

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 29, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warmer-than-normal temperatures continued to dominate across the State, especially on the eastern side where comments indicated that daytime highs were hot with little to no moisture received, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Crops in irrigated fields remained in good condition overall. Crop development and maturity for corn and cotton was slow. Statewide, the green chile harvest continued at a quick pace, showing an 18 percentage point increase during the week. Additionally, the red chile harvest began during the week, with progress about one week behind the normal pace. Producers in southern counties remained busy harvesting the fifth and sixth cuttings of alfalfa hay. Overall, 63 percent of the alfalfa hay was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 67 percent last week, 68 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 63 percent. The United States Drought Monitor released on September 26 noted that while the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D3 and D4), severe drought (D2) was present across 6.8 percent of the State, unchanged from last week. Moderate drought (D1) covered 25.9 percent of the State, a slight decrease when compared with last week. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 58.0 percent of the State, a decrease of 0.2 percentage point from last week. The area categorized as being abnormally dry (D0) expanded slightly due to a lack of meaningful rainfall for areas along the northern and eastern borders. Drought-free conditions were present across 42.0 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 41 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 41 percent last week, 57 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 57 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 25 percent good to excellent, compared with 29 percent last week, 11 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 38 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 13 percent light, 60 percent moderate, and 27 percent heavy, compared with 25 percent light, 60 percent moderate, and 15 percent heavy last year. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light, compared with 4 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 8 percent light and 5 percent moderate, compared with 8 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 37 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 27 percent very short, 39 percent short, and 34 percent adequate last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
5 th cutting harvested.....	88	75	84	78
6 th cutting harvested	42	27	38	35
Chile				
Green harvested.....	92	74	84	91
Red harvested.....	1	NA	2	12
Corn				
Doughed.....	88	82	95	97
Dented.....	76	68	81	82
Mature.....	56	42	57	48
Harvested for silage.....	67	57	79	74
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	95	89	NA	NA
Bolls opening	49	36	52	58
Peanuts				
Harvested.....	2	NA	5	6
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	81	66	83	64
Emerged	44	36	66	31

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	6.8	6.6	6.1	5.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	16	23	15	13
Short.....	43	36	28	30
Adequate	40	38	54	52
Surplus	1	3	3	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	20	25	32	15
Short.....	50	45	35	27
Adequate	30	30	33	57
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.....	1	--	15	3
Poor	1	3	6	6
Fair.....	35	30	11	28
Good	51	55	53	49
Excellent.....	12	12	15	14
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	2	--	2
Poor	5	7	2	2
Fair.....	35	34	38	27
Good	30	32	36	43
Excellent.....	29	25	24	26
Cotton				
Very poor.....	3	2	--	1
Poor	12	18	6	8
Fair.....	41	47	35	38
Good	31	23	52	42
Excellent.....	13	10	7	11
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	10	12	16	8
Poor	25	23	34	18
Fair.....	40	36	39	36
Good	10	12	10	31
Excellent.....	15	17	1	7
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor	7	9	18	9
Fair.....	61	65	60	68
Good	32	26	22	21
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	1	2	1	10
Good	45	49	80	68
Excellent.....	54	49	19	21
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor	13	15	3	4
Fair.....	48	44	31	31
Good	21	21	53	55
Excellent.....	18	20	12	9
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	1	--	17	14
Poor	6	4	8	14
Fair.....	43	41	27	21
Good	38	46	45	46
Excellent.....	12	9	3	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero