

# 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 JULY 17, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** The monsoon delivered another week of much-needed rainfall to a wide swath of New Mexico, although total accumulations varied tremendously from location to location, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The continued moisture led to further, although slight, improvements in soil moisture levels. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 84 percent very short to short, compared with 84 percent last week, 56 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 68 percent. There was a 4 percentage point shift noted in the very poor to poor categories by week's end. While the monsoon has been strong for some areas, other locations remained dry, with crop and pasture conditions in these locales trending worse. Reports from San Juan County noted that rainfall has completely missed parts of the area, leaving pasture grass production in dire condition. Additionally, many tribal rangelands were noted to have topsoil blown into fence rows and along roadways. Similarly, comments from Union County indicated that range conditions were quickly deteriorating under hot temperatures and limited rainfall. Statewide, 53 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 58 percent last week, 41 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 50 percent. Supplemental feeding needs remained high. Producers were busy harvesting alfalfa hay, onions, and winter wheat for grain. The third cutting of alfalfa was advancing quickly in most southern counties. With the monsoonal weather pattern, lightning ignited several wildfires across the Santa Fe National Forest during the week, although a quick firefighter response led to easy containment. There was no growth of the Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak fire complex during the week, and command for the area was transferred to a Type 2 management team. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from approximately 5 inches in a few isolated locations in Catron and Cibola Counties to merely a trace in some areas. Pockets of the State were dry. Despite the rainfall being fairly widespread, total weekly accumulations remained below average for many locations. An active monsoon has helped to improve yearly precipitation in many northcentral and western counties, although total accumulations for most counties remained below average. The driest areas remained in portions of Chaves, Eddy, and Lea Counties, where precipitation has totaled 25 percent of normal or less, affecting large acreages of cotton, dry hay, and haylage, as well as large percentages of the cattle and sheep herds. According to the United States Drought Monitor for July 12, drought conditions showed an approximate one-category shift during the week, with roughly 33 percent of the State categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 11.3 and 21.5 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) increased to cover 52.7 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) was present across 13.0 percent. Abnormal dryness was noted across 1.6 percent of the State, unchanged from last week, and confined to Dona Ana and Otero Counties. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 7 percent light, 6 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 19 percent very short, 25 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 21 percent very short, 30 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 38 percent adequate, compared with 22 percent very short, 26 percent short, 51 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				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	80	70	78	78
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	12	3	24	38
Corn				
Silked.....	11	5	19	17
Cotton				
Squaring .....	35	25	43	50
Onions				
Harvested .....	77	67	62	82
Peanuts				
Pegging .....	55	33	60	36
Winter wheat				
Harvested for grain .....	77	62	81	86
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	75	75	61	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	70	70	83	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	6.6	6.4	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	40	44	20	28
Short.....	44	40	36	40
Adequate.....	16	15	39	29
Surplus.....	--	1	5	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	40	40	26	28
Short.....	46	50	45	45
Adequate.....	14	10	28	26
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.....	1	1	--	7
Poor.....	10	12	10	6
Fair.....	26	30	44	29
Good.....	48	41	29	49
Excellent.....	15	16	17	9
Chile				
Very poor.....	5	4	1	--
Poor.....	14	13	10	6
Fair.....	26	25	21	30
Good.....	48	44	42	50
Excellent.....	7	14	26	14
Corn				
Very poor.....	4	4	--	2
Poor.....	13	10	4	4
Fair.....	35	33	51	43
Good.....	15	12	31	32
Excellent.....	33	41	14	19
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	2
Poor.....	16	16	23	15
Fair.....	54	53	41	46
Good.....	24	23	27	29
Excellent.....	1	3	9	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	7	9	17	15
Poor.....	46	49	24	35
Fair.....	38	34	31	33
Good.....	7	6	20	14
Excellent.....	2	2	8	3
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor.....	7	7	9	12
Fair.....	75	75	49	54
Good.....	13	13	42	33
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor.....	7	5	8	3
Fair.....	24	22	10	11
Good.....	34	32	82	70
Excellent.....	34	41	--	16
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	2	5	4
Poor.....	22	23	10	10
Fair.....	39	34	35	37
Good.....	29	27	42	39
Excellent.....	8	14	8	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	1	17	9
Poor.....	12	15	5	7
Fair.....	32	32	21	33
Good.....	52	50	49	46
Excellent.....	4	2	8	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero