

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 18, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Much of Montana experienced freezing lows and cool days until the weekend when warm, sunny days returned, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Daytime high temperatures for the week ranged from the upper 60s to 87 degrees in Joliet and Yellowtail. Overnight lows ranged from the lower 20s to the mid 40s with a statewide low of 22 degrees in Olney. Red Lodge received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 1.37 inches of moisture but precipitation was widely scattered this week and some areas were missed entirely. Producers harvesting corn for grain and silage are progressing ahead of normal progress with 23 percent of corn for grain and 40 percent of corn silage harvested. Small grain harvest is wrapping up ahead of normal for all but barley which is right at the 5-year average of 95 percent complete. Winter wheat seeding has begun in some areas with 23 percent complete but reporters in other areas said producers are waiting for a freeze to help reduce the chance of wheat stripe mosaic virus appearing again in the spring. Second cuttings of hay are nearly done for the year with 96 percent of alfalfa and 93 percent of other hay cut. Reporters in the northwestern part of the state noted that hay producers in that area are getting a rare third cutting this year thanks to good weather. Pasture and rangeland conditions continued to deteriorate, with just 28 percent rated good to excellent which was better than last year's 20 percent but below the 5-year average of 34 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Second cutting	96	93	99	95
Barley				
Harvested	95	92	100	95
Camelina				
Harvested	57	45	99	88
Canola				
Harvested	84	77	95	87
Corn				
Harvested for Grain	23	10	3	1
Harvested for Silage	40	24	28	35
Dry edible beans				
Harvested	90	89	92	66
Durum wheat				
Harvested	90	86	95	71
Flaxseed				
Harvested	71	48	99	84
Mustard seed				
Harvested	92	85	90	81
Oats				
Harvested	97	93	88	92
Other hay				
Second cutting	93	92	78	85
Safflower				
Harvested	41	40	11	18
Spring wheat				
Harvested	94	89	99	88
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	4	1	6	3
Winter Wheat				
Planted	23	3	32	30
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range	32	26	31	27
Receiving supplemental feed	8	8	20	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range	39	31	41	35
Receiving supplemental feed	10	10	20	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.5	4.5	5.4	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	13	14	15	21
Short.....	23	24	34	31
Adequate.....	57	56	44	43
Surplus.....	7	6	7	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	15	15	17
Short.....	28	28	36	33
Adequate.....	55	54	40	46
Surplus.....	3	3	9	4

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.....	40	38	NA	NA
Good.....	57	59	NA	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	NA	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	3	2
Poor.....	4	3	7	6
Fair.....	30	30	32	33
Good.....	51	52	44	43
Excellent.....	15	15	14	16
Flaxseed				
Very poor.....	1	1	NA	NA
Poor.....	1	1	NA	NA
Fair.....	45	44	NA	NA
Good.....	44	44	NA	NA
Excellent.....	9	10	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	15	11	13
Poor.....	21	21	24	20
Fair.....	38	36	45	33
Good.....	23	24	18	27
Excellent.....	5	4	2	7
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	2	2	1	NA
Fair.....	5	5	19	NA
Good.....	46	46	56	NA
Excellent.....	47	47	24	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	--	--	2	4
Fair.....	7	7	29	33
Good.....	78	78	45	53
Excellent.....	15	15	24	9
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	3	1	8	7
Fair.....	21	18	29	28
Good.....	64	65	47	46
Excellent.....	12	16	16	18

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_09182016.pdf