

# 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 OCTOBER 7, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Although widespread, the precipitation accumulated during the week remained below average in most areas, which allowed producers ample time in their fields, but did little to help alleviate the dry conditions plaguing the State, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on October 4 categorized exceptional drought (D4) rooted across 15.5 percent of New Mexico, unchanged from last week. Severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was reportedly covering 44.1 percent of the State, with 27.6 percent and 16.5 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 58 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 57 percent last week, 78 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 52 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 13 percent good to excellent, compared with 11 percent last week, 54 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 38 percent. In Union County, the haygrazer and watermelon harvests were complete, while corn growers were quickly combining their crop. Comments from Curry County noted that the uptick in moisture had boosted winter wheat conditions, and some cattle had been turned out on early seeded fields. Early variety peanuts – Valencias and Virginias – were being harvested in Lea County. Precipitation was recorded at 44 of the 46 reporting weather stations, with Clayton, at 1.93 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Chama and Navajo Whiskey Creek also reported total precipitation over an inch during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 7 degrees below to 11 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 63 degrees at Navajo Whiskey Creek to 97 degrees at Roswell. Overnight lows ranged from 17 degrees at Angel Fire to 62 degrees at Carlsbad. Widespread frost was noted in Mora County. Pecan nut set was reported as 20 percent light, 68 percent moderate, and 12 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 4 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 5 percent very short, 28 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 18 percent very short, 18 percent short, and 64 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 .....	97	85	77	88
6 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	57	39	41	43
Chile				
Green harvested .....	95	85	94	97
Red harvested .....	18	2	31	18
Corn				
Dented .....	90	82	90	91
Mature .....	65	58	67	64
Harvested for grain .....	13	4	1	5
Harvested for silage .....	83	80	88	84
Cotton				
Bolls opening .....	61	54	67	70
Harvested .....	1	--	1	2
Peanuts				
Harvested .....	7	6	--	19
Sorghum				
Turning color .....	93	90	86	85
Mature .....	39	34	44	30
Harvested .....	5	4	3	1
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	88	85	96	74
Emerged .....	81	69	58	42
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	42	42	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	50	54	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 .....	6.4	6.1	3.7	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	18	15	3	15
Short .....	24	28	19	33
Adequate .....	57	54	66	48
Surplus .....	1	3	12	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	31	32	1	NA
Short .....	35	35	18	NA
Adequate .....	33	33	77	NA
Surplus .....	1	--	4	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.....	19	15	--	--
Poor.....	10	6	20	8
Fair.....	13	11	16	32
Good.....	45	53	59	49
Excellent.....	13	15	5	11
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor.....	3	2	5	3
Fair.....	35	38	24	27
Good.....	44	36	54	48
Excellent.....	18	24	16	21
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	2	1
Poor.....	9	6	6	12
Fair.....	30	35	41	38
Good.....	53	52	44	37
Excellent.....	8	7	7	12
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	18	16	3	8
Poor.....	27	34	16	18
Fair.....	42	39	27	36
Good.....	11	10	43	31
Excellent.....	2	1	11	7
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	18	18	5	9
Fair.....	60	60	64	70
Good.....	22	22	31	19
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	2	1	--	15
Good.....	83	80	83	62
Excellent.....	15	19	17	22
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	--
Poor.....	8	10	3	3
Fair.....	40	46	40	40
Good.....	46	42	42	50
Excellent.....	6	2	14	7
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	NA
Poor.....	6	12	2	NA
Fair.....	18	24	17	NA
Good.....	65	59	62	NA
Excellent.....	10	5	18	NA
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	NA
Poor.....	8	3	2	NA
Fair.....	30	31	21	NA
Good.....	45	53	66	NA
Excellent.....	16	12	10	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	10	17	14	NA
Poor.....	10	8	15	NA
Fair.....	29	27	14	NA
Good.....	50	45	54	NA
Excellent.....	1	3	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-10072018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-10072018.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.