

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF JANUARY 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By month's end, 65 percent of Arizona's barley had been planted and 64 percent of the crop has emerged, up 29 and 33 percentage points respectively from the previous year's report, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Following the previous year's trend, Arizona barley was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 33 percent of the crop rated fair. Fifty-four percent of Arizona's Durum wheat has been planted, of which 44 percent had emerged, up 26 and 25 percentage points respectively from the previous year's levels. Similarly, Durum wheat condition was also rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 8 percent of the crop rated fair. Arizona's alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 17 percent of the crop rated fair to poor. Reports from south-central and south-eastern counties stated that precipitation received throughout the month helped to improve pasture and range conditions. Sixteen percent of the State's pasture and rangeland was rated very poor, 6 percent was rated poor, 27 percent was rated fair, 44 percent was rated good, and 7 percent was rated excellent. A Pima County reporter stated that some native forages had started to become vegetatively active whereas reporters from Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties have yet to observe active forage growth. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 9 percent rated very short, 9 percent rated short, 70 percent rated adequate, and 12 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend. Throughout the month of January, measurable precipitation was received across much of the State. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), almost all areas of Arizona received 2 to 3 inches of precipitation excluding areas within or in proximity to the Painted Desert which received anywhere from 0.25 to 0.50 inch. The drought information statements for southwest Arizona and southeastern California as well as northern Arizona were withdrawn as drought conditions improved in the area, however, the drought information statement for southeastern Arizona was updated on January 23 in response to below normal average precipitation. According to the National Weather Service, Arizona has experienced several widespread rain events over the last 30 days. Despite recent precipitation, the seasonal precipitation outlook for February, March, and April of 2024 shows equal odds for either above, near, or below normal seasonal total precipitation for most areas excluding western regions where odds are slightly tilted toward wetter than normal conditions. Subsequently, Arizona's seasonal drought outlook shows that conditions are expected to persist throughout central and eastern regions of the State. Streamflow conditions in the Salt, San Pedro, and Upper Gila River Basins has declined over the last month and continues to be well below normal. As of January 23, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a deterioration in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 31 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) encompassed 29 percent, severe drought (D2) enveloped 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. Throughout the month of January, temperatures across much of the State decreased according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 5 degrees below to 4 degrees above normal and ranged from the low 40s in Coconino and Apache Counties to the mid to high-60s across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 8 degrees below to 4 degrees above normal and ranged from 15 to 35 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas southwestern counties experienced lows of 40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

Note: A monthly report for February will be released on February 26, 2024.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	65	25	36	NA
Emerg'd	64	25	31	NA
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	54	20	28	NA
Emerg'd	44	18	19	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short	9	18	--	NA
Short	9	23	12	NA
Adequate	70	59	88	NA
Surplus	12	--	--	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	8	23	--	NA
Short	8	18	10	NA
Adequate	81	59	90	NA
Surplus	3	--	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor	1	2	--	NA
Fair	16	20	5	NA
Good	30	32	38	NA
Excellent	53	46	57	NA
Barley				
Very poor	--	NA	--	NA
Poor	--	NA	--	NA
Fair	33	NA	21	NA
Good	31	NA	41	NA
Excellent	36	NA	38	NA
Durum wheat				
Very poor	--	NA	--	NA
Poor	--	NA	--	NA
Fair	8	NA	3	NA
Good	30	NA	56	NA
Excellent	62	NA	41	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	16	23	--	NA
Poor	6	31	3	NA
Fair	27	35	20	NA
Good	44	11	61	NA
Excellent	7	--	16	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero