

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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Contact: Longino Bustillos
 (800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cooler temperatures coupled with additional rainfall in certain areas during the week allowed for some improvement in soil moisture levels, pasture grass availability, and row crop conditions, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Despite the appearance of widespread moisture, there were many locations that continued to suffer from prolonged dryness. The United States Drought Monitor released on September 6 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 45.5 percent of the State, with 26.0 percent and 19.5 percent categorized as D2 and D3, respectively. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were entrenched across 99.2 percent of the State, a slight improvement when compared with last week. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 46 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 37 percent last week, 70 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 53 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 16 percent good to excellent, compared with 14 percent last week, 36 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 34 percent. Statewide, winter wheat seeding was progressing well ahead of normal as producers took advantage of recent soil moisture increases. In Union County, ranchers continued to battle water shortages, and were weaning calves earlier as a result. Comments also noted that corn for grain harvest was drawing closer. For some producers, hay harvest in Curry County was delayed by excessive moisture. Precipitation was recorded at 45 out of 46 reporting weather stations, with Los Alamos, at 1.63 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Eleven additional weather stations reported rainfall totals over an inch during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 10 degrees below to 5 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 67 degrees at Los Alamos to 94 degrees at NMSU and Santa Teresa. Overnight lows ranged from 33 degrees at Los Alamos to 63 degrees at Carlsbad. Pecan nut set was reported as 44 percent light, 48 percent moderate, and 8 percent heavy. 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 6 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 8 percent very short, 30 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 14 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 54 percent adequate.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 th cutting harvested	90	81	84	92
5 th cutting harvested	50	38	45	56
6 th cutting harvested	11	NA	16	7
Chile				
Green harvested.....	66	59	69	71
Corn				
Doughed	86	75	69	82
Dented	60	42	42	49
Mature	31	3	13	11
Harvested for silage.....	41	34	48	46
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	86	77	84	92
Bolls opening	15	13	12	30
Sorghum				
Headed	86	81	80	85
Turning color.....	60	55	69	36
Mature	3	2	4	3
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	35	24	44	17
Emerged	15	2	3	1
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	48	51	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	44	45	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	5.8	6.5	7.0	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	19	22	5	15
Short.....	35	41	25	32
Adequate	40	32	64	47
Surplus	6	5	6	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	44	36	3	NA
Short.....	32	34	30	NA
Adequate	21	27	61	NA
Surplus	3	3	6	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.....	17	15	--	1
Poor	4	5	25	9
Fair.....	16	20	20	26
Good	52	50	45	52
Excellent.....	11	10	10	12
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	2
Poor	5	7	6	3
Fair.....	35	40	25	23
Good	44	40	56	46
Excellent.....	16	13	8	26
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	2
Poor	10	10	7	11
Fair.....	29	32	28	35
Good	55	50	48	38
Excellent.....	6	8	12	14
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	15	10	1	10
Poor	30	36	22	20
Fair.....	39	40	41	36
Good	15	12	29	28
Excellent.....	1	2	7	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor	10	10	8	10
Fair.....	60	60	61	69
Good	30	30	31	19
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	1	1
Fair.....	1	4	6	12
Good	83	78	69	61
Excellent.....	16	18	24	26
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	--	--	9	2
Poor	3	6	2	4
Fair.....	48	50	39	39
Good	46	42	45	49
Excellent.....	3	2	5	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	NA
Poor	8	10	1	NA
Fair.....	42	41	29	NA
Good	34	41	63	NA
Excellent.....	15	8	7	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	5	10	2	NA
Poor	7	1	4	NA
Fair.....	32	35	27	NA
Good	54	52	64	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	3	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-09092018.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.