

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 JULY 3, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Montana experienced dry conditions during the week and a weekend of heavy rain and storms, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Precipitation totals were over half an inch for much of the State - with many areas receiving significant rainfall. Golden Valley and Musselshell Counties reported 2 inches of rain over the weekend. Ravalli, Missoula, and Mineral Counties reported heavy rain with hail and high winds. Wibaux County reported 1.5 to 3.5 inches of rainfall and some hail damage to crops. Helena experienced flash flooding due to excessive rain received in a short period of time. The rainfall over the weekend improved drought conditions for most of the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for June 30, 2022, 55.3 percent of the State is experiencing drought conditions – compared to 75.4 percent last week. The amount of land rated as abnormally dry decreased to cover 15.1 percent of the State, compared to 31.5 percent last week. Moderate drought was present across 20.6 percent of the State and severe drought was present across 12.2 percent of the State. Extreme drought conditions remained unchanged at 3.0 percent of the State.

Judith Basin County reported scattered showers with varying rainfall totals throughout the county. Despite crop conditions being good, hay yields in the county are expected to be below average for fields that are not irrigated. In Valley County, storms have brought decent rainfall and reports indicate that crop and livestock conditions are improving. Producers were busy cutting and harvesting hay in Ravalli, Missoula, and Mineral Counties this week due to warm temperatures. Pastures in the counties are looking plentiful, with the potential of increased hay yields from previous years. Glacier County received much need rainfall this week, however, water availability for livestock remains scarce. Blaine County reported the moisture this week improved crop conditions, however, grasshoppers continue to be an issue for producers. Richland county producers continue to battle grasshoppers as well, with some producers reporting significant damage to croplands. In Powder River County, most of the winter wheat has been cut for hay. Canola and mustard seed began turning color this week, with coloring reported at 7 percent and 1 percent, respectively. Harvesting of lentils began this week, with harvest reported at 1 percent complete. The first cutting of alfalfa hay is 43 percent complete, compared to 46 percent this time last year. The first cutting of other hay is 43 percent complete, compared to 43 percent this time last year. Winter wheat is 80 percent headed, compared to 84 percent this time last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	43	22	46	NA
Barley				
Booted	70	50	71	72
Headed	40	15	46	38
Canola				
Blooming	48	20	52	45
Turning color	7	NA	NA	NA
Corn				
Emerged	98	90	95	NA
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Blooming	40	14	42	NA
Dry edible peas				
Blooming	60	40	58	63
Durum wheat				
Booted	51	30	49	53
Headed	22	5	25	27
Flaxseed				
Emerged	95	60	NA	NA
Blooming	30	4	44	42
Lentils				
Blooming	65	50	57	56
Harvested	1	--	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Blooming	55	40	48	45
Turning color	1	NA	8	3
Oats				
Booted	72	50	62	55
Headed	23	7	24	20
Other hay				
1 st cutting harvested	43	15	43	NA
Safflower				
Emerged	80	65	77	70
Blooming	5	--	14	NA
Spring wheat				
Booted	89	73	70	69
Headed	21	2	47	39
Winter wheat				
Headed	80	55	84	87

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	5.9	5.8	7.0	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	21	24	55	24
Short	36	35	37	22
Adequate	41	41	8	49
Surplus	2	--	--	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	34	42	45	18
Short	32	30	38	27
Adequate	33	28	17	52
Surplus	1	--	--	3

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Very poor	9	15	14	5
Poor	24	25	32	13
Fair	32	32	34	25
Good	30	27	13	40
Excellent	5	1	7	17
Canola				
Very poor	2	10	14	11
Poor	4	4	12	6
Fair	50	48	28	24
Good	44	38	27	46
Excellent	--	--	19	13
Corn				
Very poor	2	1	5	3
Poor	5	12	37	12
Fair	55	61	39	31
Good	34	25	18	47
Excellent	4	1	1	7
Dry edible peas				
Very poor	10	12	15	7
Poor	16	14	35	15
Fair	44	41	35	29
Good	30	33	15	42
Excellent	--	--	--	7
Durum wheat				
Very poor	1	1	15	10
Poor	5	4	30	14
Fair	28	21	15	39
Good	65	74	38	34
Excellent	1	--	2	3
Lentils				
Very poor	8	9	11	8
Poor	11	10	23	11
Fair	49	45	35	35
Good	31	36	30	42
Excellent	1	--	1	4
Pasture and range				
Very poor	15	21	42	15
Poor	15	17	35	17
Fair	22	23	18	22
Good	44	38	5	32
Excellent	4	1	--	14
Spring wheat				
Very poor	8	10	18	10
Poor	18	15	45	18
Fair	38	47	30	21
Good	34	27	5	44
Excellent	2	1	2	7
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	--	1	3	2
Poor	3	7	4	4
Fair	74	77	22	30
Good	23	14	60	54
Excellent	--	1	11	10
Winter wheat				
Very poor	14	19	14	5
Poor	25	29	27	12
Fair	29	30	25	24
Good	19	18	32	32
Excellent	13	4	2	27

¹Current conditions for Dry Edible Beans, Flaxseed, Mustard Seed, Oats, and Safflower are available using the QuickStats on-line database at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick_Stats/

NA – not available
 (--) – zero