

BULLETIN NO. 34  
APRIL, 1922

# Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
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**Winter Wheat.**—The area sown to winter wheat in Colorado in the fall of 1921 was approximately 1,466,000 acres, compared with about 1,346,000 acres harvested from the 1921 crop, and 1,032,000 acres harvested in 1919. On April 1, the condition was estimated at 77 per cent of normal, compared with 85 per cent on April 1, last year, and a ten-year average of 89 per cent. The present condition of 77 per cent is an improvement of 1 point over the December figure and 4 points gain during the month of March. The preliminary estimate of production of winter wheat in this state for this year is 17,160,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of last year's crop of 16,162,000 bushels, and 13,622,000 bushels produced in 1919. The estimate for this year is based on the assumption that there will be about 10 per cent winter abandonment. The winter abandonment for the past 7 years has ranged from as low as 1 per cent in 1919 to as high as 20 per cent in 1917, and the average for the period has been 8.4 per cent. Much of the winter wheat crop was sown last fall in dry ground, and either did not sprout or did not have sufficient moisture to promote vigorous growth, so the extent of the abandonment is still uncertain. Most of the principal winter wheat areas of the state have been deficient in moisture throughout the winter, but the very favorable moisture conditions that have prevailed during the first half of April, may reduce the abandonment below average. The tentative estimate of production is based upon a 13-bushel average yield per acre, compared with 13.2 bushels in 1919 and 12 bushels in 1921.

The United States Winter Wheat Crop improved in condition 2.4 points from December 1 to April 1, as compared with an average decline in the past ten years of 4.7 points between these dates. For other state figures and United States figures for wheat, rye and brood sows see table on page 3.

**Winter Rye.**—The outlook for the winter or fall rye crop of Colorado is somewhat more promising than for wheat. The condition improved about 7 points during the period since December 1, and reached April 1 at about 86 per cent of normal, compared with 90 per cent last year, and a ten-year average of 89 per cent. The condition on April 1 justifies a forecast of approximately 11.6 bushels per acre and a production of 810,000 bushels, compared with 1,058,000 bushels harvested in 1921. The forecast is based on 79,000 acres planted to fall rye for grain, compared with 92,000 acres a year ago. In 1921 nearly 82 per cent of the area devoted to the rye crop was fall rye. Much of the rye acreage of this state is used for pasture and not harvested for grain. Practically the entire acreage of rye in the state is upon non-irrigated lands.

**Brood Sows.**—Reports generally show renewed interest in the further development of the swine industry of the state, and indicate an increase in the number of brood sows of about 10 per cent during the past year. The abundance of cheap feed and the heavy corn reserves have brought about the tendency towards rapid increases in numbers. The demand for brood sows has been very brisk for several months. The estimated number in the state on April 1 is 88,000. Only about the usual amount of disease is reported. There have been some small losses attributed to flu and pneumonia, and some complaint of losses in spring litters. The total number of swine in the state on

January 1, was estimated at 455,000 compared with the census number of 450,000 January 1, 1920. The number of mature hogs assessed in the state on April 1, 1921, was 172,844, compared with 177,497 on April 1, 1920, 195,188 on April 1, 1919, and 194,576 on April 1, 1918. The federal census reported the number of sows and gels for breeding purposes in the state, January 1, 1920, as 79,658, or 36.4 per cent of all swine. The agricultural enumeration made by the county assessors for April 1, 1921, indicated that the farmers of the state then held about 8 per cent more brood sows than on April 1, 1920.

**Farm Labor Supply.**—The supply of farm labor is more plentiful than for several years and the demand lighter. The present supply is about 9 points above normal, and 109 per cent of last year, while the present need is indicated as only 88 per cent of normal, compared with 87 per cent last year. Assuming that normally the supply of and demand for farm labor are about equal, it appears that from the records of the past four years that the low point of supply was in 1920, and the high point of demand for farm labor was in 1919. There are now about 124 men for each 100 jobs on Colorado farms, last year there were 121 men for each 100 jobs, while in 1920 there were only 81 men available for each 100 jobs. These figures indicate there is either less acreage to be farmed or that such crops are to be grown as will require less labor. Correspondents report a general tendency to eliminate hired help as far as practicable. Improved farm machinery as well as low prices paid for farm products have considerable influence upon farm labor demand. In the United States the farm labor supply is indicated as only  $\frac{1}{2}$  point below normal, while the demand is 10.7 per cent below normal, making the supply about 11.4 per cent above the demand, or about 111 men for each 100 farm jobs, compared with 108.8 last year and 68.8 for 1920.

**Farm Wages.**—Reports concerning the wages of male farm labor in Colorado show the average for the state to be, when hired by the month with board, \$33.60, compared with \$37.80 last year, \$65.30 in 1920, and \$32.50 in 1916. Corresponding figures for men hired by the month, board not furnished, were about \$52 per month, compared with \$62.37 last year, \$95 in 1920, and \$47.50 in 1916. The variations between the extremes of high and low average wages, in the different counties is about \$20.00.

**Potato Acreage, 1921.**—Colorado farmers now intend to plant at least 4,000 acres more to potatoes this year than last year, according to the preliminary report of April 1. This is an increase of about 4 per cent, and would mean the planting of about 110,000 acres in the state as compared with 106,000 acres estimated to have been planted last year. The reports indicate that the increase in the irrigated plantings will be about 6 per cent, and aggregate about 86,000 acres, while there will be a slight decrease of about 4 per cent in the non-irrigated acreage, totaling about 24,000 acres. Seed potatoes are said to be generally ample in supply and reasonable in price. This inquiry was made on April 1, and the results reported in order that farmers throughout the state may understand the trend of the potato business, and, if they so desire, may increase or decrease their plantings accordingly.

**Agricultural Outlook.**—The average amount of moisture in the soil is reported as 34 per cent of normal for this time of year, compared with about 87 per cent on April 1 last year, and 86.5 per cent two years ago. A marked deficiency in precipitation and stored moisture in the soil for non-irrigated lands has prevailed in the eastern third of the state since last July, and still exists principally in the northeastern counties and counties along the Arkansas Valley. The precipitation that occurred during the first half of this month has reduced this deficiency slightly and especially within 40 to 75 miles of Denver.

According to the report of the U. S. Weather Bureau, up to and including March 31, the seasonal flow of water from the snow deposited upon the high mountain drainage areas will be about normal in the Rio Grande basin, below normal in the South Platte, considerably below normal in the Arkansas, and above normal in the Gunnison, Yampa and White, and much above normal in the San Juan and Dolores, and probably in the North Platte. For the Colorado River the seasonal flow will be above normal with a large flow if sustained high temperatures occur in the middle drainage area.

**PER CENT OF NORMAL CONDITION OF WINTER WHEAT AND RYE, AND THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK COMPARED WITH NORMAL APRIL 1, AS REPRESENTED BY ESTIMATES OF SOIL MOISTURE.**

Winter Wheat					Winter Wheat						
District and County	Irrig.	Non-Irrig.	All	Rye	Mois-ture	District and County	Irrig.	Non-Irrig.	All	Rye	Mois-ture
<b>1. Northwest—</b>						<b>Summit</b>					
Grand						Teller					100
Jackson					100	<b>6. East Central—</b>					
Moffat	98	75	76	86	99	Arapahoe	85	74	74	87	67
Rio Blanco	99	90	91	88	90	Cheyenne		95	95	85	93
Rout	91	89	89	100	89	Douglas		86	86		
<b>2. North Central—</b>						Elbert		87	87	90	78
Adams	83	78	79	73	70	El Paso	88	69	70	88	81
Boulder	79	72	77	83	85	Kit Carson		88	88	89	91
Denver						Lincoln		88	88	88	82
Larimer	81	68	73	73	70	<b>7. Southwest—</b>					
Weld	80	66	70	76	70	Archuleta	100	100	100		100
<b>3. Northeast—</b>						Delores		95	95		
Logan	87	68	69	78	66	Hinsdale					
Morgan	87	73	73	83	76	La Plata	99	99	99		105
Phillips		75	75	83	80	Mineral					
Sedgwick	85	77	77	90	70	Montezuma	97	97	97	100	113
Washington		84	84	91	79	San Juan					
Yuma		74	74	78	73	San Miguel	93	95	95	95	95
<b>4. West Central—</b>						<b>8. South Central—</b>					
Delta	96		96	100	96	Alamosa					100
Eagle	100	100	100		100	Conejos					85
Garfield	93	87	90	95	99	Costilla				90	113
Gunnison	100	100	100		100	Custer	90	90	90		80
Mesa	100	97	99		102	Huerfano	90	90	90	100	73
Montrose	86	95	87	100	99	Rio Grande				100	106
Ouray	90	95	92			Saguache					104
Pitkin	100		100		100	<b>9. Southeast—</b>					
<b>5. Central—</b>						Baca	70	70			80
Chaffee					65	Bent	91	43	81	82	83
Clear Creek						Crowley	70	67	70	70	50
Fremont	78	78	78	80	62	Kiowa		70	70	70	90
Gilpin						Las Animas	80	71	71	75	78
Jefferson	92	88	91	90	71	Otero		88	50	84	85
Lake					100	Prowers		88	64	78	67
Park						Pueblo	75	60	65		80

**COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL DATA FOR APRIL 1.**

Winter Wheat	COLORADO				UNITED STATES			
	1922	1921	1920	1919	1922	1921	1920	1919
Acreage	1,466*	1,346	1,044	1,032	44,847*	42,702	40,016	54,494
Condition, per cent	77	85	75	100	78.4	91.0	75.6	99.8
Production, bus.	17,160	16,152	18,270	13,622	572,974	587,032	610,597	760,377
<b>Winter Rye—</b>								
Acreage	79*	92	100	124	5,184*	4,228	4,409	6,307
Condition, per cent	86	90	75	100	89.0	90.3	86.8	90.6
Production, bus.	816	1,058	1,180	1,088	69,667	57,918	60,490	75,483
<b>Breeding Sows—</b>								
Per cent compared with last year								
Number of brood sows April 1	110	100	88	88	111.1	97.8	90.1	
Number of all swine January 1	88	80	80	91	12,424	11,183	11,446	12,736
	455	414	450	450	56,996	56,097	59,344	
<b>Farm Labor Supply—</b>								
Per cent compared with normal	109	105	80	90	99.5	95.2	72.4	84.2
<b>Farm Labor Requirements—</b>								
Per cent demand compared with normal	88	87	99	103	89.3	87.5	105.3	101.8
Per cent of supply compared to demand	124	121	81	87	111.4	108.8	68.8	82.9

\*Area sown. Colorado winter wheat production is based upon a tentative estimate of 10 per cent abandonment, and that 1,320,000 acres will be left for harvest May 1.

