

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 27, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: New Mexico had yet another week of sparse precipitation, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Scattered showers brought minimal rain to northwestern portions of the State. However, the majority of the State remained dry, with some counties experiencing no moisture. There were multiple reports of ranchers hauling water to livestock due to low water supply. Other reports indicated ranchers weaning and selling livestock in preparation for a winter with limited feed. Comments from northern counties pointed to large temperature swings – with daytime temperatures over eighty degrees and temperatures falling below freezing overnight. Another week without substantial moisture and with above average daily temperatures worsened drought conditions in the State. The United States Drought Monitor released on September 22 indicated that extreme drought (D3) conditions increased this week to cover 34.1 percent of the State, up from 31.7 percent last week. The area impacted by severe drought (D2) increased slightly to 32.9 percent, a difference of 0.4 percentage points from last week. Moderate drought (D1) decreased to cover 32.7 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness (D0) remained at 0.2 percent of the State. Reports throughout the State continue to indicate a dire need for moisture. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 86 percent short to very short, compared with 91 percent last week, 59 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 45 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 51 percent poor to very poor, compared with 49 percent last week, 35 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 26 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 4 percent light, 64 percent moderate, and 32 percent heavy, compared with 13 percent light, 60 percent moderate, and 27 percent heavy last year. Hail damage across all crops was reported as 1 percent light. Wind damage across all crops was reported as 9 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 12 percent very short, 38 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 44 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 16 percent very short, 39 percent short, and 45 percent adequate, compared with 20 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 36 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	62	44	84	76
6 th cutting harvested	11	8	38	34
Chile				
Green harvested.....	89	85	87	89
Red harvested.....	14	1	NA	NA
Corn				
Doughed.....	93	86	86	94
Dented.....	77	70	74	77
Mature.....	54	45	52	45
Harvested for grain	1	NA	NA	NA
Harvested for silage.....	78	75	64	70
Cotton				
Bolls opening	37	33	45	55
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	67	47	77	65
Emerged	42	25	42	34
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	80	76	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	73	70	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	6.8	6.8	6.8	5.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	40	38	16	11
Short.....	46	53	43	34
Adequate	14	9	40	50
Surplus	--	--	1	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	47	38	20	14
Short.....	39	48	50	32
Adequate	14	14	30	53
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	1	1	3
Poor	6	1	1	6
Fair.....	35	33	35	26
Good.....	47	56	51	51
Excellent.....	11	9	12	14
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	1	1	1
Poor	1	1	5	3
Fair.....	32	41	35	29
Good.....	24	19	30	42
Excellent.....	42	38	29	25
Cotton				
Very poor.....	8	6	3	1
Poor	17	21	12	10
Fair.....	43	48	41	37
Good.....	26	17	31	43
Excellent.....	6	8	13	9
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	24	15	10	7
Poor	27	34	25	19
Fair.....	30	37	40	37
Good.....	12	12	10	28
Excellent.....	7	2	15	9
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	8	7	--	--
Poor	23	22	7	7
Fair.....	23	27	61	66
Good.....	46	44	32	26
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor	7	4	--	1
Fair.....	37	32	1	6
Good.....	55	64	45	65
Excellent.....	--	--	54	28
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	5	10	--	1
Poor	11	9	13	5
Fair.....	46	43	48	33
Good.....	21	30	21	50
Excellent.....	17	8	18	11
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	27	10	1	11
Poor	11	7	6	10
Fair.....	22	31	43	25
Good.....	40	49	38	47
Excellent.....	--	3	12	7

NA – not available

(--) – zero