

# 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  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 12, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Monsoonal moisture continued to fall across New Mexico, although weekly totals remained below average in most places, doing little to reverse the prolonged drought evident since last year, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. While some improvement was seen in certain row crop condition ratings, comments indicated that numerous fields exhibited signs of stress. Reports indicated that producers had started seeding the 2018 winter wheat crop despite less than adequate soil moisture, though progress was limited. The United States Drought Monitor released on August 9 categorized exceptional drought (D4) rooted across 14.5 percent of New Mexico, down 1 percent from last week. Severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was now reportedly covering 54.0 percent of the State, down slightly from last week as a larger percentage of the State was classified in the moderate drought (D1) category. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse remained entrenched across 100 percent of the State, compared with last year when 98.7 percent of the State was classified as drought-free. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 26 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 25 percent last week, 82 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 46 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 5 percent good to excellent, compared with 4 percent last week, 37 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 29 percent. Precipitation was recorded at 41 out of 46 reporting weather stations, with Portales, at 1.73 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Capulin, Cloudcroft, Clovis, Raton, and Santa Teresa had notable rainfall with totals over an inch during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degrees below to 5 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 79 degrees at Los Alamos to 104 degrees at Hachita. Overnight lows ranged from 33 degrees at Angel Fire to 65 degrees at Carlsbad and NMSU. Pecan nut set was reported as 70 percent light, 28 percent moderate, and 2 percent heavy, compared with 79 percent light, 19 percent moderate, and 2 percent heavy last week. 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 5 percent light and 6 percent moderate, compared with 7 percent light and 11 percent moderate last week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 14 percent very short, 27 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 30 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 30 percent very short, 20 percent short, and 50 percent adequate, compared with 35 percent very short, 23 percent short, 41 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

| Commodity                               | Current week<br>(percent) | Previous week<br>(percent) | Previous year<br>(percent) | 5-year average<br>(percent) |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alfalfa hay                             |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested ..... | 90                        | 80                         | 91                         | 87                          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested ..... | 53                        | 42                         | 58                         | 54                          |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested ..... | 19                        | 9                          | 20                         | 14                          |
| Chile                                   |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Green harvested.....                    | 43                        | 27                         | 29                         | 17                          |
| Corn                                    |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Silked .....                            | 91                        | 77                         | 77                         | 80                          |
| Dough.....                              | 22                        | 8                          | 20                         | 25                          |
| Dented .....                            | 1                         | NA                         | 1                          | 4                           |
| Harvested for silage.....               | 3                         | NA                         | 8                          | 6                           |
| Cotton                                  |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Squaring .....                          | 85                        | 81                         | 86                         | 93                          |
| Setting bolls.....                      | 52                        | 47                         | 46                         | 64                          |
| Peanuts                                 |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Pegging.....                            | 92                        | 84                         | 76                         | 56                          |
| Sorghum                                 |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Headed .....                            | 45                        | 40                         | 33                         | 27                          |
| Turning color.....                      | 6                         | 1                          | 5                          | 3                           |
| Cattle and calves                       |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Receiving supplemental feed.....        | 68                        | 71                         | NA                         | NA                          |
| Sheep and lambs                         |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Receiving supplemental feed.....        | 67                        | 70                         | 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 ..... | 6.8          | 6.9           | 3.9           | 6.1            |
| Topsoil moisture                  | (percent)    | (percent)     | (percent)     | (percent)      |
| Very short.....                   | 40           | 38            | 3             | 18             |
| Short.....                        | 34           | 37            | 15            | 36             |
| Adequate .....                    | 25           | 23            | 67            | 42             |
| Surplus .....                     | 1            | 2             | 15            | 4              |
| Subsoil moisture                  |              |               |               |                |
| Very short.....                   | 35           | 35            | 5             | NA             |
| Short.....                        | 42           | 42            | 23            | NA             |
| Adequate .....                    | 22           | 21            | 70            | NA             |
| Surplus .....                     | 1            | 2             | 2             | NA             |

NA – not available

(--) – zero

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

| Commodity                | Current week<br>(percent) | Previous week<br>(percent) | Previous year<br>(percent) | 5-year average<br>(percent) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Alfalfa hay</b>       |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | 15                        | 20                         | --                         | 1                           |
| Poor.....                | 3                         | 1                          | 13                         | 6                           |
| Fair.....                | 21                        | 17                         | 13                         | 27                          |
| Good.....                | 57                        | 56                         | 68                         | 55                          |
| Excellent.....           | 4                         | 6                          | 6                          | 11                          |
| <b>Chile</b>             |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | --                        | --                         | 1                          | NA                          |
| Poor.....                | 7                         | 9                          | 4                          | NA                          |
| Fair.....                | 22                        | 15                         | 47                         | NA                          |
| Good.....                | 38                        | 47                         | 37                         | NA                          |
| Excellent.....           | 33                        | 29                         | 11                         | NA                          |
| <b>Corn</b>              |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | --                        | 1                          | 5                          | 2                           |
| Poor.....                | 3                         | 3                          | 7                          | 3                           |
| Fair.....                | 30                        | 36                         | 17                         | 23                          |
| Good.....                | 49                        | 40                         | 50                         | 45                          |
| Excellent.....           | 18                        | 20                         | 21                         | 27                          |
| <b>Cotton</b>            |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | --                        | --                         | 7                          | 2                           |
| Poor.....                | 11                        | 12                         | 6                          | 9                           |
| Fair.....                | 40                        | 45                         | 30                         | 35                          |
| Good.....                | 43                        | 39                         | 48                         | 38                          |
| Excellent.....           | 6                         | 4                          | 9                          | 16                          |
| <b>Pasture and range</b> |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | 24                        | 21                         | 4                          | 12                          |
| Poor.....                | 37                        | 39                         | 25                         | 24                          |
| Fair.....                | 34                        | 36                         | 34                         | 35                          |
| Good.....                | 5                         | 4                          | 28                         | 24                          |
| Excellent.....           | --                        | --                         | 9                          | 5                           |
| <b>Peanuts</b>           |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | 2                         | 4                          | --                         | 1                           |
| Poor.....                | 22                        | 15                         | 8                          | 8                           |
| Fair.....                | 46                        | 50                         | 70                         | 70                          |
| Good.....                | 30                        | 31                         | 22                         | 20                          |
| Excellent.....           | --                        | --                         | --                         | 1                           |
| <b>Pecans</b>            |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | --                        | --                         | 2                          | --                          |
| Poor.....                | --                        | --                         | 2                          | 1                           |
| Fair.....                | 4                         | 4                          | 6                          | 15                          |
| Good.....                | 64                        | 70                         | 79                         | 58                          |
| Excellent.....           | 32                        | 26                         | 11                         | 26                          |
| <b>Sorghum</b>           |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | --                        | --                         | 9                          | 2                           |
| Poor.....                | 5                         | 10                         | 7                          | 6                           |
| Fair.....                | 51                        | 55                         | 40                         | 41                          |
| Good.....                | 39                        | 30                         | 41                         | 47                          |
| Excellent.....           | 5                         | 5                          | 3                          | 4                           |
| <b>Cattle and calves</b> |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | 2                         | 3                          | 1                          | NA                          |
| Poor.....                | 11                        | 15                         | 2                          | NA                          |
| Fair.....                | 50                        | 53                         | 31                         | NA                          |
| Good.....                | 32                        | 27                         | 58                         | NA                          |
| Excellent.....           | 5                         | 2                          | 8                          | NA                          |
| <b>Sheep and lambs</b>   |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Very poor.....           | 20                        | 20                         | 6                          | NA                          |
| Poor.....                | 5                         | 5                          | 6                          | NA                          |
| Fair.....                | 32                        | 30                         | 26                         | NA                          |
| Good.....                | 42                        | 45                         | 56                         | NA                          |
| Excellent.....           | 1                         | --                         | 6                          | 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-08122018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-08122018.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.