



# 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 SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Above average temperatures and dry conditions were prevalent last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for September 24, drought conditions were present across more than 19 percent of the State, down minimally from last week. Abnormally dry conditions were spread across almost 24 percent of the State. Moderate drought decreased, covering over 15 percent of the State, while severe drought was up to almost 4 percent. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, most of the State remained primarily dry last week. Parts of Logan, Morgan, Washington, and Weld Counties received up to 1 inch of moisture. Isolated areas experienced temperatures more than 12 degrees above average. Reports from Kiowa County stated emergency grazing of CRP acres had been approved. In the San Luis Valley, potato and barley harvest continued after moisture had delayed progress the week before.

The third cutting of alfalfa continued across the State, with 84 percent reported as harvested, behind the 5-year average of 88 percent, and the fourth cutting continued ahead of average. Barley harvest was nearing the completion, with 95 percent of the crop harvested. Corn development continued, with 99 percent of the crop doughed and 89 percent dented. Fifty-two percent of the corn was mature by week's end and 3 percent of the crop was reported harvested. Corn silage harvest continued behind the average, with 69 percent complete by week's end, compared to the 5-year average of 86 percent. Potato harvest continued across the State, with 52 percent of the crop inside the San Luis Valley harvested, and 81 percent of potatoes across the rest of the State harvested. Planting of the 2025 winter wheat continued last week, with 69 percent of intended acres reported planted and 30 percent of the crop emerged. Stored feed supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 7 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Cattle death loss was reported as 30 percent average and 70 percent light. Sheep death loss was reported as 90 percent average and 10 percent light.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested.....	84	73	85	88
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested.....	38	18	23	34
Barley				
Harvested .....	95	88	NA	NA
Corn				
Doughed .....	99	94	100	100
Dented .....	89	77	91	94
Mature.....	52	34	43	51
Harvested for grain .....	3	--	6	12
Harvested for silage.....	69	52	83	86
Dry edible beans				
Cut .....	41	32	76	72
Harvested .....	25	14	35	33
Onions				
Harvested .....	74	62	75	73
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested .....	52	22	55	53
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested .....	81	58	89	78
Proso Millet				
Harvested .....	50	25	67	74
Sorghum				
Coloring .....	95	75	93	95
Mature.....	46	36	54	51
Sugarbeets				
Harvested .....	25	2	21	26
Sunflowers				
Harvested .....	2	--	--	1
Winter Wheat				
Planted.....	69	47	66	66
Emerged.....	30	9	32	30

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 .....	6.8	6.3	6.8	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	34	34	11	22
Short .....	35	34	27	38
Adequate.....	30	29	61	39
Surplus.....	1	3	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	23	27	9	24
Short .....	39	36	23	33
Adequate.....	34	35	67	42
Surplus.....	4	2	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)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor .....	4	2	5	5
Poor .....	13	9	10	10
Fair .....	27	24	24	21
Good.....	52	58	53	57
Excellent.....	4	7	8	7
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	13	15	5	8
Poor .....	20	23	10	15
Fair .....	34	32	26	28
Good.....	31	24	43	40
Excellent.....	2	6	16	9
<b>Dry edible beans</b>				
Very poor .....	3	12	2	2
Poor .....	5	6	14	13
Fair .....	15	13	47	39
Good.....	74	66	36	35
Excellent.....	3	3	1	11
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	15	10	4	10
Poor .....	23	19	5	19
Fair .....	37	28	22	28
Good.....	22	33	55	36
Excellent.....	3	10	14	7
<b>Potatoes inside San Luis Valley</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	--	NA
Poor .....	6	9	3	NA
Fair .....	23	27	17	NA
Good.....	53	53	58	NA
Excellent.....	17	10	22	NA
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Very poor .....	19	24	1	4
Poor .....	18	22	6	10
Fair .....	29	27	12	30
Good.....	30	25	80	48
Excellent.....	4	2	1	8
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor .....	2	10	--	1
Poor .....	3	10	1	2
Fair .....	27	27	19	28
Good.....	68	50	64	58
Excellent.....	--	3	16	11
<b>Sunflowers</b>				
Very poor .....	22	12	1	2
Poor .....	27	17	3	6
Fair .....	33	43	12	38
Good.....	18	27	80	47
Excellent.....	--	1	4	7
<b>Livestock</b>				
Very poor .....	1	2	--	1
Poor .....	3	5	1	3
Fair .....	15	17	4	16
Good.....	71	61	84	64
Excellent.....	10	15	11	16

NA – not available

(--) – zero