

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 SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Hot, dry conditions gave way to much cooler and rainy conditions across most of Montana this week, though some areas missed both the cooler temperatures and precipitation, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Daytime high temperatures for the week ranged from the upper 80s to 100 degrees in Brandenburg, Jordan, and Wolf Point. Overnight lows ranged from the upper 20s to the mid 50s with a statewide low of 29 degrees in Olney. Precipitation was hit-or-miss, but some areas received a good amount of rain and snow with the largest amount recorded this week at 1.58 inches in Mizpah. Small grain harvest continued to progress ahead of normal, despite being somewhat slowed by moisture in the parts of the state that received rain, with 89 percent of barley, 79 percent of Durum wheat, 90 percent of oats, and 87 percent of spring wheat harvested by week's end. The season's second cutting of hay is wrapping up ahead of average with 91 percent of alfalfa and 90 percent of other hay cut and reporters are noting producers are busy baling straw. Pasture and rangeland conditions continued to deteriorate, with just 30 percent rated good to excellent which was better than last year's 21 percent but below the 5-year average of 38 percent. Producers continue to move animals off summer pastures with 25 percent of cattle and 25 percent of sheep moved, well ahead of the 5-year average for both, which some reporters attribute to fires on rangelands and others planning on culling animals early due to drought and hail damage to feed crops.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Second cutting	91	88	86	86
Barley				
Harvested	89	82	94	83
Camelina				
Turning	95	80	100	100
Harvested	43	34	76	69
Canola				
Harvested	72	51	87	69
Corn				
Harvested for Grain	2	NA	--	--
Harvested for Silage	21	7	12	13
Dry edible beans				
Harvested	88	78	88	49
Dry edible peas				
Harvested	96	92	100	93
Durum wheat				
Harvested	79	66	82	52
Flaxseed				
Harvested	40	26	93	56
Lentils				
Harvested	92	79	95	86
Mustard seed				
Harvested	84	66	81	62
Oats				
Harvested	90	83	83	75
Other hay				
Second cutting	90	83	69	72
Safflower				
Turning	96	79	76	85
Harvested	37	24	--	3
Spring wheat				
Harvested	87	73	90	70
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range	25	20	20	14
Receiving supplemental feed	8	8	9	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range	25	20	24	17
Receiving supplemental feed	10	7	11	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.5	6.0	5.7	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	15	16	19
Short.....	25	28	39	35
Adequate.....	54	52	38	40
Surplus.....	7	5	7	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	15	15	14	16
Short.....	30	31	38	34
Adequate.....	52	51	40	45
Surplus.....	3	3	8	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Camelina				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	1	1	NA	NA
Fair.....	38	38	NA	NA
Good.....	59	59	NA	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	NA	NA
Corna				
Very poor.....	--	--	3	1
Poor.....	3	3	7	6
Fair.....	30	30	32	33
Good.....	53	53	44	46
Excellent.....	14	14	14	14
Flaxseed				
Very poor.....	1	1	NA	NA
Poor.....	1	1	NA	NA
Fair.....	44	44	NA	NA
Good.....	44	44	NA	NA
Excellent.....	10	10	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	15	14	11	13
Poor.....	21	21	24	18
Fair.....	34	34	44	31
Good.....	25	26	20	30
Excellent.....	5	5	1	8
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	2	2	--	NA
Fair.....	5	5	18	NA
Good.....	47	48	55	NA
Excellent.....	46	45	27	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	--	--	2	6
Fair.....	7	7	30	32
Good.....	78	78	44	51
Excellent.....	15	15	24	9
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	1	1	8	7
Fair.....	17	17	29	27
Good.....	65	65	49	46
Excellent.....	17	17	14	19

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/2016/MT_Weather_09042016.pdf