

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 17, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Slow soaking rains hit most of the state and cleared the air of smoke, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. At least 97 stations reported precipitation. Sixty-six stations reported an inch or more of moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Grass Range with 3.18 inches of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 65 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 36 percent the previous year. More moisture will be needed to replenish the subsoil, with 81 percent of subsoil rated very short to short, compared with 42 percent last year. High temperatures ranged from 81 to 97 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from 21 degrees to the high 30s. The first frost of the season was reported in Ravalli County. In Teton County higher elevations received 8-10 inches of snow. In other areas, reporters noted that additional moisture was needed for planting of winter wheat, with many producers holding their planting to see if conditions improve. It was also noted that drought conditions had led to lighter calf weights.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Coloring.....	95	90	NA	NA
Harvested.....	65	60	55	78
Canola				
Harvested.....	94	93	83	87
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	5	4	21	5
Harvested for silage.....	68	54	38	35
Dry edible beans				
Harvested.....	97	94	90	73
Durum wheat				
Harvested for grain.....	97	94	89	73
Mustard seed				
Harvested.....	91	88	91	80
Potatoes				
Harvested.....	3	--	--	7
Safflower				
Coloring.....	90	87	NA	NA
Harvested.....	46	45	41	22
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	16	13	20	26
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture.....	28	24	31	28
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture.....	38	30	38	36

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 field work	4.8	7.0	5.5	5.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	36	86	13	19
Short	29	13	23	25
Adequate	35	1	57	50
Surplus	--	--	7	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	46	63	14	18
Short	35	31	28	29
Adequate	19	6	55	49
Surplus	--	--	3	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	16	28	--	NA
Poor	30	18	1	NA
Fair	52	52	40	NA
Good	2	2	57	NA
Excellent	--	--	2	NA
Corn				
Very poor	7	6	--	2
Poor	13	15	4	7
Fair	36	38	30	32
Good	39	34	51	42
Excellent	5	7	15	17
Pasture and range				
Very poor	50	47	13	15
Poor	27	30	21	22
Fair	15	19	38	34
Good	6	4	23	24
Excellent	2	--	5	5
Potatoes				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor	1	1	2	NA
Fair	9	8	5	NA
Good	57	59	46	NA
Excellent	33	32	47	NA
Safflower				
Very poor	31	20	--	1
Poor	24	36	--	3
Fair	45	44	7	25
Good	--	--	78	59
Excellent	--	--	15	12
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	2	3	--	1
Poor	12	12	3	5
Fair	43	47	21	25
Good	37	33	64	51
Excellent	6	5	12	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/2017/MT_Weather_09172017.pdf