



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 21, 2017

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 20, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Isolated precipitation was received in several Colorado counties this past week, continuing to provide beneficial moisture but delaying fieldwork in a few areas, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. In northwestern counties, only spotty moisture has been received. A reporter noted that hay and pasture conditions in several areas are drought stressed, with below normal yields reported for hay. Livestock water for rangeland in these counties remains critically low. Northeastern counties received rain this past week, with heavy amounts reported in areas. Cooler conditions continue to provide relief from dry conditions and seasonal heat. Dryland crops are improving with precipitation, but rangeland is dry in areas and in need of moisture. A reporter noted that a shortage of moisture in weeks prior negatively affected grain fill in some corn. In east central counties, reports of hail last week were noted, but thus far damage to crops is minimal. In the San Luis Valley, barley harvest is in full swing. A reporter noted that some second cutting alfalfa remains in the field due to continued rainfall. Southeastern counties also received more rain this past week. A reporter noted recent lack of heat units has slowed progress of crops, notably sorghum. Previous severe weather in southeastern counties continues to affect quality of alfalfa hay harvested. Statewide, harvest of barley and spring wheat was behind last year and the average. Stored feed supplies were rated 88 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 56 percent average and 44 percent light. Cattle death loss was 2 percent heavy, 80 percent average, and 18 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
2 nd cutting.....	92	86	96	95
3 rd cutting.....	40	28	43	39
Barley				
Turning color.....	95	93	96	98
Harvested.....	25	11	35	42
Corn				
Dough.....	50	25	52	58
Dented.....	7	1	17	16
Corn Silage				
Harvested.....	2	--	1	3
Dry Beans				
Flowered.....	95	87	NA	NA
Onions				
Harvested.....	9	2	6	9
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested.....	13	9	9	20
Sorghum				
Headed.....	79	68	87	74
Turning color.....	16	6	26	27
Spring wheat				
Turning color.....	94	91	87	91
Harvested.....	11	8	23	30

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.....	5.9	4.2	6.7	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	3	1	5	20
Short.....	18	14	25	28
Adequate.....	75	78	68	50
Surplus.....	4	7	2	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	3	1	4	25
Short.....	19	16	20	29
Adequate.....	76	80	73	45
Surplus.....	2	3	3	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa				
Very poor.....	4	4	--	7
Poor.....	14	13	2	9
Fair.....	26	25	15	25
Good.....	47	52	64	48
Excellent.....	9	6	19	11
Barley				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	NA
Poor.....	11	5	--	NA
Fair.....	34	27	13	NA
Good.....	47	56	52	NA
Excellent.....	7	12	35	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	10
Poor.....	3	9	2	8
Fair.....	16	19	17	22
Good.....	71	57	66	49
Excellent.....	10	15	14	11
Dry Beans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	3
Poor.....	3	6	2	7
Fair.....	22	25	21	33
Good.....	74	67	64	49
Excellent.....	1	2	13	8
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	4	1	1	4
Fair.....	14	14	10	22
Good.....	74	77	76	64
Excellent.....	8	8	13	9
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	2	3	4
Fair.....	34	35	5	15
Good.....	48	59	74	68
Excellent.....	16	4	18	12
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	1	--	3	17
Poor.....	11	8	6	19
Fair.....	22	24	25	24
Good.....	54	59	57	34
Excellent.....	12	9	9	6
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	11	8	--	NA
Fair.....	16	15	15	NA
Good.....	55	54	63	NA
Excellent.....	18	23	22	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Fair.....	3	4	5	NA
Good.....	90	88	82	NA
Excellent.....	7	8	13	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	3	2	--	12
Poor.....	4	4	5	13
Fair.....	13	13	26	32
Good.....	74	71	62	41
Excellent.....	6	10	7	2
Spring Wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	7	7	--	6
Fair.....	28	27	8	28
Good.....	61	62	84	57
Excellent.....	4	4	8	5
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	1	--	1
Poor.....	--	1	3	4
Fair.....	5	10	11	16
Good.....	81	77	71	66
Excellent.....	14	11	15	13
Sunflowers				
Very poor.....	2	--	--	9
Poor.....	2	2	3	14
Fair.....	4	15	24	30
Good.....	77	76	65	40
Excellent.....	5	7	8	7

NA – not available

(--)- zero