

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 NOVEMBER 20, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Weather continued to be mild for November in Montana this week with warm days, cold nights and scattered precipitation, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Daytime high temperatures for the week ranged from the mid 40s to 69 degrees in Forsyth and Yellowtail. Overnight lows dipped below zero and ranged to the lower 30s with a statewide low of -8 degrees in West Yellowstone. Libby recorded the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 1.65 inches of moisture. Most other reporting stations reported receiving zero to 1.29 inches of moisture. Producers harvesting corn for grain are progressing ahead of the normal rate of speed for Montana with 83 percent complete, compared with 77 percent last year and the 5-year average of 76 percent. Winter wheat emergence is now at 94 percent, behind last year's 97 percent but ahead of the 5-year average of 89 percent. Winter wheat condition is currently rated 76 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent last year and 51 percent for the 5-year average. Potato harvest continues behind last year and the 5-year average with 89 percent harvested compared with 99 percent for both last year and the 5-year average. Sugarbeet harvest progress is wrapping up behind both last year's rate and the 5-year average with 97 percent complete so far. Pasture and rangeland condition declined slightly and is rated 34 percent good to excellent which was better than last year's 20 percent and the 5-year average of 31 percent. Livestock producers continue to move stock off summer pastures at a slower pace than normal with 81 percent of cattle and calves moved and 88 percent of sheep and lambs moved. Livestock receiving supplemental feed remains well below last year thanks to good fall grazing conditions with 16 percent of cattle and calves and 20 percent of sheep and lambs being fed.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for Grain	83	73	77	76
Potatoes				
Harvested	89	87	99	99
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	97	93	100	100
Winter Wheat				
Planted	99	98	100	99
Emergence	94	90	97	89
Cattle and calves				
Moved from summer range	81	75	99	94
Receiving supplemental feed	16	16	49	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer range	88	86	100	96
Receiving supplemental feed	20	19	55	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.4	6.8	3.9	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	9	10	10
Short.....	18	18	24	25
Adequate.....	61	59	59	61
Surplus.....	11	14	7	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	11	11	12	12
Short.....	23	22	32	28
Adequate.....	57	58	47	56
Surplus.....	9	9	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)
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	12	13	14
Poor.....	17	18	28	19
Fair.....	36	35	39	36
Good.....	29	29	19	27
Excellent.....	5	6	1	4
Winter Wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	2	2	4
Fair.....	22	20	25	44
Good.....	48	49	57	41
Excellent.....	28	29	16	10

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_11202016.pdf