

# 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 OCTOBER 9, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Monsoonal activity increased when compared with last week's weakened storms, bringing heavy, widespread rainfall to the State during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The number of days suitable for fieldwork was reduced to 5.9, compared with 6.7 days last week. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 41 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 34 percent last week, 32 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 49 percent, while 29 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 21 percent last week, 31 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 28 percent. Growers continued to harvest alfalfa hay and red chile at a rapid pace. Winter wheat seeding continued, although progress was held to 10 percentage points during the week. The first reports of corn being harvested for grain were noted during the week, while corn for silage harvest continued at a strong pace, although behind both last year and the average. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from over 5 inches in portions of Cibola, Socorro, and Torrance Counties to only a trace for areas in northwestern and southeastern New Mexico. A wide swath of rainfall ranging from 0.5 to 2 inches or more blanketed much of the State. Despite weekly rainfall totals exceeding 600 percent of normal for many counties, year-to-date moisture for large areas remained well below average. With some reduction of drought noted, isolated areas in several counties continued to register yearly rainfall accumulation at or below 25 percent of normal. Conversely, yearly precipitation for an area centered over portions of Catron, Cibola, and Socorro Counties totaled 200 percent of normal or more. According to the United States Drought Monitor for October 4, exceptional drought (D4) was reintroduced to the State, with a small percentage of land in Union County noted in the category. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 7.1 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 25.1 percent, and moderate drought (D1) decreased to 44.5 percent. Abnormal dryness (D0) was categorized across 19.9 percent of New Mexico. Drought-free conditions increased to cover 3.3 percent of the State, with some expansion noted in Dona Ana and Otero Counties. This is the largest drought-free area in New Mexico since October 19, 2021. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 3 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe. Pecan nut set was reported as 15 percent heavy, 84 percent moderate, and 1 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 15 percent very short, 38 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 11 percent very short, 25 percent short, 52 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 30 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 10 percent very short, 25 percent short, 64 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				
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	84	67	67	84
6 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	38	15	4	40
Chile				
Red harvested .....	66	37	37	27
Corn				
Dented .....	86	73	NA	NA
Mature .....	53	35	83	71
Harvested for grain .....	1	NA	4	8
Harvested for silage .....	71	53	93	85
Cotton				
Bolls opening .....	70	53	43	59
Onions				
Planted .....	23	15	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	70	60	88	88
Emerged .....	45	40	76	68
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	45	40	26	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	25	20	39	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 .....	5.9	6.7	6.7	5.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	16	18	27	19
Short .....	43	48	41	32
Adequate .....	36	32	31	45
Surplus .....	5	2	1	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	25	30	36	25
Short .....	50	50	35	32
Adequate .....	23	20	28	42
Surplus .....	2	--	1	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)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	NA
Poor .....	5	4	2	NA
Fair.....	22	20	39	NA
Good .....	54	57	44	NA
Excellent.....	18	18	15	NA
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	5	4	--	1
Poor .....	12	15	5	4
Fair.....	21	24	32	29
Good .....	29	29	30	40
Excellent.....	33	28	33	26
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor .....	28	27	19	15
Fair.....	38	38	39	45
Good .....	26	26	34	32
Excellent.....	3	4	8	7
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	4	6	11	11
Poor .....	25	32	17	24
Fair.....	42	41	41	37
Good .....	20	14	21	21
Excellent.....	9	7	10	7
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	--
Poor .....	7	7	9	10
Fair.....	75	75	32	54
Good .....	13	13	59	36
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor .....	3	4	1	1
Fair.....	3	5	1	9
Good .....	35	38	97	71
Excellent.....	58	52	1	19
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	2	1	4	2
Poor .....	6	6	8	8
Fair.....	37	44	25	36
Good .....	39	38	40	39
Excellent.....	16	11	23	15
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	--	1	5	12
Poor .....	4	4	12	13
Fair.....	38	43	34	27
Good .....	56	51	44	45
Excellent.....	2	1	5	3

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero