

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2025

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By week’s end, 96 percent of Arizona’s cotton had been planted, of which 69 percent had emerged, up 6 but down 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. Cotton was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 2 percent of the crop rated fair. Sixty-eight percent of Arizona’s barley had matured, down 9 percentage points from the State’s 5-year average. Barley was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 6 percent of the crop rated fair. Sixty-seven percent of Arizona’s Durum wheat had matured, up 2 percentage points from the State’s 5-year average. Durum wheat was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 2 percent of the crop rated fair. Alfalfa hay harvest continued to take place on approximately 65 percent of the crop’s acreage throughout the State. Arizona’s alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 8 percent of the crop rated fair. Farmers from southeastern counties have expressed concerns relating to crop condition reporting that canal water can now not be utilized until June. Pasture and range conditions throughout the State improved slightly when compared to that of the previous report. Reports from eastern counties have reiterated that new growth on rangelands has been extremely minimal, herd culling persists, and ranchers continue to transport feed and water to livestock. Cattle deaths caused by the ingestion of toxic plants due to the lack of palatable species in the area have been reported. Additionally, wildfires continue to pose significant threats. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 25 percent rated very short, 7 percent rated short, and 68 percent rated adequate. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend.

Measurable precipitation was experienced across much of the State, however, southern counties remained relatively dry. According to data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the La Posa Plain and the Mohave Valley received the most precipitation, accumulating approximately 2.25 inches while other areas of the State received anywhere from trace amounts to 1.50 inches of total precipitation. Arizona’s drought information statements remained in effect in response to enduring above average temperatures and below average precipitation. The seasonal mean temperature and total precipitation outlooks for June, July, and August were issued by the National Weather Service on May 15. The seasonal mean temperature outlook continues to show that temperatures will likely be above normal for the entirety of the State, with the four-corners region having a higher probability of experiencing warmer temperatures than the remainder of the State. The seasonal total precipitation outlook now shows that precipitation will likely be above normal for the western three-quarters of Arizona while all remaining areas of the State have equal chances of receiving above or below average normal precipitation. Arizona’s seasonal drought outlook was also updated on May 15. The outlook now shows that conditions are expected to persist throughout all areas of the State that were affected by moderate drought (D1) or higher on May 13. Streamflow in most river basins remained relatively static when compared to that of the previous report. As of May 13, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a slight improvement in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) covered 1 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) enveloped 17 percent, severe drought (D2) encompassed 21 percent, extreme drought (D3) spanned 55 percent, and exceptional drought (D4) bounded 6 percent of the State’s total land area. Apart from northwest Mohave County and southeastern areas, temperatures were at or below normal according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 5 degrees below to 3 degrees above normal and ranged from the low 60’s in northern Coconino County to the upper 90’s across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 4 degrees below to 8 degrees above normal and ranged from 35 to 55 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas counties within the Sonoran Desert experienced lows of 60 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

NOTE: The Crop-CASMA (**C**rop **C**ondition and **S**oil **M**oisture **A**nytics) for Root Zone Moisture can be accessed at [www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/Arizona](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Arizona) and clicking on Crop Progress & Condition. For this data product, the root zone is defined as the top 3.2 feet of soil (approximately 1 meter).

CROP PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Mature	68	45	98	77
Cotton				
Planted	96	85	95	90
Emerged	69	51	92	77
Durum wheat				
Mature	67	46	95	65

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	6.0	7.0	7.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	25	18	11	14
Short	7	15	13	11
Adequate	68	67	68	73
Surplus	--	--	8	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	24	17	10	14
Short	6	14	13	12
Adequate	70	69	69	72
Surplus	--	--	8	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.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	8	2	7	6
Good	59	57	32	34
Excellent.....	33	41	61	60
Barley				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Fair.....	6	3	NA	NA
Good	74	70	NA	NA
Excellent.....	20	27	NA	NA
Cotton				
Very Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	2	2	3	11
Good.....	90	86	28	51
Excellent.....	8	12	69	38
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	2	3	2	2
Good	25	16	19	27
Excellent.....	73	81	79	71
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	46	31	--	23
Poor.....	45	54	5	22
Fair.....	6	15	23	22
Good	3	--	40	23
Excellent.....	--	--	32	10

NA – not available
 (--) – zero