

# 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  
 August 15, 2022

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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 14, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Monsoonal moisture continued to fall on a large portion of New Mexico, although the rain pattern remained hit-or-miss for many of the same regions, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Generally, crop, soil moisture, and pasture conditions continue to show improvements in many locations. Comments from Union County noted that light rainfall helped to maintain topsoil moisture, as well as grass growth in most pastures. Additionally, many fields that were idle during early summer months were now being worked. Crops in the area varied drastically relative to phenological development, mostly resulting from two distinct planting timeframes. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 58 percent very short to short, compared with 63 percent last week, 65 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 60 percent. Producers across the State stayed busy harvesting hay, green chile, and onions. The harvest of alfalfa hay was well behind both last year and the average pace. Statewide, 42 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 41 percent last week, 37 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 41 percent. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from over 4 inches in a few isolated locations across the State to only a trace or none in some areas. The heavier accumulations were recorded in portions of Catron, Grant, Otero, and Roosevelt Counties, while meaningful moisture continued to miss much of Eddy County, where year-to-date rainfall totaled 25 percent of normal or less, affecting the areas cotton, dry hay, and haylage, as well as cattle and sheep herds. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 9, drought conditions continued to show some slight week-to-week improvements. Roughly 30 percent of the State remained categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 3.0 and 26.8 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) decreased to cover 35.1 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) increased its presence across 28.5 percent. The area noted in abnormal dryness increased to 6.1 percent of the State. Drought-free conditions maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties, although a slight reduction was noted to 0.6 percent. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 8 percent light, 7 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe. Pecan nut set was reported as 99 percent moderate and 1 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 8 percent very short, 29 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 24 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 30 percent very short, 24 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 13 percent very short, 20 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus 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 .....	59	40	75	79
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	16	8	37	46
Chile				
Green harvested .....	36	20	34	31
Corn				
Silked .....	79	66	80	75
Doughed .....	12	4	31	22
Cotton				
Squaring .....	83	70	97	90
Setting bolls .....	34	15	50	52
Onions				
Harvested .....	95	87	NA	NA
Peanuts				
Pegging .....	94	92	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	65	69	50	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	30	35	66	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	6.3	6.2	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	13	16	38	25
Short .....	45	47	27	35
Adequate .....	40	35	30	34
Surplus .....	2	2	5	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	22	25	43	28
Short .....	53	55	30	41
Adequate .....	25	20	25	29
Surplus .....	--	--	2	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	3	2
Poor .....	7	2	7	6
Fair.....	40	35	25	22
Good .....	45	49	35	57
Excellent.....	7	13	30	13
<b>Chile</b>				
Very poor.....	5	4	1	2
Poor .....	15	14	10	7
Fair.....	27	26	19	32
Good .....	39	37	44	43
Excellent.....	14	19	26	16
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	4	2	--	2
Poor .....	10	14	7	5
Fair.....	45	49	40	33
Good .....	6	4	30	37
Excellent.....	35	31	23	23
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	4	3	--	2
Poor .....	30	27	20	15
Fair.....	37	35	41	44
Good .....	24	25	30	33
Excellent.....	5	10	9	6
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	6	5	14	12
Poor .....	36	36	23	29
Fair.....	34	40	37	35
Good .....	15	13	16	18
Excellent.....	9	6	10	6
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor .....	7	7	9	11
Fair.....	75	75	46	52
Good .....	13	13	45	36
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	1
Poor .....	7	5	8	3
Fair.....	25	22	9	10
Good .....	35	33	83	70
Excellent.....	32	40	--	16
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	9	3
Poor .....	16	17	9	7
Fair.....	33	34	20	36
Good .....	38	40	49	43
Excellent.....	12	8	13	11
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	23	13
Poor .....	3	1	20	11
Fair.....	33	30	17	31
Good .....	60	63	35	42
Excellent.....	4	6	5	3

NA – not available

(-) – zero