

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
 10 West 15th Street, Suite 3100, Helena, MT 59626
 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 November 2, 2015

Contact: Eric Sommer
 (800) 835-2612

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 2015

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: This week brought much cooler day and nighttime temperatures, as well as sometimes heavy precipitation across the state of Montana. Most stations in the State received measurable precipitation and the largest amounts recorded were in the drought-stricken Northwest region of the State where the highest recorded this week was in Superior with 2.30 inches of moisture. Corn harvested for grain is well underway with 60 percent harvested, which is behind last year's 79 percent but ahead of the 5-year average of 50 percent. Sugarbeet harvest continues with 87 percent, which is behind last year's 97 percent and the 5-year average of 95 percent. Potato harvest advanced to 82 percent complete, behind of last year's 83 percent and the 5-year average of 94 percent. Winter wheat emergence is at 91 percent, which is behind of last year's 96 percent but ahead of the 5-year average of 78 percent. Winter wheat condition is rated 73 percent good to excellent, compared with 75 percent last year and the 5-year average of 55 percent. Pasture and range conditions were unchanged from the previous week with 19 percent rated good to excellent, which remains well behind last year's 49 percent and the 5-year average of 38 percent. Producers continue to move livestock off summer ranges ahead of normal with 85 percent of cattle and 91 percent of sheep moved compared with a 5-year average of 81 percent and 86 percent, respectively.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain	60	50	79	50
Potatoes				
Harvested	82	78	83	94
Safflower				
Harvested	76	71	93	94
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	87	69	97	95
Winter wheat				
Emerged.....	91	84	96	78
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range	85	79	79	81
Receiving supplemental feed	36	30	18	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range	91	86	88	86
Receiving supplemental feed	35	33	33	NA

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.....	6.2	6.2	6.2	5.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	11	13	3	9
Short.....	32	30	18	28
Adequate.....	50	50	72	60
Surplus.....	7	7	7	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	12	14	3	12
Short.....	34	31	16	27
Adequate.....	45	46	74	58
Surplus.....	9	9	7	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	12	12	3	12
Poor.....	29	28	13	15
Fair.....	40	41	35	35
Good.....	18	18	40	32
Excellent.....	1	1	9	6
Winter Wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	2	2	6
Fair.....	25	23	23	38
Good.....	56	58	45	43
Excellent.....	17	17	30	12

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_11012015.pdf