## VALUE OF LIVESTOCK PER HEAD AS REPORTED BY COUNTY ASSESSORS IN 1920 AND 1921

COUNTY	Horses		Mules		Range Cattle		Milch Cows		Sheep		Swine	
	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921
Adams	\$80.32	\$65.94	\$89.40	\$73.16	\$41.44	\$30.85	\$78.75	\$50.35	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.10	\$10.21	\$ 8.67
Alamosa	73.28	54.37	129.39	92.53	42.74	27.43	76.38	59.37	10.19	3.67	10.70	8.42
Arapahoe	68.03	47.96	75.33	64.03	40.00	30.58	81.25	61.93	9.00	3.57	12.52	10.25
Archuleta	66.89	63.21	77.67	86.70	46.39	29.59	69.68	54.64	9.00	3.77	8.46	6.43
Baca	45.00	37.89	73.00	57.53	42.14	25.01	65.90	53.46	10.05	3.54	9.95	6.50
Bent	60.00	45.39	79.17	69.00	39.88	26.69	60.03	50.03	9.20	3.83	10.00	7.88
Boulder	95.11	90.18	98.62	90.04	49.68	32.68	71.57	59.50	17.35	6.70	13.44	12.53
Chaffee	71.23	65.86	91.25	67.85	41.77	27.94	70.04	58.42	9.55	2.54	10.56	8.16
Cheyenne	52.70	34.45	78.01	59.03	45.87	25.65	65.24	51.38	10.00	3.53	20.01	10.28
Clear Creek	63.50	63.85	52.50	60.00	40.00	25.05	66.00	60.00	9.00	3.50	19.63	9.69
Conejos	79.85	64.76	99.42	65.85	41.45	25.64	66.27	52.77	10.10	3.60	11.42	7.91
Costilla	76.30	55.13	78.20	71.36	51.00	27.80	70.00	52.00	9.01	3.56	5.73	8.27
Crowley	66.79	50.34	79.71	55.10	47.66	25.10	62.11	82.67	10.28	5.85	10.41	9.89
Custer	79.65	52.15	85.92	66.30	40.54	28.31	63.23	52.97	10.00	3.57	14.70	8.02
Delta	89.31	68.78	93.27	69.31	42.84	26.14	68.38	52.98	10.51	3.83	12.33	7.00
Denver	99.00	83.50	115.34	117.50	.....	.....	100.57	75.50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dolores	77.64	58.16	105.21	81.48	48.71	27.30	73.10	50.00	11.38	3.92	17.43	10.27
Douglas	66.22	57.59	88.17	75.95	44.87	29.86	81.28	58.23	14.46	4.23	18.26	11.41
Eagle	83.46	85.41	92.68	94.60	46.53	30.62	69.50	63.23	9.06	3.86	12.14	9.81
Elbert	67.09	52.21	73.66	62.00	40.33	27.57	67.88	53.41	9.36	3.56	12.68	10.12
El Paso	62.48	49.38	83.50	61.63	42.50	29.12	66.09	50.67	9.00	4.09	14.36	10.80
Fremont	51.20	49.29	70.13	68.67	44.05	27.46	73.44	53.95	.....	3.71	9.63	8.20
Garfield	72.87	67.59	87.48	87.01	43.24	26.40	69.06	56.16	10.55	4.00	10.16	7.61
Gilpin	59.22	58.00	75.00	75.00	40.89	28.57	60.00	50.00	10.00	5.00	11.50	9.50
Grand	64.33	57.65	65.48	48.22	43.17	31.94	66.79	60.10	10.00	3.99	11.58	9.88
Gunnison	68.22	57.50	108.90	83.00	44.51	26.66	73.00	53.40	11.08	4.00	11.46	7.90
Hinsdale	59.78	40.40	50.00	46.80	41.13	25.70	64.14	50.36	10.62	3.55	9.79	5.00
Huerfano	62.80	59.27	120.00	108.40	40.00	29.12	82.00	51.94	10.00	3.52	16.00	8.98
Jackson	45.71	33.98	73.89	50.87	43.41	30.81	75.00	65.00	9.15	4.00	9.73	7.38
Jefferson	65.00	57.89	74.92	76.63	47.73	34.14	80.77	62.61	10.00	4.74	11.89	10.69
