

# 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 29, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Dry, windy conditions led to the further intensification of drought across the State, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on April 26 showed that exceptional drought (D4) had expanded to cover 9.1 percent of the State. Conditions rated abnormally dry or worse continued to blanket 99.9 percent of New Mexico. Overall, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 10 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 10 percent last week, 49 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 32 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 7 percent good to excellent, compared with 7 percent last week, 25 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 21 percent. Supplemental feeding remained heavy Statewide, with hay and natural water supplies quickly shrinking. Reports from Grant and Luna Counties noted that field mice and rabbits were beginning to eat the bottoms off of cactus for food and water, and pasture grasses were not substantial enough to support livestock. Spring fieldwork was ongoing, with row crops being planted as conditions allowed. Precipitation was recorded at 9 out of 44 reporting weather stations. The largest moisture accumulation was reported at Navajo Whiskey Creek, where 0.10 inch fell. Average temperatures ranged from -5 degrees below to 11 degrees above normal. At the reporting weather stations, daytime highs varied from 65 degrees at Navajo Whiskey Creek to 95 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows ranged from 17 degrees at El Vado Dam to 51 degrees at Santa Teresa. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light and 1 percent moderate, compared with 10 percent light and 1 percent moderate last week. There was no hail damage reported. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 30 percent light, 20 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe, compared with 27 percent light, 15 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe last week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 35 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 26 percent very short, 30 percent short, 43 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 25 percent short, and 43 percent adequate, compared with 26 percent very short, 23 percent short, and 51 percent adequate last week.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested.....	25	10	29	28
Chile				
Planted.....	68	58	86	87
Emerged .....	56	42	48	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	37	22	28	28
Emerged .....	1	NA	3	4
Cotton				
Planted.....	25	20	50	42
Emerged .....	15	1	11	NA
Onions				
Planted.....	88	80	94	99
Emerged .....	73	65	84	NA
Sorghum				
Planted.....	3	2	1	5
Winter wheat				
Headed .....	63	44	67	44
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved .....	92	87	81	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	88	91	70	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed .....	89	81	92	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	80	84	70	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 .....	6.6	6.2	6.3	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	50	59	13	33
Short.....	40	31	38	35
Adequate .....	10	10	46	31
Surplus .....	--	--	3	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	27	31	9	NA
Short.....	62	61	36	NA
Adequate .....	11	8	54	NA
Surplus .....	--	--	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	--	4	--	1
Poor .....	20	16	1	3
Fair.....	42	46	46	43
Good .....	34	32	52	40
Excellent.....	4	2	1	13
<b>Onions</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	25	29	16	12
Good .....	50	50	84	55
Excellent.....	25	21	--	33
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	13	22	3	22
Poor .....	39	36	13	22
Fair.....	41	35	59	35
Good .....	7	6	23	18
Excellent.....	--	1	2	3
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	18	17	1	22
Poor .....	53	54	14	14
Fair.....	21	17	33	31
Good .....	3	7	41	26
Excellent.....	5	5	11	7
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	2	6	1	NA
Poor .....	10	9	2	NA
Fair.....	52	52	51	NA
Good .....	31	29	43	NA
Excellent.....	5	4	3	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	12	16	5	NA
Poor .....	6	10	11	NA
Fair.....	47	38	31	NA
Good .....	33	34	52	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-04292018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-04292018.pdf)

Notice: Please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress report’s weather data table may be discontinued for budget reasons. Please contact the NASS Mountain Regional Field Office at (720) 787-3150 with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress report’s crop progress and condition data will remain and be available.