

# ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
 November 27, 2023

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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 26, 2023

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Cotton harvest in Arizona had progressed to 70 percent complete by week’s end, falling two percentage points behind the State’s 5-year average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Arizona’s alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 4 percent of the crop rated fair. As native forages continue to mature toward vegetative dormancy, 28 percent of the State’s pasture and rangeland was rated very poor, 30 percent was rated poor, 36 percent was rated fair, and 6 percent was rated good. Reports from Navajo and Apache Counties stated that ranchers have begun to supplement their livestock’s diet in response to less-than-optimal range conditions. Reports from these counties have also stated that ranchers have moved their livestock to winter pasture for the season. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 16 percent rated very short, 2 percent rated short, and 82 percent rated adequate. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend. Following the previous week’s trend, measurable precipitation was received throughout a majority of northern as well as eastern Arizona. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, much of the precipitation received was realized throughout northern Apache County where approximately 0.6 inch was recorded. Remaining areas of Arizona received anywhere between 0.05 and 0.4 inch of precipitation. Despite its withdrawal last week, the drought information statement for southwest Arizona and southeast California was reinstated and updated on November 21. Similarly, the drought information statements for southeast Arizona as well as northern Arizona were updated on November 20 and 22, respectively, in response to below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures. According to the National Weather Service, rainfall across southern portions of Arizona has been less than 50 percent of normal over the last six months. Subsequently, drought conditions are expected to persist throughout southern and eastern regions according to the State’s long-term drought outlook. Streamflow conditions in the San Pedro, Salt, and Upper Gila River Basins continued to be well below normal. As of November 21, the U.S. Drought Monitor remained at the previous week’s levels and showed that abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 35 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) enveloped 22 percent, severe drought (D2) encompassed 29 percent, and extreme drought (D3) remained at 6 percent of the State’s total land area. Arizona once again remained free of exceptional (D4) drought. Over the past week, temperatures across southwest and northeast Arizona increased while temperatures throughout the northwest and southeast decreased according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 5 degrees below to 5 degrees above normal and ranged from the mid-40s in Coconino County to the mid- to high-70s across southwestern regions of Arizona. Overnight lows ranged from 5 degrees below to 7 degrees above normal and ranged from 15 to 40 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas counties within the Sonoran Desert experienced lows of 45 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Note:** This report concludes the weekly crop progress report for 2023. Next year’s Arizona weekly report will begin in March 2024.

Monthly reports will be released for December on January 2, 2024; for January on January 29, 2024; and for February on February 26, 2024.

Our thanks to the weekly reporters for providing crop progress observations during the 2023 season.

### CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton Harvested .....	70	62	67	72

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 .....	7.0	7.0	7.0	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	16	11	2	NA
Short .....	2	3	3	NA
Adequate.....	82	86	94	NA
Surplus.....	--	--	1	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	15	10	3	NA
Short .....	3	3	1	NA
Adequate.....	82	87	95	NA
Surplus.....	--	--	1	NA

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

**CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	1	2	NA
Poor.....	--	--	2	NA
Fair .....	4	5	7	NA
Good .....	37	37	49	NA
Excellent.....	59	57	40	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	28	30	3	NA
Poor.....	30	36	9	NA
Fair .....	36	29	50	NA
Good .....	6	5	25	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	13	NA

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero