



# COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Bill Meyer  
(800) 392-3202

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Dry, windy, and hot weather seen throughout the state this past week caused a decline in soil moisture supplies, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Warmer weather last week helped further spring crop maturity, but dry spots are quickly appearing in the absence of moisture. Reporters in northeastern counties noted that recent dry weather is a concern for non-irrigated crop and pasture conditions. Specifically, concerns regarding the impact of dry conditions on winter wheat planting and declining non-irrigated crop quality were mentioned. In the San Luis Valley, fall potato harvest has begun, with barley harvest progressing well. Reporters in southeastern counties also noted that increased heat units benefited spring crops, but some remain behind due to previous cooler weather. Statewide, harvest of small grains remained slightly behind average. Stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent short, 90 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 2 percent heavy, 54 percent average, and 44 percent light. Cattle death loss was 74 percent average and 26 percent light.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

| Commodity                        | Current week<br>(percent) | Previous week<br>(percent) | Previous year<br>(percent) | 5-year average<br>(percent) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alfalfa                          |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting .....    | 66                        | 54                         | 65                         | 63                          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting .....    | 3                         | NA                         | NA                         | NA                          |
| Barley                           |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Harvested .....                  | 75                        | 58                         | 71                         | 77                          |
| Corn                             |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Dough .....                      | 80                        | 63                         | 89                         | 91                          |
| Dented .....                     | 31                        | 15                         | 60                         | 55                          |
| Mature .....                     | 2                         | --                         | 5                          | 5                           |
| Corn Silage                      |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Harvested .....                  | 12                        | 4                          | 11                         | 19                          |
| Dry Beans                        |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Cut .....                        | 7                         | 1                          | 9                          | 19                          |
| Onions                           |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Harvested .....                  | 17                        | 11                         | 25                         | 21                          |
| Potatoes inside San Luis Valley  |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Harvested .....                  | 4                         | 1                          | 4                          | 10                          |
| Potatoes outside San Luis Valley |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Harvested .....                  | 19                        | 15                         | 33                         | 43                          |
| Sorghum                          |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Headed .....                     | 95                        | 91                         | 94                         | 91                          |
| Turning color .....              | 46                        | 25                         | 58                         | 49                          |
| Spring wheat                     |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Harvested .....                  | 51                        | 29                         | 45                         | 55                          |
| Winter wheat                     |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Planted .....                    | 2                         | --                         | 6                          | 5                           |

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 ..... | 6.9          | 6.8           | 6.0           | 6.4            |
| Topsoil moisture                  | (percent)    | (percent)     | (percent)     | (percent)      |
| Very short .....                  | 2            | 1             | 7             | 24             |
| Short .....                       | 20           | 14            | 24            | 31             |
| Adequate .....                    | 78           | 80            | 66            | 43             |
| Surplus .....                     | --           | 5             | 3             | 2              |
| Subsoil moisture                  |              |               |               |                |
| Very short .....                  | 1            | 1             | 6             | 28             |
| Short .....                       | 22           | 17            | 22            | 30             |
| Adequate .....                    | 77           | 80            | 70            | 41             |
| Surplus .....                     | --           | 2             | 2             | 1              |

NA – not available

(--) – zero

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

|   | Current week<br>(percent) | Previous week<br>(percent) | Previous year<br>(percent) | 5-year average<br>(percent) |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Alfalfa</b>                          |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | 2                         | 2                          | --                         | 8                           |
| Poor.....                               | 13                        | 10                         | 2                          | 11                          |
| Fair.....                               | 27                        | 30                         | 16                         | 25                          |
| Good.....                               | 55                        | 53                         | 64                         | 45                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 3                         | 5                          | 18                         | 11                          |
| <b>Corn</b>                             |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | 1                         | --                         | 1                          | 11                          |
| Poor.....                               | 12                        | 6                          | 2                          | 10                          |
| Fair.....                               | 32                        | 21                         | 21                         | 23                          |
| Good.....                               | 48                        | 62                         | 61                         | 45                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 7                         | 11                         | 15                         | 11                          |
| <b>Dry Beans</b>                        |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | --                         | --                         | 4                           |
| Poor.....                               | 7                         | 3                          | 2                          | 9                           |
| Fair.....                               | 23                        | 21                         | 21                         | 34                          |
| Good.....                               | 68                        | 74                         | 66                         | 45                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 2                         | 2                          | 11                         | 8                           |
| <b>Livestock</b>                        |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | --                         | --                         | 2                           |
| Poor.....                               | 1                         | 2                          | 1                          | 5                           |
| Fair.....                               | 14                        | 14                         | 10                         | 27                          |
| Good.....                               | 79                        | 77                         | 77                         | 58                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 6                         | 7                          | 12                         | 8                           |
| <b>Onions</b>                           |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | --                         | --                         | 1                           |
| Poor.....                               | 5                         | 3                          | 5                          | 4                           |
| Fair.....                               | 22                        | 34                         | 5                          | 15                          |
| Good.....                               | 67                        | 56                         | 72                         | 68                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 6                         | 7                          | 18                         | 12                          |
| <b>Pasture and Range</b>                |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | 1                         | --                         | 3                          | 19                          |
| Poor.....                               | 10                        | 10                         | 6                          | 19                          |
| Fair.....                               | 26                        | 24                         | 25                         | 25                          |
| Good.....                               | 52                        | 54                         | 58                         | 32                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 11                        | 12                         | 8                          | 5                           |
| <b>Potatoes inside San Luis Valley</b>  |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | --                         | --                         | NA                          |
| Poor.....                               | 7                         | 8                          | --                         | NA                          |
| Fair.....                               | 12                        | 13                         | 14                         | NA                          |
| Good.....                               | 56                        | 56                         | 65                         | NA                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 25                        | 23                         | 21                         | NA                          |
| <b>Potatoes outside San Luis Valley</b> |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | --                         | --                         | NA                          |
| Poor.....                               | --                        | --                         | --                         | NA                          |
| Fair.....                               | 8                         | 7                          | 5                          | NA                          |
| Good.....                               | 84                        | 86                         | 82                         | NA                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 8                         | 7                          | 13                         | NA                          |
| <b>Sorghum</b>                          |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | 3                         | 6                          | --                         | 15                          |
| Poor.....                               | 7                         | 7                          | 5                          | 13                          |
| Fair.....                               | 17                        | 13                         | 27                         | 33                          |
| Good.....                               | 68                        | 65                         | 60                         | 37                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 5                         | 9                          | 8                          | 2                           |
| <b>Spring Wheat</b>                     |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | --                         | --                         | NA                          |
| Poor.....                               | 8                         | 5                          | --                         | NA                          |
| Fair.....                               | 27                        | 25                         | 8                          | NA                          |
| Good.....                               | 61                        | 66                         | 83                         | NA                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 4                         | 4                          | 9                          | NA                          |
| <b>Sugarbeets</b>                       |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | 1                         | 1                          | --                         | 1                           |
| Poor.....                               | 3                         | 1                          | 3                          | 5                           |
| Fair.....                               | 10                        | 9                          | 11                         | 18                          |
| Good.....                               | 76                        | 81                         | 70                         | 61                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 10                        | 8                          | 16                         | 15                          |
| <b>Sunflowers</b>                       |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....                          | --                        | 1                          | --                         | 11                          |
| Poor.....                               | 2                         | 2                          | 3                          | 14                          |
| Fair.....                               | 15                        | 16                         | 26                         | 30                          |
| Good.....                               | 81                        | 73                         | 64                         | 39                          |
| Excellent.....                          | 2                         | 8                          | 7                          | 6                           |

NA – not available

(--) – zero