

**Drought Alert** - Governor's Drought Advisory Committee strongly encourages local officials to convene local drought committees.

Severe Drought - Local officials should have local drought planning efforts underway or should reconvene the local drought committee at the earliest opportunity. For recommended responses, see the Montana Drought Plan



http://nris.mt.gov/drought/

According to the National Weather Service Montana May Weather and Precipitation Report, "Overall, May had above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. The heaviest precipitation fell over the higher elevations in central Montana, with amounts exceeding 16-inches in the Big Snowy Mountains. Flooding and flash flooding was observed in Miles City on the 18th. Another wet round occurred at the end of the month. Three to nine inches of rain fell over wide portions of eastern Montana. Again, flooding was reported at several locations as the soil became saturated. Snow had largely melted out at lower elevations across the state. At higher elevations, at the end of the month Flattop Mountain had 72 inches on the ground (80), Spur Park 30 inches (36), Black Bear 31 inches (64), and Noisy Basin 55 inches (67)."

The June 10, 2013 USDA Crop Weather Report notes that, "Much of Montana had hot days and mild nights for the week ending June 9. Lewistown received the highest amount of precipitation for the week with 2.84 inches of moisture. Topsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 90 percent compared with 72 percent last year and the 5 year average of 85 percent. Subsoil moisture was 71 percent adequate and surplus compared to 69 percent last year and the 5 year average of 77 percent. The weather outlook for June 17th through June 23rd is for near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation both east and west of the Great Divide. Warm, sunny weather following the heavy rains of the last weeks of May has greatly improved range conditions and promoted grass growth. Winter wheat continues to develop behind last year with 21 percent in boot stage and 3 percent headed. Spring wheat condition is off to a good start with 59 percent and has begun to enter boot stage." Winter Wheat is rated as 32% Fair; 45% Good; and 10% Excellent.