

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
 September 26, 2022

Contact: Rodger Ott
 (800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Monsoon precipitation continued to be fairly widespread despite persisting La Nina conditions across the Desert Southwest, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Total rainfall accumulations varied drastically during the week, ranging from less than 5 percent to more than 600 percent of normal. Comments from Roosevelt County noted that August showers helped improve drought conditions, but September has brought a drier trend for the area. Similarly, spotty showers were noted in Rio Arriba and Union Counties, where producers were busy harvesting apples and hay grazer, respectively. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 40 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 45 percent last week, 27 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 45 percent, while 21 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 30 percent last week, 13 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 25 percent. With green chile harvest virtually complete, producers had harvested 23 percent of the red chile crop, compared with 9 percent last year. This is roughly 9 days ahead of last year. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from over 3 inches to only a trace or none across large portions of eastern New Mexico. Widespread portions of many western counties saw accumulations over 1 inch during the week. Isolated areas in several counties continued to register yearly rainfall accumulation at or below 25 percent of normal. According to the United States Drought Monitor for September 20, drought conditions continued to show some week-to-week improvement. The State remained free of exceptional drought (D4), while the area affected by extreme drought (D3) was reduced to 7.0 percent. Severe drought (D2) was categorized across 31.2 percent of New Mexico, a decrease of 8.4 percentage points from last week. Moderate drought (D1) was increased to 43.3 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) accounted for 17.6 percent. Drought-free conditions, at 0.9 percent, maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light, 4 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe. Pecan nut set was reported as 5 percent heavy, 94 percent moderate and 1 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 16 percent very short, 39 percent short, 43 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 13 percent very short, 32 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 30 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 14 percent very short, 32 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 th cutting harvested	95	88	NA	NA
5 th cutting harvested	46	34	44	63
Chile				
Green harvested	98	94	87	85
Red harvested	23	9	9	6
Corn				
Doughed	95	87	NA	NA
Dented	54	36	89	78
Mature	15	1	56	50
Harvested for silage	35	13	73	71
Cotton				
Setting bolls	96	93	NA	NA
Bolls opening	31	18	20	37
Onions				
Planted	4	--	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted	42	24	62	70
Emerged	24	9	42	42
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	45	48	30	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	21	25	45	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	6.8	6.9	6.6	5.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	15	12	34	21
Short	45	43	39	34
Adequate	38	43	23	40
Surplus	2	2	4	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	29	23	40	28
Short	51	53	37	34
Adequate	20	23	20	37
Surplus	--	1	3	1

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	1	2	3	4
Poor	5	9	10	8
Fair.....	23	25	36	28
Good	50	45	29	47
Excellent.....	21	19	22	13
Corn				
Very poor.....	4	4	--	1
Poor	10	6	4	3
Fair.....	20	18	40	35
Good	29	27	33	34
Excellent.....	37	45	23	27
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	2
Poor	31	31	19	12
Fair.....	38	38	42	42
Good	22	22	35	36
Excellent.....	4	4	4	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	8	4	9	12
Poor	32	30	28	25
Fair.....	39	36	50	38
Good	13	20	13	18
Excellent.....	8	10	--	7
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	2
Poor	7	7	9	12
Fair.....	75	75	32	50
Good	13	13	59	36
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor	4	5	7	3
Fair.....	8	10	10	11
Good	41	44	83	68
Excellent.....	46	40	--	18
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	2	5	2
Poor	6	6	7	7
Fair.....	44	36	33	38
Good	35	36	37	38
Excellent.....	13	20	18	15
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	2	--	12	13
Poor	4	2	7	8
Fair.....	38	35	45	32
Good	53	57	36	42
Excellent.....	3	6	--	5

NA – not available
 (--) – zero