



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 NOVEMBER 10, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: The first snowstorm of the season brought much needed moisture to most of the State, while temperatures were several degrees below average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for November 5, drought conditions were present across almost 34 percent of the State, down slightly from last week. Abnormally dry conditions were spread across 24 percent of the State. Moderate and severe drought conditions changed minimally, with 25 percent of the State in moderate drought, while severe drought accounted for more than 5 percent of the State. Extreme drought conditions remained unchanged across Boulder, Gilpin, Grand, Larimer, and Weld Counties, encompassing more than 3 percent of the State. Multiple feet of snow fell across the State, focused primarily in the foothills, eastern plains and southern counties. Snow totals varied greatly in different areas; from 54.9 inches in the San Isabel Mountains, almost 36 inches in Limon, 12 inches in Boulder, and down to a few inches in northern counties. The western slope received less moisture than the rest of the State, but several areas still received at least an inch. Temperatures were below average across the State last week. Areas of Conejos, Huerfano, Las Animas and Saguache counties realized temperatures more than 12 degrees below normal. Reports from Elbert and El Paso County stated the livestock conditions could change dramatically after cold temperatures and multiple feet of snow. Reports from the San Luis Valley noted snow last week increased livestock feeding.

Corn harvested for grain was slowed due to winter weather conditions, with 82 percent reported complete, falling behind the 5-year average of 85 percent. Harvest of the sorghum crop caught up to the average, with 89 percent reported harvested. Sunflower harvest progressed well early in the week, with 92 percent of acres harvested, significantly ahead of the 5-year average of 81 percent. Emergence of the 2025 winter wheat crop continued ahead of average, with 92 percent of the crop emerged.

Stored feed supplies were reported as 2 percent very short, 6 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 21 percent surplus. Cattle death loss was reported as 1 percent heavy, 32 percent average, and 67 percent light. Sheep death loss was reported as 9 percent heavy, 77 percent average and 14 percent light.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain	82	74	84	85
Sorghum				
Harvested	89	78	83	89
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	92	89	94	NA
Sunflowers				
Harvested	92	85	91	81
Winter Wheat				
Emerged	92	86	91	90

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	2.5	5.7	6.9	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	19	29	19	28
Short	26	36	41	39
Adequate.....	40	28	39	33
Surplus.....	15	7	1	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	7	19	18	28
Short	29	39	35	38
Adequate.....	52	40	46	34
Surplus.....	12	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)
Pasture and range				
Very poor	17	15	1	16
Poor	20	21	2	17
Fair	30	34	30	27
Good	32	29	47	30
Excellent	1	1	20	10
Winter wheat				
Very poor	6	8	--	8
Poor	12	12	4	15
Fair	28	22	32	33
Good	53	53	59	37
Excellent	1	5	5	7
Livestock				
Very poor	3	2	1	2
Poor	8	4	1	5
Fair	24	18	8	19
Good	60	68	81	62
Excellent	5	8	9	12

NA – not available

(--) – zero