

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
 May 1, 2017

Contact: Eric Sommer
 (800) 835-2612

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana was mostly cool and wet with some areas receiving a large amount of precipitation this week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from the upper 40s to 70 degrees and low temperatures ranged from 17 degrees in Sidney to the upper 30s. Most of the State received measurable precipitation, with the highest amount recorded in Joliet with 2.43 inches of moisture while other stations recorded between zero and 2.05 inches of moisture. Stormy weather and saturated fields limited producers to just 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork this week. Soil moisture conditions are well above both last year and the 5-year average with 92 percent of topsoil and 89 percent of subsoil rated adequate to surplus. Spring seedings are underway for all crops surveyed at this time though most are behind last year and the 5-year average. Winter wheat has just begun to enter boot stage with 1 percent booted which is the same as last year at this time and ahead of the 5-year average. Livestock producers are coming to the end of birthing season and preparing to move their animals to summer ranges and reducing the amount of supplemental feed provided as grasses fill in. Pasture and range land is currently rated 51 percent good to excellent compared with 28 percent last year and the 5-year average of 31 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	36	30	63	57
Emerged.....	13	2	27	16
Camelina				
Planted.....	2	1	41	23
Canola				
Planted.....	14	6	42	36
Corn				
Planted.....	6	1	36	15
Dry edible beans				
Planted.....	12	3	32	21
Dry edible peas				
Planted.....	56	48	69	50
Emerged.....	18	--	13	4
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	11	4	48	27
Lentils				
Planted.....	28	24	47	37
Emerged.....	2	NA	1	1
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	1	--	36	27
Oats				
Planted.....	23	10	52	38
Emerged.....	1	NA	10	8
Safflower				
Planted.....	3	1	10	17
Sugar beets				
Planted.....	34	10	57	49
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	20	10	41	26
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	33	24	59	47
Emerged.....	6	--	18	9
Winter wheat				
Boot stage.....	1	--	1	--
Cattle and calves				
Calving completed.....	88	81	91	87
Moved to summer ranges.....	14	3	26	20
Receiving supplemental feed.....	58	66	59	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Lambing completed.....	86	81	85	76
Moved to summer ranges.....	10	2	16	16
Receiving supplemental feed.....	64	73	71	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	3.7	4.1	2.3	4.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	1	6	6
Short.....	7	5	13	18
Adequate.....	75	80	73	68
Surplus.....	17	14	8	8
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	1	3	7	8
Short.....	10	9	25	21
Adequate.....	77	73	62	64
Surplus.....	12	15	6	7

NA – not available

(--)- zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing Accessibility				
Open.....	91	83	77	78
Difficult.....	6	11	10	11
Closed.....	3	6	13	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	1	5	8
Poor.....	8	8	18	18
Fair.....	39	36	49	43
Good.....	38	40	26	29
Excellent.....	13	15	2	2
Winter Wheat				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	2
Poor.....	4	5	4	6
Fair.....	32	28	30	30
Good.....	48	53	50	47
Excellent.....	15	13	15	15

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/2017/MT_Weather_04302017.pdf