

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
 PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 May 26, 2020

Contact: Longino Bustillos
 (800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 24, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Trace amounts of rainfall were welcomed, although the moisture did little to improve soil or pasture conditions, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from some counties indicated that weather conditions – especially precipitation – have varied considerably from one area to another. The hot, dry weather promoted good conditions for hay harvesting. Cattle in San Juan County were reported in healthy condition; however, ranchers were actively hauling water to their herds due to empty ponds resulting from poor spring runoff. Similarly, supplemental feeding was increased by some ranchers in Curry County due to deteriorating pasture conditions. The United States Drought Monitor released on May 21 indicated that extreme drought (D3) expanded to cover 4.4 percent of the State, an increase of 3.9 percentage points from last week. Severe drought (D2) now covered 18.6 percent of the State, an increase of 2.2 percentage points from last week. The area classified in moderate drought (D1) – currently 10.4 percent – was down 1.7 percentage points from the previous week. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse were evident across 63.3 percent of the State, or roughly 76,946 square miles. The more intense drought conditions were confined to the northern half of the State; however, abnormal dryness continued to expand into additional southeastern counties. In addition to native pastures, corn, cotton, hay, sorghum, and wheat are the main crops produced in the drought-affected areas. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 22 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 23 percent last week, 44 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 41 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 16 percent good to excellent, compared with 18 percent last week, 30 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 30 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light. There was no hail damage reported. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 30 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 36 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 9 percent very short, 35 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 36 percent short, and 54 percent adequate, compared with 15 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 54 percent adequate last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	70	56	63	63
2 nd cutting harvested	22	6	12	NA
Chile				
Planted	99	93	NA	NA
Emerged	79	68	73	81
Corn				
Planted	70	58	66	69
Emerged	41	32	32	32
Cotton				
Planted	67	55	80	72
Emerged	37	25	39	47
Onions				
Emerged	96	85	82	95
Peanuts				
Planted	50	30	32	32
Emerged	17	NA	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Headed	94	89	91	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	97	93	99	97
Receiving supplemental feed	78	78	45	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	60	56	38	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	6.6	5.9	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	39	39	15	22
Short	39	38	41	37
Adequate	22	23	37	39
Surplus	--	--	7	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	39	38	20	18
Short	40	40	40	36
Adequate	21	22	38	45
Surplus	--	--	2	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	6	2	1	3
Poor	5	8	1	1
Fair.....	26	29	30	27
Good.....	50	53	59	59
Excellent	13	8	9	10
Chile				
Very poor	--	--	2	1
Poor	--	--	5	7
Fair.....	46	46	40	26
Good.....	43	43	53	47
Excellent	11	11	--	19
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	11	18	--	9
Good.....	57	57	16	39
Excellent	32	25	84	52
Pasture and range				
Very poor	6	5	3	8
Poor	32	28	25	24
Fair.....	46	49	42	38
Good.....	16	17	22	23
Excellent	--	1	8	7
Winter wheat				
Very poor	--	--	1	4
Poor	16	18	16	20
Fair.....	61	53	37	35
Good.....	18	20	37	32
Excellent	5	9	9	9
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	2
Poor	6	6	10	6
Fair.....	33	34	40	39
Good.....	51	53	40	47
Excellent	8	5	9	6
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	4	1	1	10
Poor	13	12	5	10
Fair.....	36	33	56	31
Good.....	46	52	37	48
Excellent	1	2	1	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero