

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
 230 N 1st Ave, Suite 302A, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1723
 Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
 April 29, 2024

Contact: Dave DeWalt
 (800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 28, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By week's end, 64 percent of Arizona cotton had been planted, and 42 percent had emerged, up 9 and 8 percentage points, respectively, from the State's 5-year average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Eighty-nine percent of the State's barley had matured, and 46 percent had been harvested, up 52 and 39 percentage points, respectively, from the previous year's levels. Arizona barley was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 5 percent of the crop rated fair. Seventy-two percent of Arizona's Durum wheat had matured, and 41 percent had been harvested, up 48 and 41 percentage points, respectively, from the previous year's levels. Durum wheat was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 9 percent of the crop rated fair. Alfalfa hay harvest continued to take place on more than 75 percent of the crop's acreage throughout the State. Arizona's alfalfa crop was also rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 7 percent of the crop rated fair. Pasture and range conditions throughout the State improved when compared to that of the previous report. Reports from southeastern counties stated that annual spring forages have begun to mature and that many warm-season grasses as well as mesquite had become vegetatively active. Pasture and range reports from northeastern counties stated that there were no significant changes from last week's observances. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 13 percent rated very short, 17 percent rated short, 60 percent rated adequate, and 10 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend.

Over the past week, measurable precipitation was experienced across northern and central regions of the State while southern areas remained relatively dry. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the San Francisco Peaks and the Defiance Plateau received the most precipitation, accumulating approximately 1.50 inches, while other areas of the State received anywhere from 0.25 to 1.00 inch of precipitation. On April 25, the drought information statement for southeast Arizona was updated as severe drought persists throughout southern Greenlee, southeastern Graham, and eastern Cochise Counties. The seasonal mean temperature outlook continues to show that temperatures are leaning above normal for much of the State apart from southwest Arizona where there are equal odds for either above, near, or below normal seasonal mean temperatures. Likewise, the seasonal total precipitation outlook continues to show equal odds for either above, near, or below normal seasonal total precipitation apart from eastern Arizona where the seasonal outlook is leaning below normal. Arizona's seasonal drought outlook shows that conditions are expected to persist throughout all areas of the State that were affected by moderate drought (D1) or higher on April 16. Streamflow conditions in the San Pedro, in addition to portions of the Lower Colorado and Verde River Basins, continues to be well below normal. However, conditions throughout the State have remained relatively static as snowpack continues to melt throughout the region. Arizona's remaining river basin's streamflow conditions continue to be rated from much above normal to normal. As of April 23, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a significant improvement in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 49 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) encompassed 22 percent, severe drought (D2) enveloped 3 percent, and for the first time since September 12, 2023, Arizona remained free of extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought. Over the past week, temperatures across much of the State increased according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 6 degrees below to 10 degrees above normal and ranged from the mid-fifties in Coconino County to the mid-nineties across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 8 degrees below to 8 degrees above normal and ranged from 25 to 60 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas counties within the Sonoran Desert experienced lows of 55 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Mature.....	89	70	37	38
Harvested.....	46	17	7	4
Cotton				
Planted.....	64	42	43	55
Emerged.....	42	13	18	34
Durum wheat				
Mature.....	72	59	24	24
Harvested.....	41	12	--	--

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	7.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	13	13	2	9
Short.....	17	12	8	9
Adequate.....	60	66	89	79
Surplus.....	10	9	1	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	12	13	1	9
Short.....	19	16	7	8
Adequate.....	68	70	91	81
Surplus.....	1	1	1	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE, AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	7	7	6	12
Good.....	34	32	58	43
Excellent.....	59	61	36	44
Barley				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	5	2	5	10
Good.....	40	34	77	65
Excellent.....	55	64	18	24
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	9	5	1	3
Good.....	27	22	41	45
Excellent.....	64	73	58	51
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	18	27	6	19
Poor.....	8	11	11	25
Fair.....	26	32	27	22
Good.....	34	25	41	30
Excellent.....	14	5	15	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero