

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Extremely dry weather across the State last week continued to degrade crop conditions and soil moisture as well as slowed crop progress, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the United States Drought Monitor released on April 5, extreme drought blanketed the northern third of New Mexico and severe drought covered the central portion. Ninety-nine percent of the State was categorized as abnormally dry or worse for the second week in a row. Overall, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 7 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 7 percent last week, 40 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 30 percent. Spring plowing and planting was noted in Union County as well as cattle being moved from corn stocks to wheat. Most counties noted the dry windy weather and swings in temperature from extremely hot to cold. Precipitation was recorded at only 4 out of 44 reporting weather stations, with every reporting weather station recording below normal levels. The largest moisture accumulation was reported at Farmington, where 0.15 inch fell. Average temperatures ranged from -5 degrees below normal to 13 degrees above normal. At the reporting weather stations, daytime highs varied from 63 degrees at Los Alamos to 95 degrees at Roswell. Overnight lows ranged from 14 degrees at Chama to 48 degrees at Truth or Consequence. Supplemental feeding continued at a high rate for both cattle and sheep while hay stocks on hand were being depleted more quickly this year compared to last. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 21 percent very short, 36 percent short, 40 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 8 percent very short, 44 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 28 percent very short, 25 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 26 percent very short, 29 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Chile				
Planted.....	34	26	46	52
Emerged	4	NA	4	NA
Cotton				
Planted.....	10	3	3	6
Onions				
Planted.....	64	56	66	87
Emerged	45	21	52	NA
Winter wheat				
Headed	4	NA	3	3
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	50	38	50	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	87	91	73	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	45	35	38	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	80	79	75	NA

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.....	6.7	6.6	5.4	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	57	53	10	32
Short.....	36	40	50	38
Adequate.....	7	7	39	30
Surplus.....	--	--	1	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	29	29	8	NA
Short.....	56	50	45	NA
Adequate.....	15	20	46	NA
Surplus.....	--	1	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	16	10	7	3
Fair.....	45	52	60	40
Good.....	37	36	33	42
Excellent.....	2	2	--	14
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	9	2	10	23
Poor.....	31	26	16	22
Fair.....	49	59	47	33
Good.....	10	12	25	19
Excellent.....	1	1	2	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	13	21	2	18
Poor.....	52	46	30	20
Fair.....	23	20	42	30
Good.....	8	11	23	26
Excellent.....	4	2	3	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	3	1	1	NA
Poor.....	9	9	3	NA
Fair.....	48	42	46	NA
Good.....	36	44	47	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	3	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	15	14	6	NA
Poor.....	16	19	15	NA
Fair.....	30	30	34	NA
Good.....	37	35	44	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

New Mexico's weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-04082018.pdf