

# 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  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 18, 2020

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** There were no reports of precipitation during the past week in New Mexico, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Average high temperatures in the State remained 6 to 12 degrees above average for this time of year. According to the National Weather Service, record high temperatures were recorded in the cities of Albuquerque, Clayton and Roswell on October 14. Reports indicate the State is experiencing hot days with cool nights and no precipitation – leading to deteriorating conditions and extreme fire danger. Worsening conditions are further indicated by an increase in the percentage of livestock receiving supplemental feed. According to the United States Drought Monitor released on October 13, all portions of the State are now classified in moderate (D1) to exceptional drought (D4) conditions. Moderate drought (D1) decreased to cover 15.8 percent of the State, down from 23.6 percent last week and severe drought (D2) decreased to cover 30.6 percent of the State, down from 31.3 percent last week. The decrease in moderate and severe drought conditions was balanced by a significant increase in extreme drought (D3) conditions. Extreme drought (D3) increased from 38.2 percent last week to cover 46.8 percent of the State this week, an increase of 8.6 percentage points. The percentage of the State in exceptional drought (D4) remained at 6.8 percent. Producers began harvesting peanuts and cotton this week, right on schedule with last year. Peanut harvest was reported at 25 percent complete, compared to 29 percent harvested last year at this time. Cotton harvest was reported at 4 percent complete, compared with 5 percent harvested last year at this time. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 92 percent short to very short, compared with 88 percent last week, 54 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 46 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 48 percent poor to very poor, compared with 42 percent last week, 46 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 31 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 2 percent light, 68 percent moderate, and 30 percent heavy, compared with 15 percent light, 50 percent moderate, and 35 percent heavy last year. There was no hail damage across all crops reported this week. Wind damage across all crops was reported as 7 percent light and 3 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 19 percent very short, 34 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus compared with 18 percent very short, 30 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 20 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 43 percent adequate, compared with 18 percent very short, 34 percent short, and 48 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 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	86	83	NA	NA
6 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	50	30	91	67
Chile				
Red harvested .....	47	39	21	37
Corn				
Dented .....	99	90	88	NA
Mature .....	80	68	80	76
Harvested for grain .....	28	14	15	15
Harvested for silage .....	90	86	86	91
Cotton				
Bolls opening .....	68	52	87	84
Harvested .....	4	NA	5	12
Peanuts				
Harvested .....	25	--	29	30
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	84	80	94	91
Emerged .....	63	58	82	79
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	76	53	55	52
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	78	62	48	53

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	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	47	41	15	10
Short .....	45	47	39	36
Adequate .....	8	12	45	50
Surplus .....	--	--	1	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	43	45	18	11
Short .....	47	41	42	33
Adequate .....	10	14	40	55
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	1	NA	NA
Poor.....	9	5	NA	NA
Fair.....	17	17	NA	NA
Good.....	51	60	NA	NA
Excellent.....	21	17	NA	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	1
Poor.....	5	3	15	4
Fair.....	16	19	42	28
Good.....	19	28	29	45
Excellent.....	59	50	13	22
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	--	2	1
Poor.....	22	18	18	12
Fair.....	56	56	49	40
Good.....	12	16	24	41
Excellent.....	5	10	7	6
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	12	15	14	9
Poor.....	36	27	32	22
Fair.....	35	36	36	37
Good.....	12	14	14	27
Excellent.....	5	8	4	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	4	--	--	--
Poor.....	20	17	9	5
Fair.....	36	45	65	66
Good.....	40	38	26	29
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	4	3	--	--
Fair.....	30	31	1	6
Good.....	66	66	55	63
Excellent.....	--	--	44	31
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	--	2	2
Poor.....	51	60	15	12
Fair.....	20	20	28	30
Good.....	9	10	48	44
Excellent.....	19	10	7	12
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	4	1	1
Poor.....	11	10	18	7
Fair.....	40	37	52	35
Good.....	23	30	24	50
Excellent.....	24	19	5	7
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	15	24	2	12
Poor.....	15	17	6	11
Fair.....	30	28	47	23
Good.....	40	31	40	49
Excellent.....	--	--	5	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero