

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
 October 22, 2018

Contact: Longino Bustillos
 (800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Temperatures dipped below average in most areas during the week, with heavy frost noted in some northern locations, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Precipitation in recent weeks has led to some improvement in soil moisture levels, while limiting fieldwork for some producers. The United States Drought Monitor released on October 18 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 37.6 percent of the State, with 30.0 percent and 7.6 categorized as D2 and D3, respectively. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were entrenched across 95.3 percent of the State, down 3 percent from last week. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 64 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 66 percent last week, 80 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 50 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 12 percent good to excellent, compared with 15 percent last week, 45 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 35 percent. Comments from Rio Arriba County indicated that because of limited water and feedstuff availability, livestock producers were having to purchase feed and supplements at higher prices, including the cost of delivery. Harvest progress in Union County was limited or stopped altogether due to rainfall and foggy conditions. In Dona Ana County, pecan producers had started harvesting the Pawnee variety, an early-type of pecan. Precipitation was recorded at 44 of the 46 reporting weather stations, with Caprock, at 1.44 inches, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 16 degrees below to 1 degree below normal. Daytime highs varied from 52 degrees at Pasamonte to 80 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows ranged from 15 degrees at Capulin to 44 degrees at NMSU. Pecan nut set was reported as 15 percent light, 65 percent moderate, and 20 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 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 33 percent short, and 63 percent adequate. Stock water supplies were reported as 11 percent very short, 27 percent short, 61 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				
6 th cutting harvested	76	65	72	68
Chile				
Red harvested	27	22	59	41
Corn				
Mature	82	75	80	81
Harvested for grain	25	18	23	23
Harvested for silage	95	93	97	94
Cotton				
Bolls opening	78	66	92	88
Harvested	10	8	12	14
Peanuts				
Harvested	34	23	13	40
Sorghum				
Mature	59	45	75	60
Harvested	20	6	12	6
Winter wheat				
Planted	96	91	100	94
Emerged	90	85	88	82
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	47	40	41	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	48	45	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	5.1	4.4	6.9	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	11	13	2	15
Short	25	21	18	35
Adequate	55	59	73	47
Surplus	9	7	7	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	20	26	1	NA
Short	35	31	23	NA
Adequate	42	40	75	NA
Surplus	3	3	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	2	2
Poor.....	1	2	3	3
Fair.....	33	30	25	23
Good.....	50	52	48	50
Excellent.....	16	15	22	22
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	3	2
Poor.....	7	11	6	12
Fair.....	42	35	42	37
Good.....	48	48	43	38
Excellent.....	3	6	6	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	18	19	4	9
Poor.....	32	28	19	19
Fair.....	38	38	32	37
Good.....	12	11	39	29
Excellent.....	--	4	6	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	4	13	7	12
Fair.....	65	59	68	66
Good.....	29	27	25	20
Excellent.....	2	1	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	1	1	--	--
Fair.....	6	5	1	16
Good.....	65	74	73	59
Excellent.....	28	20	26	25
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	--
Poor.....	7	4	--	2
Fair.....	40	33	54	40
Good.....	50	55	37	53
Excellent.....	3	8	8	5
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	3	1	3	NA
Poor.....	15	8	4	NA
Fair.....	22	20	22	NA
Good.....	47	56	55	NA
Excellent.....	13	15	16	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	2	1	NA
Poor.....	6	7	3	NA
Fair.....	45	36	21	NA
Good.....	41	40	65	NA
Excellent.....	6	15	10	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	18	13	12	NA
Poor.....	10	9	13	NA
Fair.....	23	25	15	NA
Good.....	48	52	53	NA
Excellent.....	1	1	7	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-10212018.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.