Kiowa	55.34	39.60	94.62	60.63	43.18	26.10	65.74	50.90	10.00	3.50	21.79	12.61
Kit Carson	47.09	43.68	56.68	47.16	41.72	26.23	59.31	50.02	9.03	3.64	12.19	11.15
Lake	77.84	67.37	30.80	35.00	43.34	30.42	67.10	57.20	10.12	3.51	.....	.....
La Plata	69.92	58.83	89.18	66.21	40.66	25.00	66.70	50.58	10.43	3.50	10.48	7.37
Larimer	111.13	74.37	118.21	110.32	41.26	30.36	70.60	62.51	10.79	3.51	10.50	9.65
Las Animas	46.00	35.26	86.00	84.82	43.90	33.91	75.20	61.56	9.00	3.99	9.09	8.21
Lincoln	47.95	36.92	82.60	55.96	43.12	26.50	62.29	50.32	9.93	4.00	12.59	11.11
Logan	77.77	62.54	100.00	78.36	42.41	28.32	68.76	50.00	10.83	5.81	11.31	10.44
Mesa	73.50	61.08	86.72	69.66	42.56	26.25	74.50	55.11	10.20	4.10	.....	.....
Mineral	47.36	38.35	77.10	75.00	40.00	26.54	65.00	65.00	10.00	3.56	13.65	8.75
Moffat	42.15	39.42	86.69	76.48	47.72	26.64	76.30	53.24	9.99	7.69	9.88	8.52
Montezuma	61.84	51.26	87.59	58.85	42.84	29.58	67.93	53.52	10.04	3.96	10.12	7.61
Montrose	80.14	68.20	91.97	72.84	42.75	27.42	73.50	54.37	12.09	3.99	10.25	9.25
Morgan	85.34	60.86	95.61	70.03	40.60	27.90	67.02	51.88	10.00	3.50	11.15	9.25
Otero	76.99	61.64	97.98	77.25	42.64	27.60	68.58	55.41	9.25	3.78	10.36	8.55
Ouray	63.40	64.14	72.93	66.61	43.63	26.90	62.13	55.42	12.50	3.87	10.88	10.02
Park	68.77	59.53	76.18	76.07	44.18	28.27	65.00	54.50	9.80	3.73	14.39	9.18
Phillips	68.52	52.20	92.59	59.60	40.28	26.26	65.61	59.95	.....	.....	13.67	8.77
Pitkin	71.82	73.13	166.66	100.00	45.00	27.65	75.00	50.00	9.71	3.49	10.74	8.92
Prowers	60.00	50.77	85.08	65.92	40.44	28.56	66.76	57.28	8.50	3.81	11.91	8.41
Pueblo	67.57	60.57	100.00	88.18	46.29	31.00	72.77	55.43	10.13	4.00	14.48	9.42
Rio Blanco	57.08	54.00	93.48	88.00	44.12	27.91	70.30	53.27	11.02	4.50	12.09	12.70
Rio Grande	73.60	64.65	110.89	105.31	40.64	25.93	70.11	58.37	10.01	3.71	14.78	8.90
Routt	69.64	57.42	84.69	77.00	43.25	34.24	71.60	58.32	10.00	4.00	12.00	9.00
Saguache	50.90	47.30	71.70	61.07	40.38	26.27	65.63	55.15	10.00	3.61	12.19	11.10
San Juan	75.34	66.41	76.12	64.23	45.22	25.00	66.63	53.58	10.25	3.69	.....	.....
San Miguel	86.90	67.32	84.63	70.60	48.00	32.69	75.60	69.32	10.50	3.72	11.62	7.59
Sedwick	63.94	56.40	97.64	84.30	41.28	28.45	70.35	50.00	9.00	.....	14.94	9.82
Suñit	79.84	64.21	75.00	75.00	56.38	29.60	75.00	60.13	10.00	10.06	15.00	14.77
Teller	57.03	53.60	94.86	104.48	44.91	27.20	70.00	56.53	.....	.....	11.05	10.55
Washington	48.66	35.82	71.29	47.39	43.46	27.20	75.41	62.43	9.25	3.51	12.54	10.09
Weid	86.96	76.57	97.76	74.66	43.59	31.00	73.77	55.36	10.54	3.68	10.05	9.07
Yuma	56.00	42.17	71.00	60.10	40.50	25.47	65.00	50.00	15.00	4.00	13.00	10.50
State	\$67.65	\$55.42	\$86.33	\$69.56	\$42.38	\$28.35	\$70.63	\$55.01	10.08	\$ 3.76	\$12.00	\$ 9.37