

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 5, 2015

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana was hot and dry for much of the week but the weekend brought some severe weather to parts of the state in the form of damaging hail and high winds before temperatures dropped significantly on Sunday. Winter wheat on the High Line, in particular, suffered extensive hail damage according to reporters and some fields were completely destroyed. First cuttings of alfalfa and other hay are nearing completion with 82 percent and 80 percent complete respectively and reporters are noting that some areas will not be getting even a first cutting of dryland hay due to lack of timely moisture. Durum and spring wheats are heading quickly in all this sunny weather with 48 percent and 65 percent headed so far. The continued heat and dry conditions are taking their toll on pulse crops in some parts of the State and grasshopper infestations are worsening in drought impacted areas. Soil moisture conditions for both topsoil and subsoil have fallen below last year and the five year average with 51 percent and 57 percent adequate to surplus respectively. Pasture and range conditions are continuing to decline and reporters say producers may end up selling off part of their herds or feeding hay before summer is over in some locations.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
First cutting.....	82	54	55	50
Barley				
Boot stage.....	98	94	91	77
Headed.....	92	67	58	43
Turning.....	11	NA	NA	NA
Camelina				
Blooming.....	47	36	58	62
Canola				
Blooming.....	94	90	73	78
Turning.....	13	9	21	6
Dry beans				
Emerged.....	90	88	93	96
Dry peas				
Blooming.....	97	80	76	73
Durum wheat				
Boot stage.....	79	52	46	45
Headed.....	48	14	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Blooming.....	71	55	26	48
Lentils				
Blooming.....	79	56	44	51
Mustard seed				
Emerged.....	95	90	90	98
Blooming.....	83	82	53	75
Turning.....	14	12	NA	NA
Oats				
Boot stage.....	87	82	69	69
Headed.....	64	30	17	24
Other hay				
First cutting.....	80	57	50	43
Potatoes				
Emerged.....	94	92	98	98
Safflower				
Emerged.....	90	86	93	96
Blooming.....	18	17	29	37
Spring wheat				
Boot stage.....	89	84	86	68
Headed.....	65	32	41	29
Winter wheat				
Headed.....	98	97	87	86
Turning.....	75	46	11	14

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.5	6.6	6.1	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	9	4	6
Short.....	39	39	22	21
Adequate.....	45	45	65	62
Surplus.....	6	7	9	11
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	9	7	4	6
Short.....	34	33	23	17
Adequate.....	48	51	66	66
Surplus.....	9	9	7	11

NA – not available

(--)- zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Very poor.....	2	2	--	2
Poor.....	9	6	4	5
Fair.....	33	35	43	31
Good.....	43	44	41	47
Excellent.....	13	13	12	15
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	8	8	1	2
Poor.....	9	8	3	3
Fair.....	47	47	26	21
Good.....	35	35	69	59
Excellent.....	1	2	1	15
Oats				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	1
Poor.....	2	2	1	4
Fair.....	31	31	41	31
Good.....	56	56	51	55
Excellent.....	10	10	7	9
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	6	5	3	5
Poor.....	19	17	12	11
Fair.....	41	40	30	24
Good.....	29	31	40	39
Excellent.....	5	7	15	21
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	4	4	1	1
Poor.....	8	7	3	4
Fair.....	35	33	36	31
Good.....	44	44	52	53
Excellent.....	9	12	8	11
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	2
Poor.....	8	8	6	7
Fair.....	35	35	28	23
Good.....	35	35	50	47
Excellent.....	20	20	14	21

NA – not available

(--)- zero

Montana's weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2015/MT_Weather_07052015.pdf