



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 OCTOBER 15, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Drier conditions later in the week allowed harvest activities to pick up, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Rain with some snow and colder conditions were reported early in the week. Reporters noted that excess soil moisture slowed planting of winter wheat, but progress continued to be made where conditions were favorable. Harvest of several spring crops was underway, but a few producers were still waiting for a hard freeze in areas. Pasture conditions in areas that have not received enough moisture remain a concern. Across the state, livestock were reportedly doing well with more leaving summer pasture and cattle producers continuing to wean calves. Statewide, corn was rated 84 percent good to excellent, compared with 74 percent last year. Stored feed supplies were rated 88 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 55 percent average and 45 percent light. Cattle death loss was 1 percent heavy, 76 percent average, and 23 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
3 rd cutting	97	93	NA	NA
4 th cutting	45	35	70	68
Corn				
Mature	73	59	87	89
Harvested	12	8	29	31
Corn Silage				
Harvested	94	90	96	98
Dry Beans				
Cut	97	87	NA	NA
Harvested	84	70	87	79
Onions				
Harvested	90	84	88	86
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	90	70	89	86
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Harvested	79	64	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Mature	63	47	79	74
Harvested	4	2	27	20
Spring wheat				
Harvested	93	88	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	21	12	18	40
Sunflowers				
Harvested	2	--	10	25
Winter wheat				
Planted	84	70	95	92
Emerged	53	38	70	63

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	6.0	4.6	6.6	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	--	1	9	14
Short	9	13	35	33
Adequate	87	80	54	51
Surplus	4	6	2	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	1	2	8	23
Short	13	20	33	33
Adequate	83	75	58	43
Surplus	3	3	1	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa				
Very poor.....	3	3	NA	NA
Poor.....	10	11	NA	NA
Fair.....	26	23	NA	NA
Good.....	54	57	NA	NA
Excellent.....	7	6	NA	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	2	1	NA
Poor.....	3	10	3	NA
Fair.....	13	26	22	NA
Good.....	60	45	60	NA
Excellent.....	24	17	14	NA
Livestock				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	1	--	4
Fair.....	11	25	9	20
Good.....	80	68	78	67
Excellent.....	7	6	13	8
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	--	2	3	17
Poor.....	5	14	8	18
Fair.....	23	25	35	27
Good.....	58	45	47	32
Excellent.....	14	14	7	6
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	3	6	--	18
Poor.....	4	9	5	17
Fair.....	11	19	30	31
Good.....	60	53	58	32
Excellent.....	22	13	7	2
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	2	2	--	--
Poor.....	2	5	1	2
Fair.....	12	18	13	17
Good.....	62	59	71	67
Excellent.....	22	16	15	14
Sunflowers				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	15
Poor.....	1	5	4	13
Fair.....	12	21	27	28
Good.....	62	55	61	38
Excellent.....	24	18	8	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero