

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 AUGUST 26, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Boosted by a stronger monsoon, rainfall was more widespread during the week, benefitting row crops and pasture grasses in some areas, while other locations still needed additional moisture to reverse the prolonged drought conditions, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on August 23 categorized exceptional drought (D4) rooted across 14.5 percent of New Mexico, unchanged from last week. Severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was reportedly covering 49.7 percent of the State, down 2.6 percent from last week, with 28.2 percent and 21.5 percent categorized as D2 and D3, respectively. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were entrenched across 99.8 percent of the State, compared with last year when 100 percent of the State was classified as drought-free. Of note, the extreme southeastern corner was the only representation of drought-free soil in the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 35 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 30 percent last week, 85 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 47 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 9 percent good to excellent, compared with 6 percent last week, 46 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 33 percent. Union County reports noted that the corn and sorghum crops had improved with the recent rainfall, while wheat producers were beginning to seed their fields. In Curry County, comments indicated that some ranchers had already sold some livestock and were contemplating further herd reductions, as others continued to evaluate their grazing lands to determine if adequate feedstuffs would be available. Precipitation was recorded at all 46 reporting weather stations, with Quemado, at 1.99 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Three additional weather stations reported rainfall totals over an inch during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 11 degrees below to 3 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 73 degrees at Los Alamos to 100 degrees at Roswell. Overnight lows ranged from 36 degrees at Angel Fire to 67 degrees at NMSU. Pecan nut set was reported as 60 percent light and 40 percent moderate. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 60 percent adequate. Stock water supplies were reported as 16 percent very short, 24 percent short, 59 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 th cutting harvested	74	65	74	73
5 th cutting harvested	32	24	37	32
Chile				
Green harvested.....	54	50	47	42
Corn				
Doughed.....	68	41	49	54
Dented.....	26	9	19	19
Harvested for silage.....	27	18	17	22
Cotton				
Squaring.....	96	94	95	97
Setting bolls.....	68	62	71	82
Bolls opening.....	9	1	4	15
Sorghum				
Headed.....	76	63	56	55
Turning color.....	37	25	32	16
Mature.....	1	1	--	--
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	11	2	3	1
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	55	63	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	51	59	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	6.3	4.2	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	30	35	3	17
Short.....	35	35	12	36
Adequate	33	28	73	43
Surplus	2	2	12	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	34	34	1	NA
Short.....	40	46	18	NA
Adequate	24	18	74	NA
Surplus	2	2	7	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.....	10	6	1	2
Poor	8	9	14	7
Fair.....	25	20	15	29
Good	52	60	60	50
Excellent.....	5	5	10	12
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	2	4	2
Poor	6	4	4	3
Fair.....	32	31	27	29
Good	46	44	43	40
Excellent.....	15	19	22	26
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor	15	12	8	10
Fair.....	29	32	44	36
Good	49	51	38	40
Excellent.....	7	5	9	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	10	18	2	10
Poor	43	41	21	22
Fair.....	38	35	31	35
Good	8	5	36	27
Excellent.....	1	1	10	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor	18	13	4	7
Fair.....	52	51	57	68
Good	30	36	39	23
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	3	1
Poor	5	3	4	1
Fair.....	6	7	5	19
Good	69	65	69	57
Excellent.....	20	25	19	22
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	--	--	4	1
Poor	3	5	2	6
Fair.....	43	45	41	42
Good	51	46	39	45
Excellent.....	3	4	14	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	--	2	1	NA
Poor	9	7	1	NA
Fair.....	45	49	30	NA
Good	39	37	56	NA
Excellent.....	7	5	12	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	15	18	3	NA
Poor	1	6	5	NA
Fair.....	37	32	25	NA
Good	45	42	59	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	8	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-08262018.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.