

# 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 SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Hot, dry weather continued to prevail throughout the State, with above average rainfall relegated to a few extremely isolated locations during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Comments from San Juan County noted that rangelands in the area were in dire need of moisture, while most crop and hay fields under irrigation were doing well. Cattle in the area were healthy despite a lack of protein in the available forage. Ranchers were hauling water to their herds due to the lack of natural water sources. Reports from Union County indicated some producers were busy seeding winter wheat while waiting for the corn crop to mature before harvest started. The dry conditions in the area led to several small wildfires there were a result of lightening. Statewide, the chile harvest slowed somewhat, when compared with the amount of progress seen last week. By week's end, 60 percent of green chile had been picked, behind both last year and the 5-year average. Overall, 73 percent of the alfalfa hay was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 75 percent last week, 63 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 60 percent. The United States Drought Monitor released on September 5 noted that while the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D3 and D4), severe drought (D2) was present across 2.9 percent of the State, unchanged from last week. Moderate drought (D1) expanded its hold to cover 26.9 percent of the State, an increase of 1.3 percentage points from last week. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 57.2 percent of the State, a decrease of 2.7 percentage points from last week, a result of a reduction in the area categorized as abnormally dry. Drought-free conditions were present across 43.8 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 26 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 32 percent last week, 46 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 50 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 25 percent good to excellent, compared with 27 percent last week, 16 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 32 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 9 percent light, 75 percent moderate, and 15 percent heavy, compared with 44 percent light, 48 percent moderate, and 8 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, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 3 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe, compared with 6 percent light, 3 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 30 percent very short, 38 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 33 percent very short, 36 percent short, 29 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				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	95	90	NA	NA
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	90	75	89	89
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	40	30	48	49
Chile				
Green harvested .....	60	53	65	69
Corn				
Silked .....	95	87	NA	NA
Doughed .....	57	45	84	79
Dented .....	39	25	57	46
Mature .....	12	NA	27	13
Harvested for silage .....	35	27	40	44
Cotton				
Setting bolls .....	69	57	85	90
Bolls opening .....	17	8	15	28
Peanuts				
Pegging .....	96	94	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	30	23	33	20
Emerged .....	3	NA	13	3

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 .....	6.7	6.5	5.8	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	25	22	19	16
Short .....	49	46	35	34
Adequate .....	25	30	40	46
Surplus .....	1	2	6	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	25	22	44	20
Short .....	50	51	32	30
Adequate .....	25	27	21	47
Surplus .....	--	--	3	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	--	1	17	4
Poor .....	3	4	4	9
Fair.....	24	20	16	27
Good .....	58	60	52	46
Excellent.....	15	15	11	14
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	3	--	--	2
Poor .....	8	8	5	4
Fair.....	45	48	35	26
Good .....	30	28	44	45
Excellent.....	14	16	16	23
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	2	1	--	2
Poor .....	20	18	10	9
Fair.....	43	48	29	33
Good .....	24	22	55	45
Excellent.....	11	11	6	11
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	18	16	15	8
Poor .....	28	26	30	21
Fair.....	29	31	39	39
Good .....	20	22	15	27
Excellent.....	5	5	1	5
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor .....	9	9	10	8
Fair.....	65	65	60	65
Good .....	26	26	30	25
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	2	2	1	11
Good .....	45	39	83	68
Excellent.....	53	59	16	21
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	1
Poor .....	14	13	8	5
Fair.....	50	50	42	34
Good .....	22	30	34	52
Excellent.....	13	6	15	8
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	4	1	5	11
Poor .....	8	7	7	12
Fair.....	36	40	32	24
Good .....	42	50	54	50
Excellent.....	10	2	2	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero