



# Crop Weather Report

**Issue: 08-30**  
Issued: Weekly: Apr-Oct  
Monthly: Nov-Mar

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**Released: Oct. 6, 2008**  
For the Week Ending:  
Oct. 5, 2008

## Weather Summary

Montana received light precipitation for the week ending October 5<sup>th</sup>. St. Ignatius received the most weekly accumulated precipitation at 0.63 of an inch. Highs were mostly in the 70s to 80s, and lows were mostly in the 20s and 30s. Martinsdale and Hardin shared the high temperature of 87 degrees, and Wisdom had the low of 19 degrees. Topsoil moisture adequate and surplus, at 64 percent, is unchanged from last week, above last year's 52 percent, and above the 5-year average of 43 percent. Subsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 44 percent, below last week's 47 percent, but above last year's 31 percent and the five-year average of 24 percent. The number of days suitable for field work was 6.3 days, unchanged from the previous week.

The weather outlook for October 13<sup>th</sup> through October 19<sup>th</sup> is for above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation both east and west of the continental divide. Normal temperatures for this period in Montana are highs in the mid 50s to the mid 60s and lows in the mid 20s to the upper 30s.

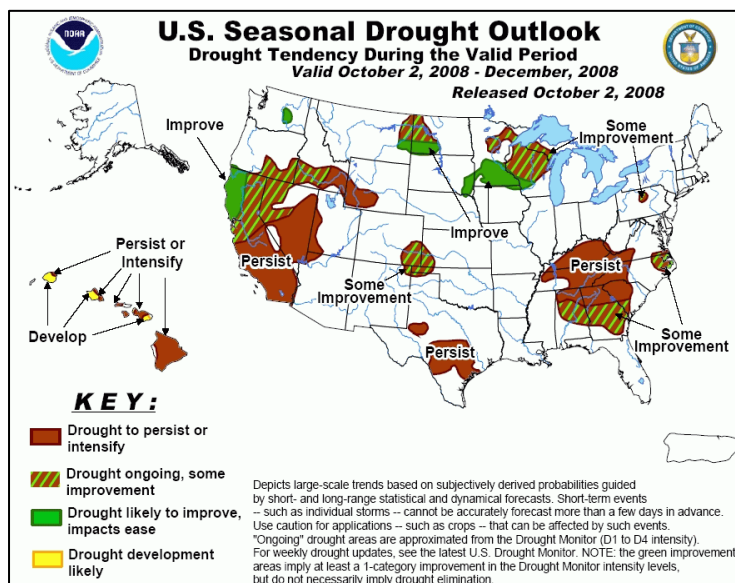
## Field Crops Report

Eighty-two percent of winter wheat is planted compared to 52 percent the previous week. Silage cutting is well underway, and farmers began harvesting corn for grain this past week. Corn condition declined slightly with 81 percent good to excellent compared to 84 percent the previous week. Sugar beet condition is similar to the previous week with 10 percent of the crop now harvested. Remaining barley, spring wheat, and durum wheat harvest is nearly complete.

Crop Condition Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Corn</b>				
Very Poor	1	1	1	n/a
Poor	2	2	2	n/a
Fair	16	13	7	n/a
Good	62	63	73	n/a
Excellent	19	21	17	n/a
<b>Sugar Beets</b>				
Very Poor	1	1	0	4
Poor	10	9	1	7
Fair	18	19	7	21
Good	53	55	72	46
Excellent	18	16	20	22

Crop Progress Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Planted</b>				
Winter Wheat	82	52	78	81
<b>Emerged</b>				
Winter Wheat	28	7	33	30
<b>Harvested</b>				
Barley	98	91	100	100
Corn for Grain	2	n/a	8	7
Corn for Silage	79	65	97	88
Durum Wheat	92	91	100	94
Lentils	96	95	100	n/a
Spring Wheat	99	95	100	99
Sugar Beets	10	n/a	20	16
<b>Hay Second Cutting</b>				
All Other Hay	88	81	94	95

Soil Moisture & Field Work Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Topsoil Moisture</b>				
Very Short	13	17	11	23
Short	23	19	37	34
Adequate	62	63	49	41
Surplus	2	1	3	2
<b>Subsoil Moisture</b>				
Very Short	22	27	36	39
Short	34	26	33	37
Adequate	43	47	30	23
Surplus	1	0	1	1
<b>Days Suitable for Fieldwork</b>				
Days	6.3	6.3	4.8	5.7



Drought map can be accessed through the Seasonal Drought Outlook link at: <http://www.drought.noaa.gov/>

## Livestock Report

Range and pasture feed conditions declined from the previous week. Thirty-four percent is rated good to excellent compared to 37 percent the previous week. Conditions remain better than last year and the five-year average. Movement of both cattle and sheep from summer ranges is progressing faster than last year and the five-year average. Ranchers have just begun supplemental feeding of livestock.

Range & Livestock Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
<b>Range and Pasture Feed Condition</b>				
Very Poor	10	10	16	20
Poor	18	17	22	25
Fair	38	36	35	34
Good	31	35	24	19
Excellent	3	2	3	2
<b>Livestock Moved From Summer Ranges</b>				
Cattle and Calves	51	34	38	49
Sheep and Lambs	58	41	37	47
<b>Livestock Receiving Supplemental Feed</b>				
Cattle and Calves	4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sheep and Lambs	2	n/a	n/a	n/a

THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

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