

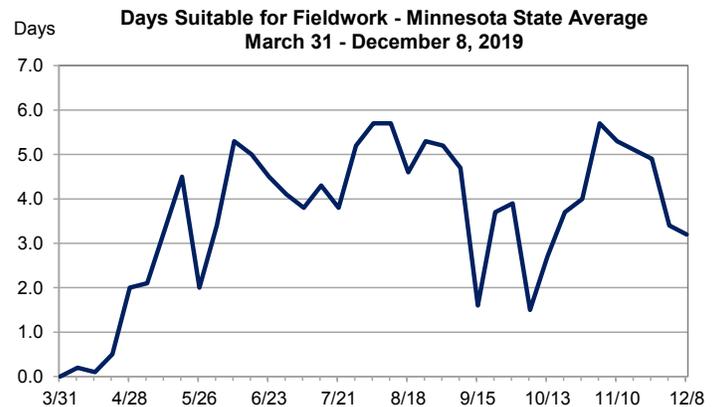
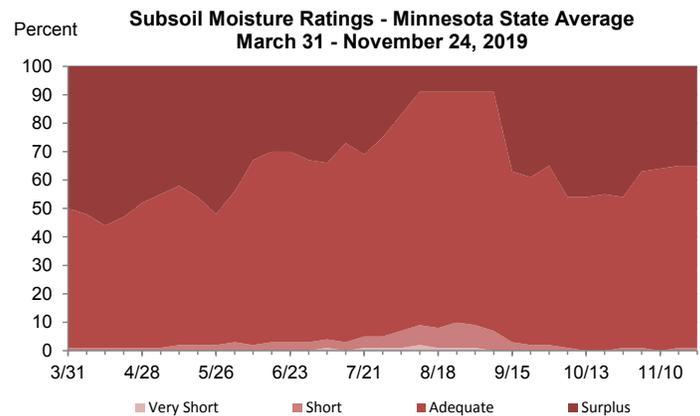
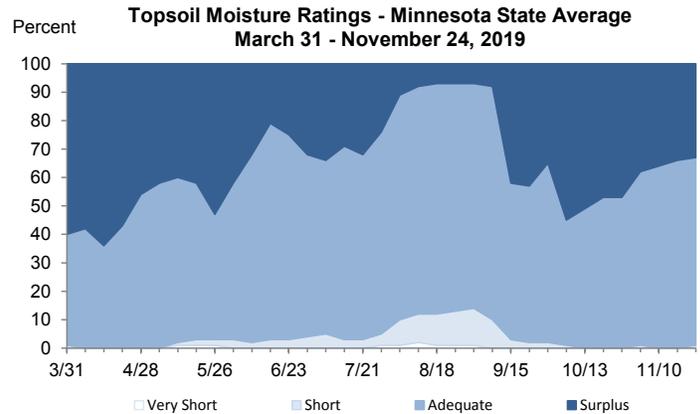


# 2019 MINNESOTA CROP PROGRESS REVIEW

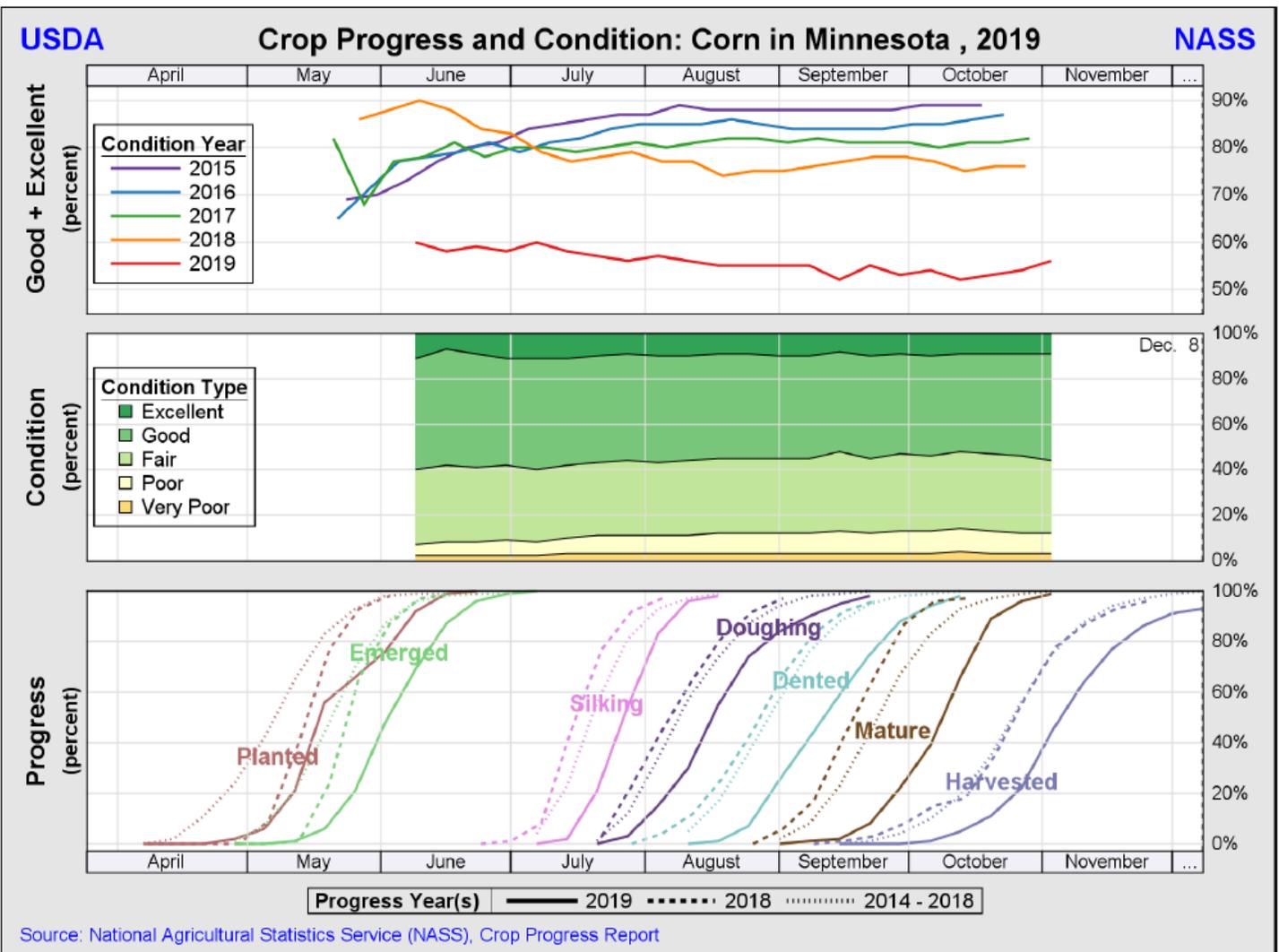
The Crop Progress and Condition Report is made possible by the dedication of the many farmers, FSA, NRCS, Extension, and agribusiness personnel who provide information each week. Thank you for your help!

## Review of the 2019 Crop Year:

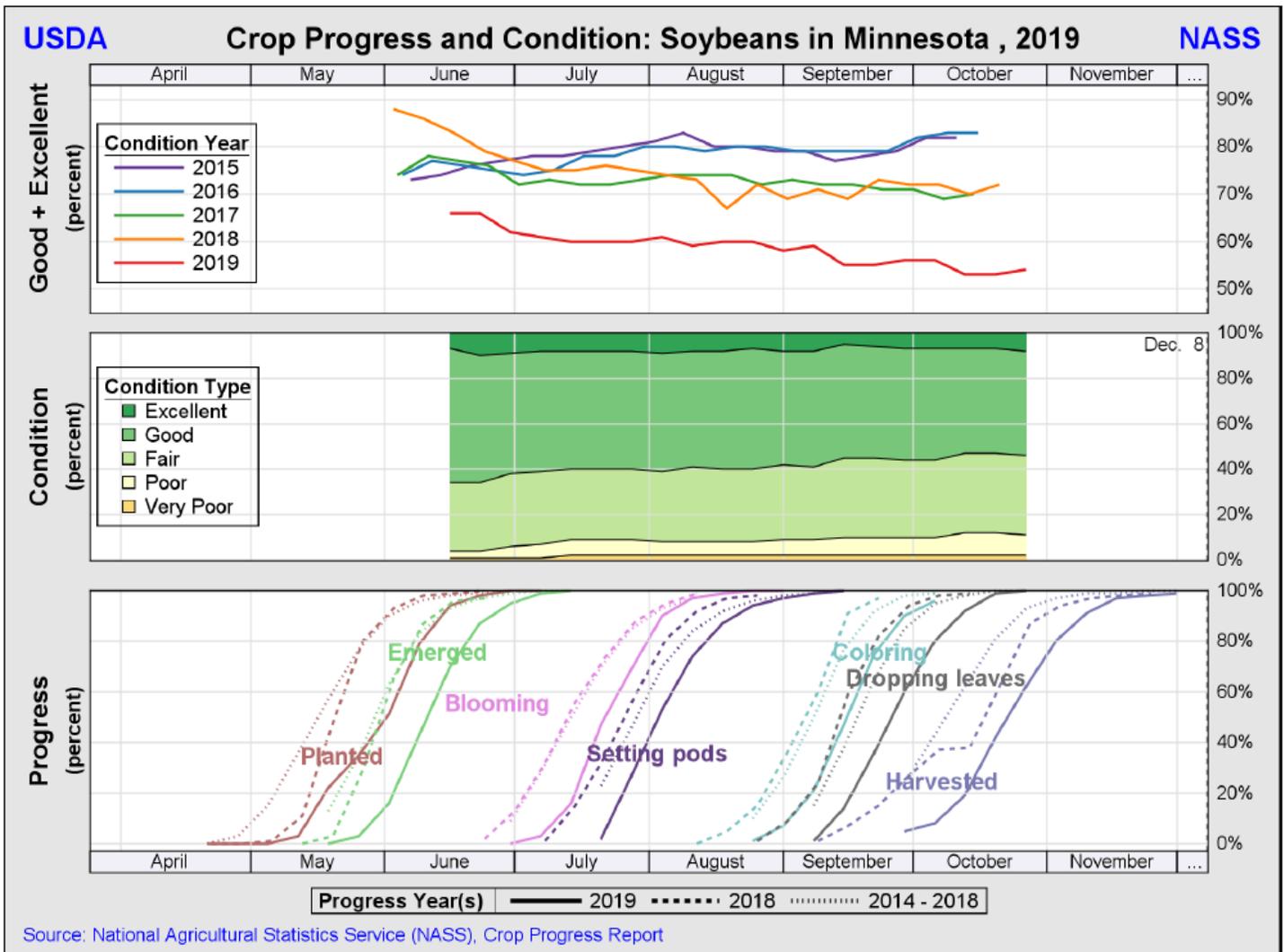
Crop planting in 2019 started out well behind the normal pace for all crops due to excessive precipitation causing localized flooding in Minnesota, as well as a spring snow storm. Persistent cool temperatures and wet conditions hindered most field activity until mid-May. The week ending May 19 had 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork, which was the most days suitable for fieldwork up to that point and wasn't surpassed until 3 weeks later on June 9, with 5.3 days suitable. A majority of Minnesota crops were planted later than normal and with a cooler than normal spring, emergence also got off to a slow start and never caught up. The weeks ending July 7 and 14 saw the best pasture and range conditions of the season with 77 percent rated in good to excellent condition. Soil moisture did dry out a little from mid-August to the beginning of September with some short and very short ratings, but in general moisture supplies were in excess for nearly the whole season. Small grain harvest didn't get underway until the beginning of August. Dry conditions allowed for decent harvest progress throughout August, but slowed down going into September as above normal precipitation arrived. Soybean harvest began in late September, with corn for grain harvest not far behind, starting in early October. Wet conditions throughout September and October limited farmers' ability to complete harvest, with only 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 6. Harvest for a majority of Minnesota crops started late and never caught up to the average pace. As November came to a close some farmers were still trying to complete harvest. Field activities such as tillage and fertilizer application will be delayed until next spring.



