	3	9	14	10
<b>Potatoes inside San Luis Valley</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor .....	5	5	6	8
Fair.....	20	13	19	23
Good .....	60	57	52	47
Excellent.....	15	25	23	20
<b>Potatoes outside the San Luis Valley</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	--	--	2	2
Fair.....	--	4	15	29
Good .....	100	96	83	61
Excellent.....	--	--	--	8
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Very poor.....	12	6	1	5
Poor .....	13	2	7	10
Fair.....	23	35	12	28
Good .....	51	56	79	50
Excellent.....	1	1	1	7
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor.....	5	1	--	2
Poor .....	9	16	1	3
Fair.....	28	37	28	28
Good .....	55	45	54	58
Excellent.....	3	1	17	9
<b>Sunflowers</b>				
Very poor.....	18	14	1	3
Poor .....	20	23	3	11
Fair.....	21	27	16	32
Good .....	39	29	68	47
Excellent.....	2	7	12	7
<b>Livestock</b>				
Very poor.....	2	1	1	4
Poor .....	5	6	1	6
Fair.....	17	23	4	14
Good .....	64	59	76	60
Excellent.....	12	11	18	16

NA – not available

(--) – zero