

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 31, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Seasonal monsoonal precipitation continued to fall across several counties in New Mexico and a few drier areas picked up more moisture this week compared to last, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Improvements to soil moisture levels were noted again this week. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 61 percent very short to short, compared with 81 percent last week, 55 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 62 percent. Alfalfa hay harvest continued to progress with limited reports of the fourth cutting getting underway. Winter wheat harvest was virtually complete with 96 percent of the crop harvested. Green chile harvest was also off to a quick start this week. Comments from Union County indicated several inches of heavy rain delayed fieldwork but will greatly improve pasture and range conditions. Pasture conditions across the State ranged from very poor to excellent but improvements were noted from the prior week. Reports from Roosevelt County noted that conditions remained dry. Statewide, 39 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 50 percent last week, 33 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 44 percent. Supplemental feeding needs remained high. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from approximately 3 to 3.5 inches in a few isolated locations across the State to only a trace or none in some areas. Southeastern New Mexico remained extremely dry, but northwestern counties received varying amounts of precipitation this week. The steady monsoon has improved 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 26, drought conditions continued to show some slight improvement during the week. Roughly 33 percent of the State remained categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 11.1 and 21.5 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) decreased to cover 43.7 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) increased its presence to 22.3 percent. The area noted in abnormal dryness was unchanged, at 0.8 percent of the State. Drought-free conditions maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties, at 0.7 percent. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 6 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 9 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 56 percent adequate, compared with 10 percent very short, 34 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 38 percent very short, 21 percent short, and 41 percent adequate, compared with 15 percent very short, 22 percent short, 62 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 nd cutting harvested.....	93	90	NA	NA
3 rd cutting harvested.....	35	23	51	61
4 th cutting harvested.....	1	NA	8	26
Chile				
Green harvested.....	10	--	8	12
Corn				
Silked.....	54	30	44	47
Cotton				
Squaring.....	64	56	72	76
Setting bolls.....	10	1	24	30
Onions				
Harvested.....	85	81	92	NA
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	91	84	84	62
Winter wheat				
Harvested for grain.....	96	91	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	72	72	60	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	35	65	74	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.....	5.8	6.3	6.8	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	17	35	24	25
Short.....	44	46	31	37
Adequate.....	37	19	42	35
Surplus.....	2	--	3	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	26	39	30	30
Short.....	53	43	37	39
Adequate.....	21	18	32	30
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.....	--	3	--	4
Poor.....	6	7	3	5
Fair.....	38	29	28	23
Good.....	44	52	39	54
Excellent.....	12	9	30	14
Chile				
Very poor.....	--	7	--	1
Poor.....	11	13	10	6
Fair.....	24	25	22	31
Good.....	44	52	37	47
Excellent.....	21	3	31	15
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	7	--	2
Poor.....	13	20	4	4
Fair.....	45	31	40	38
Good.....	7	14	35	35
Excellent.....	34	28	21	21
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	6	--	2
Poor.....	19	20	19	15
Fair.....	38	50	40	45
Good.....	28	24	31	30
Excellent.....	15	--	10	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	4	9	16	16
Poor.....	35	41	17	28
Fair.....	42	41	37	36
Good.....	15	7	20	15
Excellent.....	4	2	10	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	2
Poor.....	7	7	9	10
Fair.....	75	75	46	56
Good.....	13	13	45	32
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	2	--	--
Poor.....	5	5	--	--
Fair.....	22	22	10	10
Good.....	33	38	90	72
Excellent.....	40	33	--	18
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	5	3
Poor.....	13	18	8	10
Fair.....	32	38	26	39
Good.....	41	27	51	41
Excellent.....	13	16	10	7
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	--	17	12
Poor.....	1	10	14	10
Fair.....	34	36	19	30
Good.....	59	51	40	44
Excellent.....	6	3	10	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero