



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 28, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Midweek rain slowed fieldwork in areas, but harvest activities picked up later in the week as warmer and drier weather prevailed, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Warmer temperatures at week's end aided winter wheat emergence. In northeastern counties, a reporter noted some corn and sorghum was damaged more by prior hail storms than producers originally expected prior to harvest. Livestock and range were noted to be in good condition where moisture has been sufficient. In drier areas, range condition and winter feed availability remained a concern. East central counties also received rain this week which delayed harvest of corn and sorghum, but the moisture was beneficial for seeded winter wheat. In the San Luis Valley, field operations generally decreased since crop harvests were complete. A reporter noted calves were being weaned with some weights reportedly ranging from average to lighter than normal. Short hay supplies remained a concern. A reporter for southeastern counties noted rain delayed harvest last week and fields were very soft. Some corn was not drying down well after the frost and sales volume of calves was high at local sales barns last week. Statewide, corn was rated 66 percent good to excellent, compared with 79 percent rated good to excellent last year. Stored feed supplies were rated 10 percent very short, 22 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 64 percent average and 36 percent light. Cattle death loss was 2 percent heavy, 69 percent average, and 29 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 th cutting harvested	70	64	72	84
Corn				
Mature	97	94	95	98
Harvested for grain	50	38	29	48
Sorghum				
Mature	96	94	95	95
Harvested	35	26	23	43
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	68	39	58	62
Sunflowers				
Harvested	31	20	28	48
Winter wheat				
Planted	96	94	97	98
Emerged	85	75	80	88

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	5.4	5.3	6.5	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	7	5	2	7
Short.....	23	18	13	31
Adequate.....	66	74	82	61
Surplus.....	4	3	3	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	11	16	3	10
Short.....	31	25	17	31
Adequate.....	55	58	78	58
Surplus.....	3	1	2	1

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.....	2	3	1	NA
Poor.....	6	9	5	NA
Fair.....	26	20	15	NA
Good.....	60	54	61	NA
Excellent.....	6	14	18	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	30	28	2	5
Poor.....	28	27	14	17
Fair.....	16	17	26	29
Good.....	23	24	45	42
Excellent.....	3	4	13	7
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	9	10	6	NA
Poor.....	8	9	6	NA
Fair.....	27	26	15	NA
Good.....	48	45	54	NA
Excellent.....	8	10	19	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	1	3	1	NA
Poor.....	4	6	4	NA
Fair.....	16	24	11	NA
Good.....	40	42	67	NA
Excellent.....	39	25	17	NA
Sunflowers				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	NA
Poor.....	6	3	5	NA
Fair.....	19	29	15	NA
Good.....	65	58	57	NA
Excellent.....	8	8	21	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	2	1	1
Poor.....	4	5	3	7
Fair.....	31	25	31	37
Good.....	54	55	47	46
Excellent.....	10	13	18	9
Livestock				
Very poor.....	2	3	--	--
Poor.....	2	3	2	2
Fair.....	16	17	18	17
Good.....	71	68	69	71
Excellent.....	9	9	11	10

NA – not available

(--) – zero