

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 NOVEMBER 28, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: With the only measurable moisture confined mostly to areas in southwestern New Mexico, soils were dry, allowing for blowing dirt in many fields and pastures, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from Union County indicated that some wheat growers had to replant their fields because of high winds blowing seeds out of the parched soils, while the seeded crop in other fields has yet to emerge due to the poor soil moisture. Statewide, 53 percent of the wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 9 percent last year. Comments suggested that precipitation forecasts for much of northeastern New Mexico were bleak, leaving both crop and livestock producers in for a long winter full of tough choices for their operations. Statewide, row crop producers with crops still in the field were busy harvesting, with progress nearing completion for most crops. Statewide, 45 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 59 percent last year. During the past week, converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – were somewhat improved but remained extremely limited, with some heavier recordings noted in a few southwestern counties. Accumulations ranged from approximately 2 inches in portions of Dona Ana and Luna Counties to 0.1 inch or less. Average temperatures continued to be warmer than normal for much of the State. Overnight lows well below the freezing mark spread to cover a larger portion of northern New Mexico, although minimum temperatures for most areas were warmer than normal. According to the United States Drought Monitor for November 23, drought-free conditions were unchanged and virtually non-existent, with only a very small area in southern Otero County rated in the category. The persistently dry weather led to worsening conditions, with a 5.8 percentage point drop noted in the abnormally dry area. Increases of at least 1.2 percentage points were noted across the moderate (D1), severe (D2), and extreme (D3) drought categories, with 32.4 percent, 41.7 percent, and 14.4 percent reported in each, respectively. At this point, the State remained free of exceptional drought (D4). Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 10 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 8 percent very short, 31 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus, compared with 20 percent very short, 52 percent short, and 28 percent adequate last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 19 percent very short, 36 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 25 percent very short, 49 percent short, and 26 percent adequate last year.

Note: This report concludes the weekly crop progress report for 2021. Next year's New Mexico weekly report will begin in April 2022.

Monthly reports will be released for December on January 3, 2022; for January on January 24, 2022; for February on February 22, 2022; and for March on March 28, 2022.

Our thanks to the weekly reporters for providing crop progress observations during the 2021 season.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
6 th cutting harvested	95	91	96	NA
Chile				
Red harvested	90	87	92	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain	85	75	88	NA
Cotton				
Harvested	64	51	81	NA
Pecans				
Harvested	30	25	15	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	42	42	78	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	59	53	84	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.....	6.6	6.8	6.7	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	40	41	36	NA
Short.....	41	40	46	NA
Adequate.....	17	16	15	NA
Surplus.....	2	3	3	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	41	42	45	NA
Short.....	42	41	44	NA
Adequate.....	16	16	9	NA
Surplus.....	1	1	2	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	22	20	25	NA
Poor.....	23	21	34	NA
Fair.....	33	35	34	NA
Good.....	18	20	6	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	1	NA
Pecans				
Very poor.....	17	15	1	NA
Poor.....	16	17	7	NA
Fair.....	7	8	28	NA
Good.....	50	53	63	NA
Excellent.....	10	7	1	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	9	7	1	NA
Poor.....	15	14	66	NA
Fair.....	23	22	24	NA
Good.....	31	32	3	NA
Excellent.....	22	25	6	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	5	4	1	NA
Poor.....	9	9	16	NA
Fair.....	34	29	50	NA
Good.....	35	38	25	NA
Excellent.....	17	20	8	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	13	11	1	NA
Poor.....	8	6	16	NA
Fair.....	38	40	42	NA
Good.....	39	41	41	NA
Excellent.....	2	2	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero