

# 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 11, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Temperatures remained above average this week for Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Rainfall totals varied across the State this week. Counties in the northeastern corner of the State and along the northern and western borders, received minimal moisture – with precipitation totals of 0.01 inches or less. Counties in the southeastern corner received between 0.1 and 0.4 inches of moisture, while scattered areas along the southern border received upwards of 0.7 inches of rainfall. According to the United States Drought Monitor for September 8, 2022, 78.1 percent of the State is experiencing drought conditions, a slight increase from 77.4 percent last week. The amount of land rated as abnormally dry was 35.2 percent, compared to 36.2 percent last week. Moderate drought was present across 18.5 percent of the State, a decrease from 25.7 percent of the State last week. Severe Drought conditions increased from 11.9 percent last week to 20.8 percent of the State this week. Extreme drought conditions remained unchanged this week at 3.6 percent of the State.

Valley and Roosevelt Counties reported hot, dry conditions this week and grasshoppers continue to be an issue in both counties. Barley, lentil, oat, and spring wheat harvest is wrapping up – with harvest progress at or over 95 percent complete for the crops. Corn harvested for grain was reported at 10 percent complete this week and corn harvested for silage was reported at 27 percent complete, compared to 27 percent complete this time last year. Canola, mustard seed, and safflower harvest is moving along much quicker than last year. Harvest is reported at 93 percent for canola, compared to 78 percent this time last year, 91 percent complete for mustard seed, compared to 79 percent this time last year, and 68 percent complete for safflower, compared to 39 percent this time last year. Dry edible bean, durum wheat, flaxseed, and other hay harvest is progressing similarly to last year. Harvest is reported at 85 percent for dry edible beans, compared to 84 percent this time last year, 91 percent complete for durum wheat, compared to 94 percent this time last year, 89 percent complete for flaxseed, compared to 84 percent this time last year, and 84 percent complete for other hay, compared to 84 percent this time last year. Cattle and sheep being moved off of pastures is progressing slower than last year. Cattle and calves moved from pasture was reported at 17 percent, compared to 34 percent this time last year and sheep and lambs moved from pasture was reported at 20 percent, compared to 27 percent this time last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Harvested .....	95	80	95	89
Canola				
Harvested .....	93	75	78	73
Corn				
Harvested for silage .....	27	20	27	33
Harvested for grain.....	10	NA	NA	NA
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Harvested .....	85	72	84	73
Durum wheat				
Harvested .....	91	81	94	77
Flaxseed				
Harvested .....	89	70	84	NA
Lentils				
Harvested .....	97	93	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested .....	91	75	79	74
Oats				
Harvested .....	99	80	94	NA
Other hay				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested .....	84	77	84	NA
Safflower				
Harvested .....	68	40	39	29
Spring wheat				
Harvested .....	99	87	98	88
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	19	4	12	8
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture .....	17	4	34	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture .....	20	3	27	NA

NA – not available  
 (-) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work .....	6.5	7.0	6.5	5.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	49	40	52	25
Short .....	44	45	44	35
Adequate .....	7	15	4	37
Surplus .....	--	--	--	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	38	29	61	29
Short .....	52	56	33	36
Adequate .....	10	15	6	33
Surplus .....	--	--	--	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero

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

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor .....	4	3	16	5
Poor .....	7	5	27	11
Fair .....	21	19	30	26
Good .....	68	71	26	49
Excellent .....	--	2	1	9
Safflower				
Very poor .....	--	--	22	11
Poor .....	16	19	48	16
Fair .....	38	47	30	33
Good .....	28	20	--	34
Excellent .....	18	14	--	6
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	26	17	54	28
Poor .....	22	26	34	22
Fair .....	29	36	12	23
Good .....	23	21	--	22
Excellent .....	--	--	--	5
Sugarbeets				
Very poor .....	--	--	10	5
Poor .....	1	1	14	8
Fair .....	25	22	36	27
Good .....	74	76	38	48
Excellent .....	--	1	2	12

NA – not available

(--) – zero