

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 MAY 16, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Despite a week of very active storm systems across large portions of the Deep South and Great Plains, the Desert Southwest was mostly dry with New Mexico on the western edge of beneficial moisture, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High winds continued to plague portions of the State, reducing the benefits of any rainfall that was received. Reports from Colfax and San Juan Counties suggested that natural water sources remained dry forcing ranchers to haul water to their livestock. Planting continued to progress well. In Dona Ana County, the wheat silage harvest was approximately 50 percent complete. Statewide, 65 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 33 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. Comments from several counties noted that native grasses were showing signs of green up. Supplemental feeding needs remained high. During the past week, converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 5 inches in a few isolated areas of eastern New Mexico to merely a trace, with portions of many southern counties remaining dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for May 11, moderate drought or worse continued its hold on the State, with only very slight changes noted in each drought category. Less than 1 percent of the State was classified in moderate drought (D1). Severe drought (D2) continued to cover 18.9 percent of the State. Extreme drought (D3) was present across 28.4 percent of New Mexico's land, while exceptional drought (D4) remained across 52.1 percent. Exceptional drought plagued approximately 63,359 square miles of land, while extreme drought was present across roughly 34,495 square miles. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 89 percent short to very short, compared with 77 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 66 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 5 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 10 percent light, 4 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 39 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 26 percent adequate, compared with 9 percent very short, 35 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 41 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 29 percent adequate, compared with 15 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 54 percent adequate last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	55	40	54	52
2 nd cutting harvested	1	NA	NA	NA
Chile				
Planted	85	80	93	92
Emerged	56	46	66	65
Corn				
Planted	55	45	57	54
Emerged	23	14	30	21
Cotton				
Planted	36	29	53	59
Emerged	22	14	24	32
Onions				
Planted	95	90	95	97
Emerged	80	66	84	88
Peanuts				
Planted	5	--	28	18
Winter wheat				
Headed	66	56	88	87
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	93	91	92	95
Receiving supplemental feed	90	92	78	68
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	92	90	94	NA
Receiving supplemental feed	92	95	56	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	6.7	6.6	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	51	55	39	26
Short	38	34	38	40
Adequate	10	10	23	32
Surplus	1	1	--	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	60	60	38	24
Short	34	34	40	39
Adequate	5	5	22	36
Surplus	1	1	--	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	10	10	2	3
Poor	3	3	8	2
Fair.....	35	40	29	32
Good.....	42	37	53	56
Excellent	10	10	8	7
Chile				
Very poor	2	NA	--	1
Poor	8	NA	--	6
Fair.....	18	NA	46	33
Good.....	45	NA	43	46
Excellent	27	NA	11	14
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	--	--	18	10
Good.....	27	27	57	48
Excellent	73	73	25	42
Pasture and range				
Very poor	22	28	5	7
Poor	43	37	28	29
Fair.....	28	29	49	39
Good.....	7	6	17	22
Excellent	--	--	1	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	36	40	--	4
Poor	19	23	18	23
Fair.....	17	22	53	34
Good.....	13	5	20	33
Excellent	15	10	9	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	10	5	2	2
Poor	12	19	6	8
Fair.....	44	45	34	38
Good.....	19	23	53	46
Excellent	15	8	5	6
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	14	17	1	6
Poor	8	4	12	8
Fair.....	28	31	33	33
Good.....	41	40	52	52
Excellent	9	8	2	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero