

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 MONTH OF JANUARY 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Precipitation since January 1 has been extremely limited for much of the State, resulting in further deterioration of not just soil moisture levels, but winter wheat condition as well, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. With a large portion of acreage represented, 69 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in very poor or poor condition due to a prolonged battle against increasingly dry growing conditions. This compares with 37 percent in very poor or poor condition at the end of December. Comments across Union County expressed that producers for all commodities were in difficult situations trying to plan for the 2021 growing season. Converted monthly moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 2 inches to merely a trace, with dryness across a few southern counties. Areas with above average precipitation were confined to northern, more mountainous counties, and the southeastern corner of the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for January 19, the entire State was suffering from moderate drought or worse, and conditions continued to worsen. Moderate drought (D1) was present across less than 1 percent of the State. Severe drought (D2) covered 17.0 percent of the State, compared with 17.3 percent on December 29. Extreme drought (D3) was present across 28.4 percent of New Mexico, compared with 29.1 percent on December 29. Exceptional drought (D4) continued to expand, and now covered 65,981 square miles, or 54.3 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 95 percent short to very short, compared with 90 percent at the end of December and 65 percent at the end of January last year. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 50 percent short, and 25 percent adequate, compared with 32 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 30 percent adequate at the end of December. Stock water supplies were reported as 20 percent very short, 49 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 38 percent very short, 24 percent short, and 38 percent adequate at the end of December.

Note: Monthly reports will be released for February on Monday, February 22, 2021; and for March on Monday, March 29, 2021.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Pecans				
Harvested.....	95	87	75	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	4	NA	5	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	94	87	75	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled	9	NA	14	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	92	85	67	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short.....	58	58	32	NA
Short.....	37	32	33	NA
Adequate	5	6	34	NA
Surplus	--	4	1	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	65	59	35	NA
Short.....	31	31	42	NA
Adequate	4	6	23	NA
Surplus	--	4	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	16	15	37	NA
Poor	53	22	50	NA
Fair.....	26	14	10	NA
Good.....	3	28	3	NA
Excellent.....	2	21	--	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	3	18	4	NA
Poor	15	12	16	NA
Fair.....	42	36	41	NA
Good	36	17	27	NA
Excellent.....	4	17	12	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	13	39	15	NA
Poor	11	11	8	NA
Fair.....	28	18	25	NA
Good	42	29	51	NA
Excellent.....	6	3	1	NA

NA – not available

(--)- zero