

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 MAY 6, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Despite some measurable moisture in isolated locations, drought conditions intensified, forcing livestock producers to continue feeding supplements and hauling water to their cattle, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on May 3 showed that exceptional drought (D4) had expanded to cover 10.6 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 15 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 10 percent last week, 45 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 33 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 6 percent good to excellent, compared with 7 percent last week, 27 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 22 percent. Comments from Eddy County noted poor pasture conditions, with no spring green up evident. Additionally, there has been an uptick in death loss due to shiner oak toxicity. In Lea County, some producers were beginning to consider selling their cattle. Reports from Grant and Luna Counties indicated that hay was in short supply. Spring fieldwork was ongoing, with row crops being planted as conditions allowed. The lack of snowpack in the northwest left irrigation water in short supply, with some producers noted to be out of water. Precipitation was recorded at 15 out of 43 reporting weather stations. The largest moisture accumulation was reported at Navajo Whiskey Creek, where 0.70 inch fell. Average temperatures ranged from 11 degrees below to 6 degrees above normal. At the reporting weather stations, daytime highs varied from 65 degrees at Los Alamos to 92 degrees at Redrock. Overnight lows ranged from 21 degrees at El Morro to 51 degrees at Carlsbad. A hard freeze was reported in Rio Arriba and Taos Counties during the week, with orchard losses expected to be significant. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light and 2 percent moderate, compared with 5 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, 21 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe, compared with 30 percent light, 20 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe last week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 35 percent short, 32 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 25 percent very short, 35 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 41 percent very short, 22 percent short, and 37 percent adequate, compared with 32 percent very short, 25 percent short, and 43 percent adequate last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	31	25	44	38
Chile				
Planted.....	81	68	95	91
Emerged	67	56	62	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	51	37	34	36
Emerged	11	1	7	10
Cotton				
Planted.....	40	25	63	49
Emerged	25	15	23	NA
Onions				
Planted.....	95	88	98	100
Emerged	81	73	92	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	3	NA	4	5
Sorghum				
Planted.....	15	3	2	7
Winter wheat				
Headed	84	63	81	54
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	95	92	85	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	94	88	68	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	94	89	95	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	87	80	62	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.....	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	54	50	14	31
Short.....	31	40	41	36
Adequate.....	15	10	43	32
Surplus.....	--	--	2	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	36	27	10	NA
Short.....	53	62	42	NA
Adequate.....	11	11	48	NA
Surplus.....	--	--	--	NA

NA – not available

(--)- zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	6	--	--	1
Poor.....	15	20	--	2
Fair.....	33	42	37	37
Good.....	43	34	61	47
Excellent.....	3	4	2	13
Chile				
Very poor.....	--	NA	--	NA
Poor.....	9	NA	6	NA
Fair.....	12	NA	39	NA
Good.....	53	NA	43	NA
Excellent.....	26	NA	12	NA
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	20	25	16	12
Good.....	64	50	78	46
Excellent.....	16	25	6	42
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	13	8	23
Poor.....	47	39	15	22
Fair.....	34	41	50	33
Good.....	6	7	25	19
Excellent.....	--	--	2	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	25	18	2	23
Poor.....	48	53	12	14
Fair.....	19	21	31	28
Good.....	3	3	50	29
Excellent.....	5	5	5	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	3	2	1	NA
Poor.....	19	10	2	NA
Fair.....	47	52	46	NA
Good.....	27	31	47	NA
Excellent.....	4	5	4	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	13	12	9	NA
Poor.....	5	6	14	NA
Fair.....	41	47	24	NA
Good.....	41	33	53	NA
Excellent.....	--	2	--	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-05062018.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.