

# 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 FEBRUARY 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Generally, precipitation received since February 1 has been below average for much of the State, prohibiting any meaningful improvement of soil moisture levels or winter wheat condition, while keeping pressure on ranchers to provide supplemental feedstuffs to livestock at rates distinctly higher than last year, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports noted extreme cold, with overnight temperatures falling to 20+ degrees below zero in some locations. Much of the snow accumulation associated with the polar vortex was dry, providing limited water content. Statewide, 65 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in very poor to poor condition, compared with 69 percent at the end of January and 30 percent in February 2020. For the period of February 1 – February 21, converted monthly moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 3 inches to merely a trace, with dryness across a few pockets within a few northeastern and southeastern counties. According to the United States Drought Monitor for February 16, virtually the entire State continued to suffer from moderate drought or worse. Severe drought (D2) covered 17.7 percent of the State, and extreme drought (D3) remained entrenched across 28.0 percent. Exceptional drought (D4) stabilized somewhat, and now covered 65,944 square miles, or 54.2 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 86 percent short to very short, compared with 95 percent at the end of January and 49 percent at the end of February last year. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 40 percent very short, 39 percent short, and 21 percent adequate, compared with 25 percent very short, 50 percent short, and 25 percent adequate at the end of January. Stock water supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 42 percent short, 34 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 20 percent very short, 49 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus at the end of January.

**Note:** The next monthly report will be released for March on Monday, March 29, 2021. The first weekly report will be released on Monday, April 5, 2021.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved .....	14	4	19	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	93	94	84	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled .....	19	9	20	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	87	92	74	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.....	60	58	18	NA
Short.....	26	37	31	NA
Adequate .....	12	5	50	NA
Surplus .....	2	--	1	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	67	65	21	NA
Short.....	29	31	35	NA
Adequate .....	3	4	44	NA
Surplus .....	1	--	--	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 .....	28	16	10	NA
Poor .....	37	53	20	NA
Fair.....	21	26	55	NA
Good .....	14	3	15	NA
Excellent .....	--	2	--	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	12	3	--	NA
Poor .....	13	15	5	NA
Fair.....	39	42	47	NA
Good .....	31	36	41	NA
Excellent .....	5	4	7	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	47	13	1	NA
Poor .....	18	11	3	NA
Fair.....	21	28	31	NA
Good .....	14	42	65	NA
Excellent .....	--	6	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero