

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
 January 3, 2022

Contact: Longino Bustillos
 (800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF DECEMBER 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Dry, windy December weather led to worsening conditions during the month, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Row crop growers used the dry weather to wrap up the chile, corn, and cotton harvests during the month. The pecan harvest ended the month behind last year's pace. Pastures in Colfax and Union Counties were bleak, with the grass eaten down to the dirt. In Union County, the first measurable moisture in four months was received on New Year's Day, with snow accumulations of 1-3 inches reported. Along with the moisture, high winds led to blizzard-like conditions. Across the State, livestock were grazing corn and sorghum stalks, recently sown winter wheat fields, and whatever pasture grass was available. The winter wheat crop showed signs of drought and grazing stress. Statewide, 41 percent of the wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 49 percent last year. During the past month, converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 8 inches to merely a trace, with some locations remaining dry. Although some precipitation data was missing, the heavier accumulations were noted in the mountainous areas of northern New Mexico. While monthly moisture totals in portions of several northwestern counties were above average, the vast majority of the State saw rain and snow totals well below normal. Average temperatures during December were warmer than normal across the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for December 28, drought was once again present across the entire State, with extreme drought (D3) noted on 20.9 percent. Severe drought (D2) was categorized across 54.8 percent of New Mexico's land, while moderate drought (D1) was present on 22.1 percent. Another 2.2 percent of the State was abnormally dry (D0). At this point, the State remained free of exceptional drought (D4). Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 9 percent very short, 25 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 8 percent very short, 31 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus on November 28. Stock water supplies were reported as 24 percent very short, 30 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 19 percent very short, 36 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus on November 28.

Note: Monthly reports will be released for January on Monday, January 24, 2022; for February on Tuesday, February 22, 2022; and for March on Monday, March 28, 2022.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Chile				
Red harvested.....	98	90	97	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	99	85	99	NA
Cotton				
Harvested.....	99	64	99	NA
Pecans				
Harvested.....	70	30	87	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	69	42	87	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	61	59	85	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	32	40	58	NA
Short.....	48	41	32	NA
Adequate.....	20	17	6	NA
Surplus.....	--	2	4	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	31	41	59	NA
Short.....	49	42	31	NA
Adequate.....	20	16	6	NA
Surplus.....	--	1	4	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pecans				
Very poor.....	10	17	--	NA
Poor.....	15	16	3	NA
Fair.....	15	7	7	NA
Good.....	45	50	90	NA
Excellent.....	15	10	--	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	5	9	15	NA
Poor.....	24	15	22	NA
Fair.....	30	23	14	NA
Good.....	25	31	28	NA
Excellent.....	16	22	21	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	5	18	NA
Poor.....	17	9	12	NA
Fair.....	33	34	36	NA
Good.....	38	35	17	NA
Excellent.....	10	17	17	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	5	13	39	NA
Poor.....	16	8	11	NA
Fair.....	30	38	18	NA
Good.....	45	39	29	NA
Excellent.....	4	2	3	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero