

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 13, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: An early cold front brought drastically cooler temperatures and increased precipitation in the form of rain and snow to much of State, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Isolated areas accumulated over 3 inches of moisture, which slowed fieldwork for some producers. Cold overnight temperatures damaged some crops across several northern counties. Reports from a few northwestern counties indicated that ranchers were moving their livestock off of federal grazing lands early due to grass and water shortages. Additionally, hay growers noted that production totals were very low compared with normal, so many were forced to buy higher priced, out-of-state hay in preparation for winter-feeding needs. Cattle herds were being culled at higher rates and lower market prices, putting ranchers in one of the worst situations possible. In Rio Arriba County, comments noted that orchard growers were busy harvesting apples. Freezing temperatures in Union County left sorghum seed producers worried about crop damage. In the southeast, many producers were wrapping up the 5th cutting of hay. The United States Drought Monitor released on September 10 indicated that extreme drought (D3) continued to spread, now covering 32.4 percent of the State, an increase of 3.1 percentage points from last week. The area impacted by severe drought (D2) shrunk slightly to 34.2 percent, a difference of 1.8 percentage points from last week. Moderate drought (D1) covered 33.3 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness (D0) was reduced to 0.2 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 95 percent short to very short, compared with 95 percent last week, 66 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 54 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 54 percent poor to very poor, compared with 57 percent last week, 38 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 29 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 3 percent light, 76 percent moderate, and 20 percent heavy, compared with 10 percent light, 69 percent moderate, and 20 percent heavy last year. Hail damage across all crops was reported as 1 percent light. Wind damage across all crops was reported as 11 percent light, 4 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 15 percent very short, 44 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 18 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 38 percent adequate last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 43 percent short, 33 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 26 percent very short, 46 percent short, and 28 percent adequate last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	96	88	NA	NA
4 th cutting harvested	87	73	94	92
5 th cutting harvested	33	18	51	54
Chile				
Green harvested	75	60	69	76
Corn				
Silked	93	89	NA	NA
Doughed	79	72	68	82
Dented	60	48	51	56
Mature	33	14	24	20
Harvested for silage	55	31	45	51
Cotton				
Bolls opening	23	16	24	32
Winter wheat				
Planted	42	14	44	33
Emerged	22	1	16	9
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	79	72	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	75	79	NA	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	5.9	6.8	6.4	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	40	42	22	14
Short	55	53	44	40
Adequate	5	5	30	43
Surplus	--	--	4	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	40	41	20	17
Short	50	52	50	36
Adequate	10	7	30	46
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.....	2	2	--	3
Poor	5	3	2	9
Fair.....	33	30	25	24
Good.....	54	52	58	49
Excellent.....	6	13	15	15
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	1
Poor	2	1	5	3
Fair.....	40	42	40	27
Good.....	23	25	35	47
Excellent.....	34	31	20	22
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	5	1	2
Poor	21	21	18	12
Fair.....	51	55	45	32
Good.....	16	16	22	44
Excellent.....	7	3	14	10
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	19	19	13	7
Poor	35	38	25	22
Fair.....	35	31	35	36
Good.....	10	8	17	28
Excellent.....	1	4	10	7
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	--
Poor	20	20	10	8
Fair.....	33	33	65	63
Good.....	42	42	25	28
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor	4	1	--	--
Fair.....	30	28	2	5
Good.....	65	71	54	67
Excellent.....	--	--	44	28
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	10	9	1	1
Poor	11	9	16	6
Fair.....	45	44	42	34
Good.....	28	30	30	49
Excellent.....	6	8	11	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	13	13	1	7
Poor	12	10	4	9
Fair.....	25	22	34	25
Good.....	45	50	51	54
Excellent.....	5	5	10	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero