

# 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 WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Above average temperatures coupled with virtually no precipitation did little to improve drought conditions across the State during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Another week of high winds prevailed in many locations. It was noted that the Arch Hurley irrigation district will not release water this year due to the prolonged drought. Statewide, 13 of the 16 reservoirs across the State were less than half full, with 7 at or below 10 percent capacity. Overall, 52 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 29 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 32 percent. Farmers stayed busy planting or preparing to plant, while ranchers were branding and culling herds before spring turnout. During the past week, converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 1.0 inch in a few isolated areas to merely a trace, with much of the State remaining dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for April 13, moderate drought or worse continued its hold on the State. Less than 1 percent of the State was categorized in moderate drought (D1). Severe drought (D2) continued to cover 19.5 percent of the State. Both categories were unchanged from the previous week. Extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought remained across 26.4 and 53.5 percent, respectively, also unchanged from a week ago. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 87 percent short to very short, compared with 57 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 68 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 12 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 49 percent very short, 34 percent short, and 17 percent adequate, compared with 12 percent very short, 46 percent short, 41 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 41 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 28 percent adequate, compared with 8 percent very short, 32 percent short, 59 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested .....	5	1	15	10
Chile				
Planted .....	45	34	47	57
Emerged .....	15	7	4	19
Corn				
Planted .....	9	2	17	11
Cotton				
Planted .....	8	3	17	18
Onions				
Planted .....	52	45	61	78
Emerged .....	40	30	45	60
Winter wheat				
Headed .....	8	1	14	23
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved .....	80	65	59	71
Receiving supplemental feed .....	93	93	84	80
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed .....	80	65	60	67
Receiving supplemental feed .....	95	91	70	74

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.....	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	52	50	30	25
Short .....	35	35	27	43
Adequate .....	12	14	43	31
Surplus .....	1	1	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	58	58	32	20
Short .....	35	35	33	44
Adequate .....	6	6	35	36
Surplus .....	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)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor .....	5	2	1	1
Poor .....	2	5	1	5
Fair.....	60	64	42	47
Good.....	28	25	50	42
Excellent .....	5	4	6	5
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	28	32	10	10
Poor .....	24	30	19	22
Fair.....	39	31	51	44
Good.....	9	7	19	22
Excellent .....	--	--	1	2
Winter wheat				
Very poor .....	50	55	1	5
Poor .....	23	20	7	26
Fair.....	10	5	49	34
Good.....	5	10	32	29
Excellent .....	12	10	11	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	10	10	9	4
Poor .....	17	15	4	6
Fair.....	36	35	33	43
Good.....	23	20	48	42
Excellent .....	14	20	6	5
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	22	25	5	8
Poor .....	8	10	11	10
Fair.....	27	25	35	35
Good.....	38	35	48	46
Excellent .....	5	5	1	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero