

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 NOVEMBER 15, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Trace amounts of precipitation across some western areas did little to alleviate the lingering dryness that has plagued much of the State for a prolonged period, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – were well under 1 inch during the week, allowing producers with crops still in the field ample time for harvest. High winds coupled with the dry weather created growing concern for wildfires. Supplemental feeding continued to increase, with current levels 19 and 22 percentage points higher for cattle and sheep, respectively, when compared with last year. Ranchers were moving cattle to recently sown triticale and wheat fields, as well as corn and sorghum stubble for winter grazing. According to the United States Drought Monitor released on November 12, drought conditions worsened as precipitation totals since October 1 were less than 50 percent of normal in most areas. Abnormal dryness (D0) and moderate drought (D1) combined were reduced to cover less than 1 percent of the State. Severe drought (D2) was present across 30.0 percent of the State, an increase of 11.4 percentage points from last week. Extreme drought (D3) covered an area accounting for 55.1 percent, or approximately 66,934 square miles. The area suffering from exceptional drought (D4) doubled in size to cover 17,624 square miles, or 14.5 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 79 percent short to very short, compared with 80 percent last week, 60 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 50 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 55 percent poor to very poor, compared with 42 percent last week, 41 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 28 percent. Hail damage in across all crops was reported as 1 percent light. Wind damage across all crops was reported as 10 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 22 percent very short, 40 percent short, 36 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 21 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 3 percent adequate last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 31 percent adequate, compared with 22 percent very short, 42 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				
6 th cutting harvested	89	85	NA	NA
Chile				
Red harvested	84	79	87	81
Corn				
Harvested for grain	79	60	69	61
Cotton				
Bolls opening	95	89	NA	NA
Harvested	68	56	55	56
Peanuts				
Harvested	91	84	96	88
Pecans				
Harvested	4	3	10	13
Winter wheat				
Emerged	88	82	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	82	76	63	53
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	83	76	61	57

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.....	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	32	38	26	12
Short.....	47	42	34	38
Adequate.....	18	17	37	48
Surplus.....	3	3	3	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	42	40	25	12
Short.....	43	42	41	33
Adequate.....	13	16	33	54
Surplus.....	2	2	1	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)
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	20	12	12	7
Poor.....	35	30	29	21
Fair.....	36	43	36	38
Good.....	8	12	15	27
Excellent.....	1	3	8	7
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	5	4	8	2
Fair.....	32	30	3	6
Good.....	63	66	46	60
Excellent.....	--	--	43	32
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor.....	65	62	9	9
Fair.....	23	22	28	29
Good.....	5	5	43	43
Excellent.....	6	11	20	19
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	10	7	1	1
Poor.....	12	12	12	5
Fair.....	45	40	44	31
Good.....	25	28	22	50
Excellent.....	8	13	21	13
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	3	5	5	8
Poor.....	18	18	5	11
Fair.....	39	42	45	27
Good.....	40	35	44	51
Excellent.....	--	--	1	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero