

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
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Contact: Longino Bustillos
 (800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 26, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Below average temperatures continued their dominance across much of the State, while above average precipitation fell on the northwestern and northeastern corners, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High winds across the north damaged both wheat, and recently planted row crops, which resulted in producers with irrigation capabilities watering their crops to help limit blowing soils. Additionally, the high winds depleted soil moisture in some eastern areas, slowing both fieldwork and crop growth. Depending on location, hay producers were gearing up to harvest their first cutting, or were actively baling both alfalfa and wheat. Statewide, two-thirds of the first cutting of alfalfa hay was harvested, with the second cutting underway in some southern counties. Overall, 68 percent of the alfalfa crop was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 67 percent last year. In Lea and Roosevelt Counties, reports indicated that sporadic rainfall and dry conditions have resulted in less than ideal growing conditions for some crops. The United States Drought Monitor released on May 23 noted that the State was free of exceptional, extreme, and severe drought (D4 – D2) for the first time since December 26, 2017. Moderate drought (D1) remained across 18.9 percent of the State, an improvement of 4.1 percentage points from last week. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 35.4 percent of the State, an improvement of 4.7 percentage points from last week. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 44 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 50 percent last week, 24 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 38 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 30 percent good to excellent, compared with 32 percent last week, 6 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 25 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, compared with 1 percent light last week. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent moderate, compared with 5 percent moderate last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 17 percent light, 17 percent moderate, and 4 percent severe, compared with 8 percent light, 15 percent moderate, and 4 percent severe last week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 31 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 31 percent adequate, compared with 33 percent very short, 30 percent short, 36 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 20 percent very short, 31 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 21 percent very short, 26 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 3 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.....	66	57	61	64
2 nd cutting harvested.....	15	3	NA	NA
Chile				
Emerged	78	59	86	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	69	57	78	71
Emerged	36	21	53	36
Cotton				
Planted.....	84	69	78	74
Emerged	42	30	59	NA
Onions				
Emerged	86	73	95	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	39	15	25	36
Winter wheat				
Headed	92	89	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	45	58	86	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	38	47	85	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	6.7	6.8	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	10	54	28
Short.....	41	40	22	34
Adequate	37	45	24	37
Surplus	7	5	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	20	16	36	23
Short.....	40	37	42	32
Adequate	38	45	22	45
Surplus	2	2	--	--

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.....	1	--	16	3
Poor	1	--	1	2
Fair.....	30	33	16	29
Good	59	56	64	55
Excellent.....	9	11	3	11
Chile				
Very poor.....	2	--	--	1
Poor	5	1	7	6
Fair.....	40	37	8	27
Good	53	62	55	48
Excellent.....	--	--	30	18
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	--	--	16	11
Good	16	16	50	45
Excellent.....	84	84	34	44
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	3	2	20	13
Poor	25	32	46	27
Fair.....	42	34	28	35
Good	22	31	5	20
Excellent.....	8	1	1	5
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	1	15	13
Poor	16	10	44	21
Fair.....	37	33	22	30
Good	37	45	9	26
Excellent.....	9	11	10	10
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	2	3	2
Poor	10	16	14	8
Fair.....	40	42	44	42
Good	40	34	35	44
Excellent.....	9	6	4	4
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	1	--	13	14
Poor	5	2	4	14
Fair.....	56	52	44	28
Good	37	46	37	43
Excellent.....	1	--	2	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero