

# 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 OCTOBER 22, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana experienced mild temperatures along with moisture and high winds throughout the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from the low-60s to 85 degrees in Wolf Point. Low temperatures ranged from the mid-teens degrees to 44 degrees in Yellowtail. Fifty-seven weather stations reported moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Heron with 2.22 inches of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 48 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 26 percent the previous year. Reporters noted that high winds had a drying effect on topsoil. Subsoil was rated 68 percent very short to short, compared with 33 percent last year. Winter wheat seeded was 92 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 88 percent. Potato harvest was 92 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 62 percent. Corn for grain harvest was 45 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 51 percent. Sugarbeet harvest was 64 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 42 percent.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Harvested .....	95	90	NA	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	45	34	51	43
Harvested for silage .....	99	94	95	97
Potatoes				
Harvested .....	92	86	62	75
Safflower				
Harvested .....	70	62	64	78
Sugarbeets				
Harvested .....	64	40	42	64
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	92	81	88	91
Emerged .....	66	53	77	68
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture .....	66	62	59	68
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	25	21	11	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture .....	75	72	78	80
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	20	23	12	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 field work .....	6.1	5.0	5.4	5.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	18	17	9	11
Short .....	30	29	17	25
Adequate .....	47	45	56	57
Surplus .....	5	9	18	7
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	32	32	11	15
Short .....	36	36	22	26
Adequate .....	31	27	56	53
Surplus .....	1	5	11	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor .....	6	9	--	2
Poor .....	15	12	4	6
Fair .....	39	49	30	35
Good .....	33	29	53	41
Excellent .....	7	1	13	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	38	39	13	15
Poor .....	26	28	20	20
Fair .....	21	23	36	33
Good .....	13	9	27	27
Excellent .....	2	1	4	5
Sugarbeets				
Very poor .....	2	2	--	NA
Poor .....	11	11	2	NA
Fair .....	45	44	21	NA
Good .....	36	37	67	NA
Excellent .....	6	6	10	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor .....	7	NA	--	1
Poor .....	8	NA	3	5
Fair .....	52	NA	26	35
Good .....	27	NA	49	44
Excellent .....	6	NA	22	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\\_10222017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/MT_Weather_10222017.pdf)