Corn planting started in late April, actually ahead of the previous year's pace but roughly two weeks behind the 5-year average. However, planting progress quickly fell behind last year and further behind normal and never caught back up. Planting was virtually complete by mid-June. Crop emergence also lagged behind through the season and reached 100 percent emerged the week ending July 7, behind both last year and the average. The corn crop began silking in mid-July. Corn harvested for silage got off to a late start with only 10 percent harvested by September 15 and didn't near completion until early November. The corn crop did not begin to mature until the week ending September 8, when Minnesota finally hit 1 percent complete. This was well behind last year and behind average by nearly two weeks. Corn for grain harvest also got a late start with just 1 percent complete the week ending October 6. Condition remained relatively steady with between 50 and 60 percent rated good to excellent throughout the season. That rating was well below the levels of the previous 5 years. While harvest started late due to maturity concerns, progress fell even further behind as a wet fall hampered harvest progress. By December 8, 93 percent of the corn acreage was harvested, 22 days behind average.

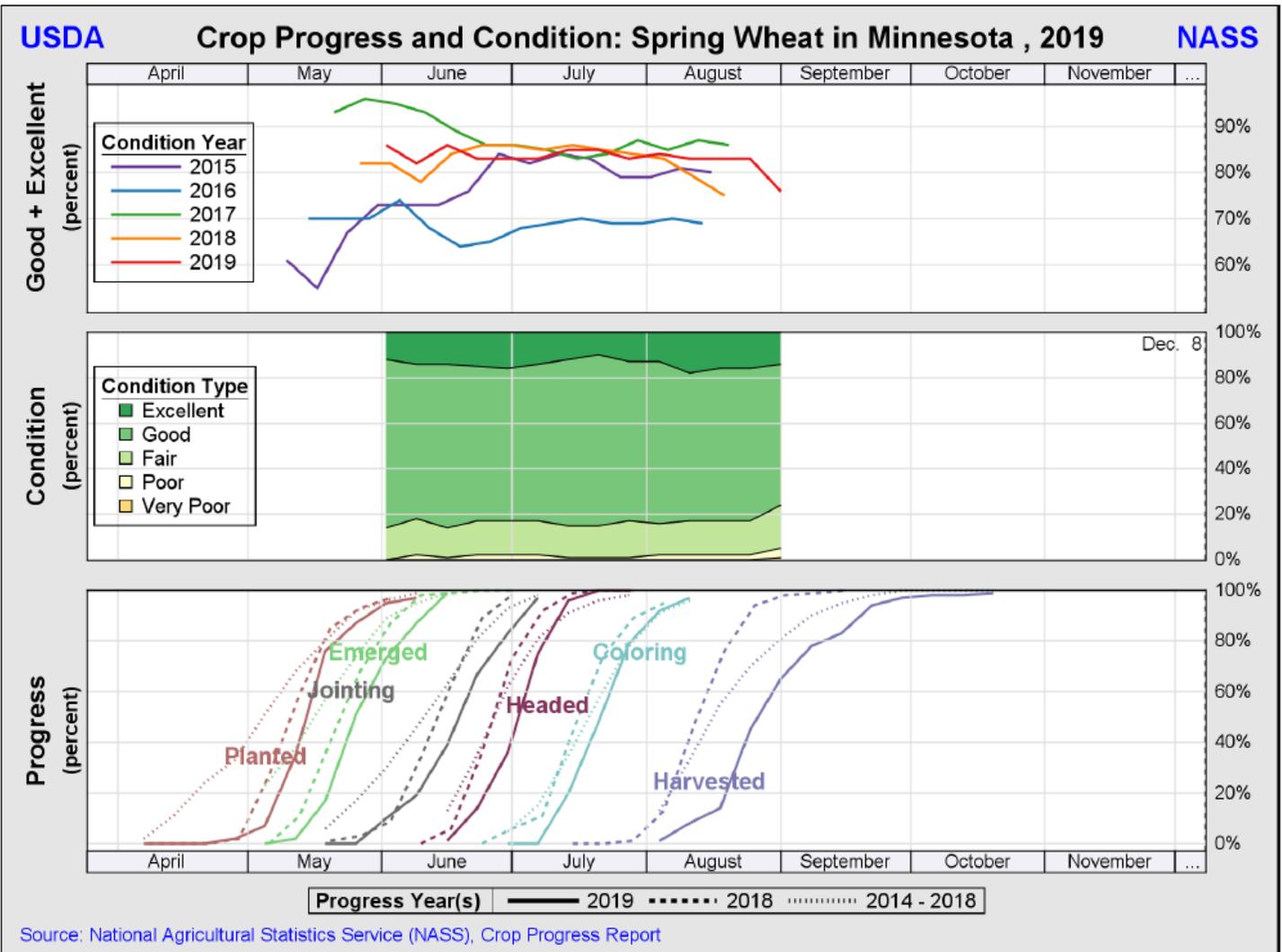


**Soybean** planting began near the middle of May, slightly behind the previous year and roughly 2 weeks behind average. Planting was completed by the end of June, behind both last year and the average. Soybean emergence was behind average throughout the stage. Emergence was 95 percent complete on June 30. Plants began blooming behind average at the beginning of July and remained behind average until catching up August 11. Nearly all plants were setting pods by the first week in September. Leaves started to drop around the beginning of September. Soybean harvest started behind average in late September, with 5 percent of soybeans harvested by September 29. Eighty percent of soybeans were harvested by November 3, 2 weeks behind average. As of November 24, 98 percent of the soybean acreage was harvested. Condition ratings started June 16 at a high of 66 percent of soybeans rated good to excellent and declined through the rest of the growing season and ended with 54 percent in good to excellent condition as of October 27.

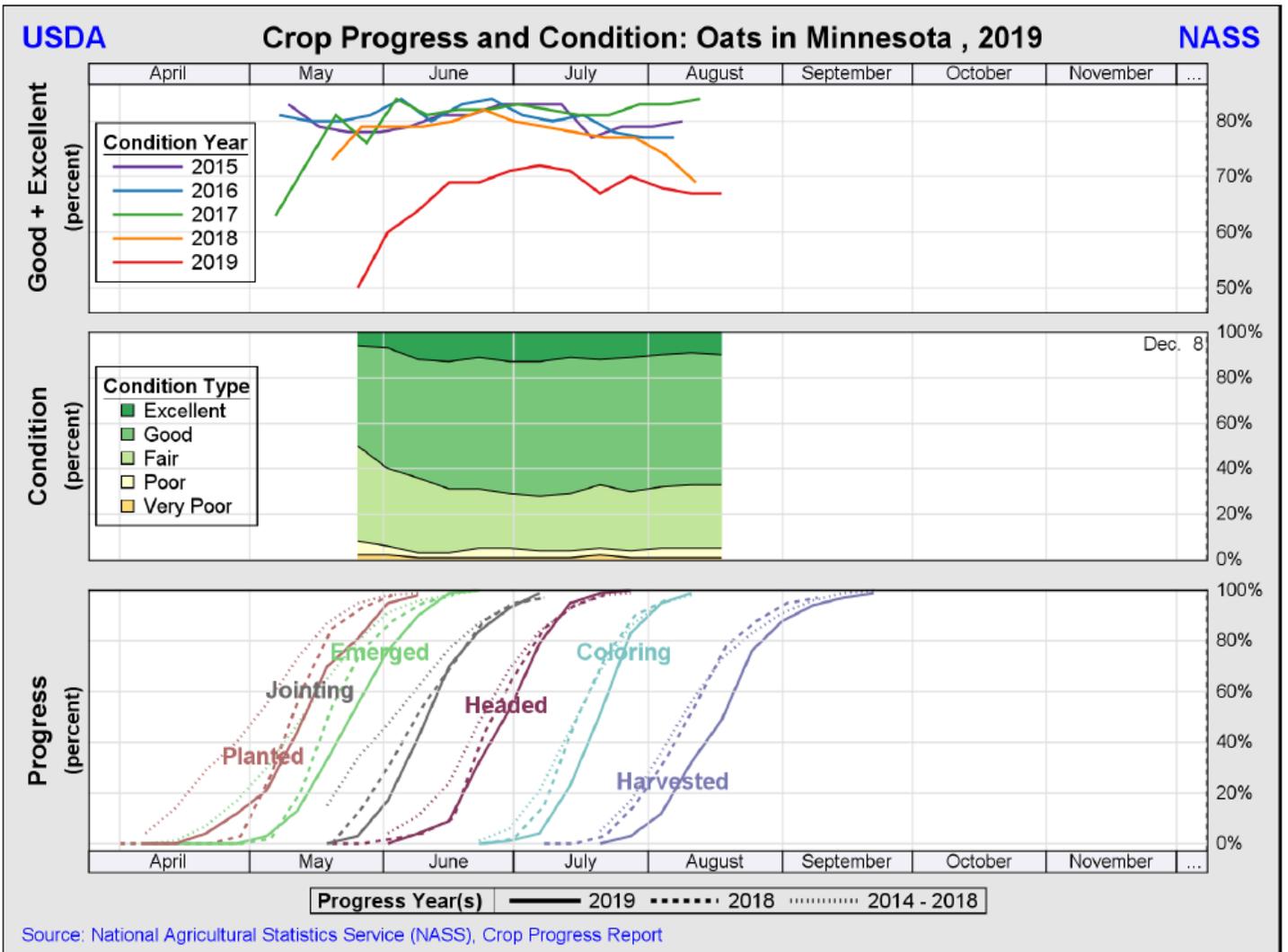


Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Crop Progress Report

**Spring Wheat** seeding began at the end of April, but did not make substantial progress until the middle of May. Seeding started comparable to the previous year, but fell behind last year's pace as May continued. Seeding for 2019 spring wheat was well behind the 5-year average pace and could not catch up. The week ending May 19 was productive with 41 percent of Minnesota's spring wheat acreage seeded, advancing to 76 percent complete. Planting was completed by mid-June. Emergence also started slowly, and remained behind last year and the average as much needed heating units were slow to arrive this spring. Over one-third of the crop headed during the week ending July 7, advancing to 75 percent headed, 2 days behind normal. All of the acreage was heading or beyond by July 21. Spring wheat acreage started turning color near mid-July. Almost all of the acreage had turned color by mid-August. Spring wheat condition remained relatively high and comparable to recent years throughout most of the crop season, but dropped toward the end of August. The final condition of the season, as of September 1, rated 76 percent good to excellent. Harvest began near the beginning of August. Thirty-one percent of the spring wheat acreage was harvested during the week ending August 25, advancing to 45 percent harvested. Harvest wasn't complete until mid- to late October.



Oat seeding began towards the end of April at a pace well behind average and remained behind average until planting was completed in mid-June. Emergence followed a similar course, remaining behind average until the crop was nearly fully emerged by June 16. The oat crop started to head near the beginning of June and advanced to ahead of average during the week ending July 14. Oats began turning color as June came to a close. Ninety-five percent of the acreage had turned color by August 4. Harvest began the last week of July. Oat condition began the season with a rating of 50 percent good to excellent on May 26 and rose to a high of 72 percent good to excellent in early July. Conditions leveled off around 70 percent good to excellent for the remainder of the growing season. Condition ratings for the 2019 oat crop were well below recent years. By September 15, harvest was 97 percent complete, about 1 week behind last year and the average.



The first cutting of **alfalfa hay** started in late May behind the pace of the 5-year average. Harvest progress continued behind average until drawing level at 98 percent complete on July 14. The second cutting of alfalfa hay started at the end of June. Second cutting progress was behind last year from June 30 through August 11 when progress caught up to normal. By August 18, the second cutting was 97 percent complete. As of July 21, the final all hay condition rated 76 percent good to excellent.

**Barley** seeding got off to a late start with little to no planting done until the first week of May. However, planting progress caught up to last year and the 5-year average by the third week of May as three-quarters of the crop was seeded in a two week span from May 5 to May 19. Seeding was 95 percent complete by the week ending June 2. Emergence had a similar pattern as planting, starting off behind average, but took slightly longer to catch up due to a cooler than normal spring when heating units were needed. Nearly all the barley crop was emerged by June 16. The percent of the barley headed also started slow but by July 7 the crop was 82 percent headed or beyond, 2 days ahead of average. Harvest got underway near the start of August with 4 percent complete by August 4. Harvest caught up to the average pace during the week ending September 1 and was wrapped up by the end of September. Barley condition began the season on June 2 with 77 percent rated good to excellent. Conditions improved slightly as June continued and then held fairly steady through the rest of the growing season with the final rating of 80 percent good to excellent on August 25.

**Dry edible bean** planting got underway during the first week of May, which was behind both last year and the average and remained behind until mid-June when planting progress caught back up and planting was nearly complete. Dry edible bean emergence was also slow to start due to a cooler than normal late spring, lagging once again behind last year and the average. Almost all the dry edible bean crop was blooming by mid-August and plants setting pods began around mid-July. By September 1, 48 percent of the crop had dropped their leaves. Harvest began near the beginning of September behind last year and the average. Harvest progress was never able to catch up to last year or the average with harvest 97 percent complete on November 17, 35 days behind the 5-year average. Crop condition was fairly consistent throughout the growing season with a peak condition of 69 percent good to excellent on July 21 and a low of 60 percent good to excellent on August 11 and September 15.

**Sugarbeet** planting got off to a delayed start in late April. Over three-quarters of the crop was planted during the 2 week period between May 5 and May 19, catching back up to last year and the average. However, planting progress slowed back down as May came to an end and wasn't completed until close to the middle of June. The first condition rating of the year was 82 percent good to excellent on June 16. Sugarbeet condition remained relatively steady hovering around that 80 percent good to excellent rating. Harvest got under way in late-August, comparable to the average pace until falling behind the week ending October 6 and never catching back up. Sugarbeet harvest for 2019 was a difficult one, with a wet fall followed by a hard sustaining freeze in early November halting all sugarbeet harvest activities.

**Sunflower** planting got off to a slow start with little progress until mid-May. By June 2, 74 percent of sunflowers had been planted, 3 days behind the average. The following week another 15 percent was planted advancing to 89 percent complete, now 1 day ahead of average. Planting was virtually complete by June 16. As of June 23, 78 percent of the sunflower crop was in good to excellent condition. Conditions improved to season highs of 83 percent rated good to excellent July 21 and then again August 4. Sunflower harvest didn't get underway until the week ending October 20 when Minnesota hit 1 percent harvested, which was well behind the average by about 1 month. Harvest never caught up to last year or the average and as of December 8, 94 percent of the sunflower acreage was harvested. The last condition rating of the season for the week ending November 3, rated 70 percent of the crop in good to excellent condition.



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