

# 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 OCTOBER 9, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** This week brought trace amounts of moisture and unseasonably warm temperatures to Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The majority of the State received no rainfall. Localized areas near Garfield County received slight rainfall, while the southeast part of Carter County received less than .5 inches of rainfall. Temperatures were above average for this time of year and have slightly increased since last week. Average daily temperatures ranged from near normal to approximately 12 degrees above average for the State. Drought conditions in the State continue to worsen as dry conditions persist. According to the United States Drought Monitor for October 6, 2022, 12.2 percent of the State is now experiencing extreme drought conditions – a decrease from 12.4 percent last week. The amount of land rated as abnormally dry was 16.7 percent, a decrease from 17.1 percent last week. Moderate drought decreased slightly from 32.4 percent last week to 31.7 percent this week. Severe drought decreased to cover 29.0 percent of the State, compared to 32.7 percent last week. Overall, 89.6 percent of the State continues to experience drought conditions, compared to 94.6 percent last week. Mineral, Missoula and Ravalli Counties remarked they will start shipping calves soon. Judith Basin Country saw some significant rainfall of late, but not enough to break drought conditions. The rain allowed farmers to reseed some ground. The county is seeing more cattle than usual headed to market for this time of year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	33	20	34	21
Harvested for silage .....	79	60	83	81
Safflower				
Harvested.....	95	91	79	60
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	19	5	18	20
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	77	66	64	64
Emerg'd .....	50	31	34	32
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture .....	36	35	54	41
Receiving supplemental feed .....	27	NA	21	19
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture .....	42	41	56	41
Receiving supplemental feed .....	27	NA	22	20

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.....	6.1	4.9	6.8	5.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	46	47	56	22
Short .....	38	40	42	31
Adequate .....	16	12	2	38
Surplus .....	--	1	0	9
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	62	53	62	25
Short .....	31	36	36	35
Adequate .....	7	11	2	34
Surplus .....	--	--	--	6

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

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

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	18	6
Poor .....	7	7	24	10
Fair .....	29	21	22	28
Good .....	62	70	36	46
Excellent .....	1	1	--	10
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	30	30	69	27
Poor .....	16	21	22	20
Fair .....	35	28	9	29
Good .....	19	21	--	18
Excellent .....	--	--	--	6
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	10	5
Poor .....	1	1	16	8
Fair .....	27	20	42	28
Good .....	70	78	30	43
Excellent .....	1	--	2	16

NA – not available

(--) – zero