

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 MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Dry conditions during the month of February depleted soil moisture supplies throughout the State, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Temperatures were above normal in western counties and slightly below normal in eastern counties. Reports noted pecan harvest was nearly complete at the end of the month. In Northwest New Mexico, conditions were notably dry and producers continued to feed hay and supplements to livestock. Limited stock water supplies meant producers were hauling in water. In Northeast New Mexico, reports stated varying amounts of precipitation were received and concentrated in eastern counties, while other areas remained dry. Cattle continued to winter on corn stalks and dryland wheat, where available. Reports stated some livestock were being pulled off dryland wheat pasture. They also stated areas with adequate moisture were waiting for warmer soil temperatures to encourage wheat growth. The United States Drought Monitor released on February 20 noted that the State remained free of exceptional and extreme drought (D3 and D4). Severe drought (D2) covered 11.8 percent of the State, unchanged from the Drought Monitor for January 30. The area classified in moderate drought (D1) – currently 16.8 percent – showed a decrease from January 30 at 20.1 percent. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 56.4 percent of the State, a 14.2 percentage point improvement when compared with the end of January. Drought-free conditions were present across 43.6 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 51 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 35 percent last month. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 24 percent very short, 22 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 16 percent very short, 32 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last month. Stock water supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 26 percent short, and 70 percent adequate, compared with 18 percent very short, 36 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last month.

Note: The next monthly report will be released for March on Monday, March 30, 2020. The first weekly report will be released on Monday, April 6, 2020.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Pecans				
Harvested.....	94	75	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	19	5	14	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	84	75	90	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	20	14	9	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	74	67	78	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short	18	32	40	NA
Short	31	33	27	NA
Adequate	50	34	32	NA
Surplus	1	1	1	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	21	35	29	NA
Short	35	42	39	NA
Adequate	44	23	32	NA
Surplus	--	--	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Winter wheat				
Very poor	10	37	6	NA
Poor	20	50	41	NA
Fair	55	10	33	NA
Good	15	3	19	NA
Excellent	--	--	1	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	--	4	1	NA
Poor	5	16	6	NA
Fair	47	41	62	NA
Good	41	27	25	NA
Excellent	7	12	6	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	1	15	--	NA
Poor	3	8	15	NA
Fair	31	25	54	NA
Good	65	51	31	NA
Excellent	--	1	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero