

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
 1050 Stewart St, Room E1200 Las Cruces, NM 88003
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Dry conditions continued throughout New Mexico during the month of February, but the State did see some improvement in overall topsoil and subsoil moisture, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Comments from across the State reported high winds. In some areas fire danger was high due to lack of moisture. Winter wheat condition showed some improvement due to receiving needed moisture, but still only had 17 percent of the crop rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 13 percent last month and 5 percent last year. Converted moisture totals during the past month ranged from a trace of precipitation to approximately 3 inches. Any significant precipitation continued to mostly be accumulated in the western counties, but most counties saw below average precipitation again during the month. Average temperatures during February were generally above normal in the southeastern part of the State, where temperatures were slightly below normal in the northwestern part of the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for February 23, exceptional drought (D4) continued its hold across a portion of land in Union County. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 3.6 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 14.6 percent, moderate drought (D1) covered 29.1 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) covered 30.4 percent. Drought-free conditions covered increased to 21.9 percent of the State. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 21 percent very short, 41 percent short, 37 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 21 percent very short, 39 percent short, 36 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus on January 30. Stock water supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 29 percent short, and 39 percent adequate, compared with 31 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 32 percent adequate on January 30.

Note: A monthly report will be released for March on March 27, 2023. The first weekly report will be released on Monday, April 3, 2023.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	6	2	15	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	79	64	89	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled	3	1	20	NA
Receiving supplemental feed.....	72	71	80	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short	17	24	43	NA
Short	33	57	40	NA
Adequate	49	18	17	NA
Surplus	1	1	--	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	21	32	47	NA
Short	42	47	40	NA
Adequate	36	21	13	NA
Surplus	1	--	--	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	1	2	NA
Poor	24	27	54	NA
Fair.....	58	59	39	NA
Good	14	12	5	NA
Excellent.....	3	1	--	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	4	NA
Poor	7	10	15	NA
Fair.....	29	46	40	NA
Good	45	33	33	NA
Excellent.....	18	10	8	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	7	11	9	NA
Poor	23	31	26	NA
Fair.....	34	37	24	NA
Good	28	20	37	NA
Excellent.....	8	1	4	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero