

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 APRIL 14, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Precipitation was scattered, with much of the State abnormally dry during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. With soil moisture conditions teetering on the edge of quickly falling into a dire situation, reports indicated an extreme need for additional rain or spring snow in many locations to promote winter wheat and pasture grass growth. The first evidence of corn and cotton planting was noted this week, with reports indicating that 2 percent of this year's intended acreage for both crops had been sown. Ranchers in Union County were busy branding cattle in preparation for moving them to summer pastures. In Curry County, comments indicated that some wheat fields that were seeded for graze out were showing signs of stress, so cattle were being removed. Additionally, most irrigated wheat fields in the area were being constantly watered. Elsewhere, freezing temperatures in San Miguel County damaged blooms in fruit trees. The United States Drought Monitor released on April 11 noted that the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D4 and D3), while severe drought (D2) was reportedly covering 16.1 percent of the State, unchanged from last week. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse remained evident across 53.6 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 36 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 43 percent last week, 9 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 31 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 35 percent good to excellent, compared with 42 percent last week, 10 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 23 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 23 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. There was no hail damage reported. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 32 percent moderate, and 19 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 31 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 38 percent adequate, compared with 30 percent very short, 26 percent short, and 44 percent adequate last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 14 percent very short, 34 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 20 percent very short, 25 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	6	3	1	5
Chile				
Planted.....	51	34	45	58
Emerged	1	NA	25	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	2	NA	2	5
Cotton				
Planted.....	2	--	14	16
Onions				
Planted.....	65	42	72	87
Emerged	27	12	56	NA
Winter wheat				
Headed	2	1	18	14
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	63	51	75	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	80	75	91	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	53	39	70	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	75	73	78	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.....	5.9	6.9	5.9	5.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	12	9	57	28
Short.....	52	48	34	41
Adequate.....	35	42	9	31
Surplus.....	1	1	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	26	20	29	20
Short.....	41	40	56	37
Adequate.....	33	39	15	43
Surplus.....	--	1	--	--

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.....	2	1	--	--
Poor.....	3	4	15	5
Fair.....	47	50	49	43
Good.....	47	42	34	40
Excellent.....	1	3	2	12
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	7	5	12	13
Poor.....	15	10	38	24
Fair.....	43	43	40	40
Good.....	34	40	9	20
Excellent.....	1	2	1	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	4	--	17	12
Poor.....	29	30	51	25
Fair.....	23	25	19	32
Good.....	39	32	9	25
Excellent.....	5	13	4	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	3	4	2
Poor.....	19	25	8	9
Fair.....	47	40	50	45
Good.....	24	22	34	41
Excellent.....	8	10	4	3
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	1	1	9	13
Poor.....	5	11	10	16
Fair.....	55	58	39	30
Good.....	39	30	40	40
Excellent.....	--	--	2	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero