

# 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 SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Precipitation was scarce and average temperatures were varied, which promoted rapid advancement of harvest progress for most crops during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on September 27 categorized exceptional drought (D4) rooted across 15.5 percent of New Mexico, up 1 percent from last week. Severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was reportedly covering 44.0 percent of the State, with 27.7 percent and 16.3 percent categorized as D2 and D3, respectively. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were entrenched across 99.6 percent of the State, unchanged from last week. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 57 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 53 percent last week, 88 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 54 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 11 percent good to excellent, compared with 14 percent last week, 58 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 39 percent. Feed supplies remained a concern for livestock producers in most areas, with comments from Eddy County noting that some herds continued to be culled ahead of animals being moved to fall and winter grazing. The State's red chile harvest began during the week, although progress was well behind normal. Comments from Dona Ana County indicated that the recently planted lettuce crop had emerged, with plants approximately 2 inches tall. Precipitation was recorded at 26 of the 46 reporting weather stations, with Portales, at 0.90 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 9 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 71 degrees at Los Alamos to 97 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows ranged from 18 degrees at Angel Fire to 57 degrees at Truth or Consequences. Widespread frost was noted in Mora County. Pecan nut set was reported as 25 percent light, 60 percent moderate, and 15 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 4 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 2 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 61 percent adequate. Stock water supplies were reported as 19 percent very short, 22 percent short, and 59 percent adequate.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	85	75	62	80
6 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	39	29	37	35
Chile				
Green harvested.....	85	76	91	94
Red harvested.....	2	NA	19	12
Corn				
Doughed.....	95	93	98	98
Dented.....	82	77	84	85
Mature.....	58	48	54	50
Harvested for grain.....	4	NA	--	1
Harvested for silage.....	80	70	76	75
Cotton				
Bolls opening .....	54	37	51	59
Peanuts				
Harvested.....	6	1	--	9
Sorghum				
Turning color.....	90	87	84	75
Mature.....	34	28	32	19
Harvested.....	4	2	3	1
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	85	70	88	59
Emerged .....	69	50	44	21
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	42	61	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	54	63	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 .....	6.1	6.4	2.2	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	16	1	15
Short.....	28	31	11	31
Adequate .....	54	52	71	49
Surplus .....	3	1	17	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	32	41	--	NA
Short.....	35	26	11	NA
Adequate .....	33	32	86	NA
Surplus .....	--	1	3	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.....	15	15	--	--
Poor .....	6	3	16	8
Fair.....	11	6	21	30
Good .....	53	62	56	51
Excellent.....	15	14	7	11
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	3	3
Poor .....	2	2	4	5
Fair.....	38	37	31	26
Good .....	36	40	45	43
Excellent.....	24	21	17	23
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor .....	6	6	4	12
Fair.....	35	32	50	38
Good .....	52	58	35	36
Excellent.....	7	4	10	13
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	16	16	2	7
Poor .....	34	35	10	17
Fair.....	39	35	30	37
Good .....	10	12	46	31
Excellent.....	1	2	12	8
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor .....	18	18	5	14
Fair.....	60	52	73	65
Good .....	22	30	22	18
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	1	--	5	13
Good .....	80	89	80	62
Excellent.....	19	11	15	24
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	--
Poor .....	10	3	5	4
Fair.....	46	44	49	39
Good .....	42	47	33	48
Excellent.....	2	6	12	9
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	--	NA	NA	NA
Poor .....	12	NA	NA	NA
Fair.....	24	NA	NA	NA
Good .....	59	NA	NA	NA
Excellent.....	5	NA	NA	NA
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	NA
Poor .....	3	7	1	NA
Fair.....	31	39	30	NA
Good .....	53	44	57	NA
Excellent.....	12	9	11	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	17	9	8	NA
Poor .....	8	5	10	NA
Fair.....	27	29	23	NA
Good .....	45	54	50	NA
Excellent.....	3	3	9	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-09302018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-09302018.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.