

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 NOVEMBER 17, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Measurable precipitation remained elusive during the week, driving the soil moisture deficit further below normal, while allowing producers with unharvested crops ample time for fieldwork, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from the northwest indicated that ranchers in many counties were hauling water and supplemental feed to their livestock because pond water was low to non-existent, and pasture grass was not sustaining herd needs. Similarly, some ranchers were forced to wean lighter calves this year because feedstuffs were below average, and the lightweight calves were not returning as much profit at the auction barns. In Union County, cattle were being moved onto winter pastures to graze stalks, triticale, or wheat. The pecan harvest in the southeast gained speed during the week, although comments from Eddy and Lea Counties noted that many leaves still needed to fall and hulls still needed to open in some orchards before progress could really advance. The United States Drought Monitor released on November 14 noted that the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D3 and D4). An extended lack of precipitation throughout the growing season led to the expansion of dry conditions in portions of the State. Severe drought (D2) had spread to 9.9 percent of the State, an increase of 1.3 percentage points from last week. Moderate drought (D1) now covered 34.2 percent of the State, up 8.2 percentage points when compared with last week. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 73.0 percent of the State, an increase of 8.3 percentage points from last week. Drought-free conditions were present across 27.0 percent of the State, with the area mostly limited to the southeast. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 40 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 42 percent last week, 69 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 51 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 23 percent good to excellent, compared with 24 percent last week, 16 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 35 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 30 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 11 percent very short, 27 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 22 percent very short, 30 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus, compared with 8 percent very short, 25 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Chile				
Red harvested	88	85	72	76
Corn				
Mature	95	94	96	98
Harvested for grain	72	61	68	59
Cotton				
Harvested	60	41	54	56
Peanuts				
Harvested	97	94	92	86
Pecans				
Harvested	13	3	15	13
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	63	64	39	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	61	60	32	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.....	6.8	6.5	6.3	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	26	17	6	13
Short.....	34	41	25	36
Adequate.....	37	41	68	49
Surplus.....	3	1	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	25	18	11	13
Short.....	41	48	26	31
Adequate.....	33	34	61	55
Surplus.....	1	--	2	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)
Cotton				
Very poor.....	3	4	--	NA
Poor.....	26	18	13	NA
Fair.....	44	44	36	NA
Good.....	20	27	49	NA
Excellent.....	7	7	2	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	12	11	11	7
Poor.....	29	32	30	20
Fair.....	36	33	43	38
Good.....	15	15	12	29
Excellent.....	8	9	4	6
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	8	6	--	--
Fair.....	3	1	8	11
Good.....	46	44	54	61
Excellent.....	43	49	38	28
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	--	1	1	--
Poor.....	9	10	9	7
Fair.....	28	30	9	38
Good.....	43	45	36	39
Excellent.....	20	14	45	16
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	1
Poor.....	12	13	5	4
Fair.....	44	46	28	30
Good.....	22	21	51	55
Excellent.....	21	20	16	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	5	1	2	10
Poor.....	5	3	14	15
Fair.....	45	48	33	24
Good.....	44	48	51	48
Excellent.....	1	--	--	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero