

# NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE**  
 PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004  
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 July 30, 2018

Contact: Longino Bustillos  
 (800) 530-8810

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 29, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Beneficial rain fell in many locations during the week; however, hot temperatures coupled with extremely dry soils prompted quick absorption, leaving little moisture available to jumpstart grass growth in native pastures or relieve the drought stress evident in some row crops, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on July 26 categorized exceptional drought (D4) rooted across 15.7 percent of New Mexico, unchanged from last week. Severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was now reportedly covering 70.6 percent of the State, with some slight improvement evident in the extreme drought (D3) category. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse remained entrenched across virtually the whole State, compared with last year when nearly 66.5 percent of the State was classified as drought-free. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 26 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 27 percent last week, 39 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 35 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 2 percent good to excellent, compared with 3 percent last week, 31 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 29 percent. Comments from across the State indicated that rainfall continues to be spotty, with parts of individual counties still extremely dry. In Union County, reports noted that the corn crop was showing signs of heat stress, while sorghum looked good. Elsewhere, portions of the southwest need large amounts of additional rainfall to pull the area out of prolonged drought. Precipitation was recorded at 44 out of 46 reporting weather stations, with Mountainair, at 3.99 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Thirteen additional weather stations also reported rainfall totaling more than an inch during the week, with Clovis, Las Vegas, Ocate, and Pedernal receiving at least 2 inches. Average temperatures ranged from 7 degrees below to 11 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 82 degrees at Cloudcroft and Los Alamos to 108 degrees at Hachita. Overnight lows ranged from 37 degrees at Los Alamos to 70 degrees at Carlsbad. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe, compared with 1 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 10 percent light and 13 percent moderate, compared with 8 percent light and 10 percent moderate last week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 18 percent very short, 34 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 25 percent very short, 29 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 36 percent very short, 19 percent short, and 45 percent adequate, compared with 35 percent very short, 20 percent short, and 45 percent adequate last week.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	95	86	96	94
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested.....	70	50	72	71
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested.....	32	17	43	32
Chile				
Green harvested.....	15	3	14	5
Corn				
Silked.....	62	40	50	49
Dough.....	3	--	3	6
Cotton				
Squaring.....	75	52	68	81
Setting bolls.....	32	20	30	48
Onions				
Harvested.....	93	91	97	94
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	62	37	46	33
Sorghum				
Headed.....	21	10	11	10
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	76	74	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	75	76	NA	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.....	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	37	38	28	27
Short.....	37	35	33	38
Adequate.....	23	26	35	32
Surplus.....	3	1	4	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	39	31	33	NA
Short.....	41	43	31	NA
Adequate.....	19	25	34	NA
Surplus.....	1	1	2	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.....	26	32	--	1
Poor.....	1	3	10	6
Fair.....	17	12	23	32
Good.....	50	48	61	49
Excellent.....	6	5	6	12
<b>Chile</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	11	8	5	NA
Fair.....	15	15	40	NA
Good.....	48	52	34	NA
Excellent.....	26	25	21	NA
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	--	1	10	3
Poor.....	8	5	5	3
Fair.....	40	37	27	24
Good.....	37	42	41	44
Excellent.....	15	15	17	26
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	7	2
Poor.....	13	15	4	12
Fair.....	53	47	52	42
Good.....	31	31	31	32
Excellent.....	3	7	6	12
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	21	23	5	15
Poor.....	48	46	23	22
Fair.....	29	28	41	34
Good.....	2	3	28	25
Excellent.....	--	--	3	4
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	1	3	--	1
Poor.....	12	21	5	10
Fair.....	51	42	70	71
Good.....	36	34	25	17
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	2	1
Poor.....	--	--	2	1
Fair.....	4	4	5	21
Good.....	70	77	79	56
Excellent.....	26	19	12	21
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	13	3
Poor.....	10	5	10	9
Fair.....	56	59	52	46
Good.....	30	33	23	40
Excellent.....	4	3	2	2
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	3	3	--	NA
Poor.....	20	21	1	NA
Fair.....	49	44	31	NA
Good.....	28	26	57	NA
Excellent.....	--	6	11	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	15	10	5	NA
Poor.....	10	7	6	NA
Fair.....	30	35	24	NA
Good.....	40	40	61	NA
Excellent.....	5	8	4	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-07292018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-07292018.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.