

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 14, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Measurable moisture was widespread for a second week, and average temperatures fell below normal in most locations as the number of days suitable for fieldwork dropped to 4.4, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The United States Drought Monitor released on October 11 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 39.4 percent of the State, with 26.7 percent and 12.7 percent categorized as D2 and D3, respectively. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were entrenched across 98.6 percent of the State, down 1 percent from last week. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 66 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 58 percent last week, 80 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 52 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 15 percent good to excellent, compared with 13 percent last week, 48 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. Snow was reported in Rio Arriba County, where yearling cattle were being shipped from high elevation pastures. Several ranchers in San Juan County were reported to be buying hay in bulk to prepare for overwinter feeding since there was very little green up of native pastures this fall. The first frosts of the season were noted in a few other northern counties during the week. Although the corn harvest was slowed, the above average moisture in Union County was expected to benefit the recently sown winter wheat crop. Cooler temperatures in Lea County negatively impacted the peanut harvest, and left the cotton in need of additional heat units to fully mature the crop. Precipitation was recorded at 44 of the 46 reporting weather stations, with Pasamonte, at 1.67 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. There were 8 additional weather stations that reported total precipitation over an inch during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 15 degrees below to 2 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 51 degrees at Navajo Whiskey Creek to 83 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows ranged from 19 degrees at Capulin and Raton to 47 degrees at Carlsbad. Pecan nut set was reported as 20 percent light, 65 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 5 percent light and 4 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 7 percent very short, 25 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 15 percent very short, 20 percent short, and 65 percent adequate.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
6 th cutting harvested	65	57	50	55
Chile				
Red harvested	22	18	48	30
Corn				
Dented	95	90	94	94
Mature	75	65	74	73
Harvested for grain.....	18	13	9	13
Harvested for silage.....	93	83	93	89
Cotton				
Bolls opening	66	61	83	81
Harvested.....	8	1	5	7
Peanuts				
Harvested.....	23	7	7	30
Sorghum				
Turning color.....	95	93	92	91
Mature	45	39	59	44
Harvested.....	6	5	6	2
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	91	88	99	86
Emerged	85	81	77	66
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	40	42	30	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	45	50	45	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	4.4	6.4	5.6	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	13	18	3	14
Short.....	21	24	17	34
Adequate	59	57	69	48
Surplus	7	1	11	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	26	31	1	NA
Short.....	31	35	17	NA
Adequate	40	33	81	NA
Surplus	3	1	1	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)
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	1
Poor.....	2	3	2	3
Fair.....	30	35	26	27
Good.....	52	44	56	49
Excellent.....	15	18	15	20
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	4	1
Poor.....	11	9	7	12
Fair.....	35	30	50	40
Good.....	48	53	35	36
Excellent.....	6	8	4	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	19	18	3	8
Poor.....	28	27	17	19
Fair.....	38	42	32	37
Good.....	11	11	41	30
Excellent.....	4	2	7	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	13	18	5	9
Fair.....	59	60	73	73
Good.....	27	22	22	17
Excellent.....	1	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	1	--	--	--
Fair.....	5	2	2	15
Good.....	74	83	74	60
Excellent.....	20	15	24	25
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	4	8	3	3
Fair.....	33	40	46	43
Good.....	55	46	40	49
Excellent.....	8	6	11	5
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	NA
Poor.....	8	6	7	NA
Fair.....	20	18	18	NA
Good.....	56	65	53	NA
Excellent.....	15	10	21	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	1	2	NA
Poor.....	7	8	2	NA
Fair.....	36	30	23	NA
Good.....	40	45	63	NA
Excellent.....	15	16	10	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	13	10	19	NA
Poor.....	9	10	20	NA
Fair.....	25	29	6	NA
Good.....	52	50	51	NA
Excellent.....	1	1	4	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-10142018.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.