

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 AUGUST 11, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Above average rainfall was received across a larger portion of the State during the week, as warmer than normal temperatures persisted throughout the area, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Comments from a few counties indicated a slight improvement in pasture grasses, while noting that a significant amount of additional moisture was needed to support normal growth. Ranchers in several counties were still feeding supplemental rations to help maintain their herds. Elsewhere, a report from Rio Arriba County indicated that the apple crop was in good condition, and good showers were received in the high mountain areas. Many irrigated crops were reported in good condition with an adequate supply of irrigation water available. Non-irrigated crops in many areas showed notable signs of drought stress. Producers in some southeastern counties were beginning their 6th cutting of alfalfa hay. Overall, 80 percent of the alfalfa hay was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 61 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 64 percent. The United States Drought Monitor released on August 8 noted that while the State remained free of exceptional, extreme, and severe drought (D4 – D2), moderate drought (D1) had spread to now cover 13.3 percent of the State, an increase of 4.6 percentage points when compared with last week, stretching from the northwestern border in San Juan County down through Catron County. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 32.8 percent of the State, up 2.6 percentage points from last week, following several weeks of below average monsoonal moisture. Drought-free conditions were present across 67.2 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 36 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 29 percent last week, 26 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 44 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 18 percent good to excellent, compared with 13 percent last week, 5 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 29 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 8 percent light, 83 percent moderate, and 9 percent heavy, compared with 70 percent light, 28 percent moderate, and 2 percent heavy last year. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe, compared with 2 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 22 percent light, 3 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe, compared with 21 percent light, 3 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 33 percent very short, 28 percent short, 38 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 26 percent very short, 30 percent short, 42 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				
2 nd cutting harvested.....	95	90	NA	NA
3 rd cutting harvested.....	65	55	89	88
4 th cutting harvested.....	35	25	51	53
Chile				
Green harvested.....	12	10	41	22
Corn				
Silking.....	52	31	89	81
Doughed.....	2	NA	20	24
Cotton				
Squaring.....	82	76	84	92
Setting bolls.....	36	13	51	61
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	51	23	91	63

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.....	6.3	6.8	6.8	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	20	25	40	21
Short.....	44	46	34	35
Adequate.....	33	29	25	40
Surplus.....	3	--	1	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	21	30	35	21
Short.....	50	45	42	31
Adequate.....	28	25	22	47
Surplus.....	1	--	1	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.....	--	--	15	4
Poor.....	3	7	3	6
Fair.....	17	22	21	26
Good.....	66	58	57	53
Excellent.....	14	13	4	11
Chile				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	1	1	7	4
Fair.....	31	32	22	33
Good.....	61	60	38	45
Excellent.....	6	6	33	18
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	6	6	3	4
Fair.....	48	49	30	22
Good.....	31	30	49	47
Excellent.....	15	15	18	25
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	17	18	11	9
Fair.....	45	44	40	36
Good.....	27	27	43	42
Excellent.....	11	11	6	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	10	19	24	11
Poor.....	35	34	37	24
Fair.....	37	34	34	36
Good.....	16	12	5	24
Excellent.....	2	1	--	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	2	1
Poor.....	7	7	22	11
Fair.....	62	62	46	64
Good.....	31	31	30	23
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	1	1	--	--
Fair.....	8	8	4	13
Good.....	45	45	64	63
Excellent.....	46	46	32	24
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	3	4	2	2
Poor.....	10	17	11	6
Fair.....	44	42	50	38
Good.....	35	28	32	48
Excellent.....	8	9	5	6
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	6	5	20	14
Poor.....	10	12	5	13
Fair.....	37	44	32	26
Good.....	43	35	42	44
Excellent.....	4	4	1	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero