

# 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 AUGUST 22, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Rainfall totals during the week varied depending on location, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from several counties in the northeast noted extremely hot temperatures coupled with high winds which led to the quick drying of soil moisture in many fields. Where rainfall has been steady, pasture grass was improving. Statewide, 40 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 44 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 37 percent. In Union County, yearlings were starting to be moved off of summer pastures, with comments noting they had gained very well. Elsewhere, peaches were being harvested in Rio Arriba County, with growers noting that apples would be picked in the next few weeks. Fieldwork in Curry County was still delayed due to additional early-week rain. Growers in the county were planning to start harvesting corn silage when they are able to get back into their fields, with most expecting very good yields. During the past week, converted moisture totals ranged from about 4 inches in a few isolated locations to merely a trace for much of the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 17, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 12.9 percent of the State, up slightly from last week. Abnormal dryness covered 7.7 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased to cover 16.8 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) rose to 39.2 percent. More significant changes were evident in extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought, with 21.7 and 1.7 percent of the State classified in the two categories, respectively. Collectively, about 28,435 square miles were still affected by extreme and exceptional drought. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 68 percent short to very short, compared with 85 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 61 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light and 3 percent moderate. Pecan nut set was reported as 1 percent none, 4 percent light, and 95 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 17 percent very short, 26 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 13 percent very short, 41 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 14 percent very short, 19 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 25 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 38 percent adequate last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	89	76	76	NA
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	58	39	55	61
Chile				
Green harvested.....	46	36	43	42
Corn				
Silked .....	89	82	79	NA
Doughed.....	52	32	48	42
Dented .....	27	19	24	NA
Mature .....	1	--	NA	NA
Harvested for silage.....	8	6	NA	NA
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	57	51	77	66
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	48	50	79	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	68	66	59	NA

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 .....	6.5	6.2	6.7	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	37	38	35	21
Short.....	31	27	50	40
Adequate .....	28	30	15	35
Surplus .....	4	5	--	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	43	43	38	22
Short.....	31	30	47	39
Adequate .....	24	25	15	37
Surplus .....	2	2	--	2

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.....	2	3	2	3
Poor .....	10	7	6	7
Fair.....	31	25	40	29
Good .....	30	35	44	53
Excellent.....	27	30	8	8
Chile				
Very poor.....	1	1	7	NA
Poor .....	10	10	10	NA
Fair.....	19	19	24	NA
Good .....	44	44	45	NA
Excellent.....	26	26	14	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	2
Poor .....	5	7	3	5
Fair.....	39	40	37	34
Good .....	32	30	34	40
Excellent.....	24	23	25	19
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	7	3
Poor .....	19	20	22	17
Fair.....	41	41	50	40
Good .....	31	30	16	32
Excellent.....	9	9	5	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	15	14	13	8
Poor .....	25	23	31	29
Fair.....	38	37	35	38
Good .....	16	16	15	20
Excellent.....	6	10	6	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	6	1
Poor .....	9	9	22	11
Fair.....	40	46	28	56
Good .....	51	45	44	32
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor .....	5	8	--	2
Fair.....	7	9	27	10
Good .....	88	83	73	61
Excellent.....	--	--	--	26
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	8	9	8	2
Poor .....	8	9	8	7
Fair.....	21	20	40	42
Good .....	47	49	35	41
Excellent.....	16	13	9	8
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	24	23	12	8
Poor .....	13	20	12	7
Fair.....	21	17	31	32
Good .....	37	35	41	49
Excellent.....	5	5	4	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero