

# 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 APRIL 16, 2023

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Spring planting continued in New Mexico last week with 7 days suitable for fieldwork, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The percent of planted corn increased by 17 percent from the previous week to a total of 19 percent and planted cotton increased from 4 percent to 15 percent. Across the State, 72 percent of chiles were planted, and 19 percent had emerged. The National Integrated Drought Information System reported higher than average daily temperatures in New Mexico last week compared to the historical average. The northern half of the State experienced temperatures 6 or more degrees above the average. Counties in the northwest received minimal precipitation last week, less than a tenth of an inch according to the National Weather Service, and the rest of the State was dry. Reports from Union County tell of extreme wind gusts and blocked roads due to blown fields. Fire danger is high in that portion of the State. Drought conditions remained nearly unchanged last week according to the U.S. Drought Monitor: 0.21 percent categorized as exceptional drought conditions (D4), 3.97 percent as extreme (D3), 11.49 percent as severe (D2), 16.46 percent as moderate (D1), 20.59 percent as abnormal (D0) and 47.27 percent of the State categorized as drought-free. Cattle in New Mexico were reported to be in better condition than both the previous year and five-year averages and the number of cattle that received supplemental feed last week was lower than historical averages. Eighty percent of sheep received supplemental feed last week, up from 71 percent the week before. Sheep were reported to be in mostly fair or good condition, 75 percent and 16 percent, respectively. Seventy percent of cattle have calved, and 59 percent of ewes have lambed. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 16 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 14 percent light. There was no hail damage reported. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 28 percent very short, 41 percent short, 28 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 33 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 35 percent adequate.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested.....	5	1	4	6
Chile				
Planted.....	72	45	74	52
Emerged.....	19	4	22	15
Corn				
Planted.....	19	2	11	8
Cotton				
Planted.....	15	4	14	11
Cattle and Calves				
Cows calved.....	70	66	66	69
Receiving supplemental feed.....	69	76	79	85
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	59	56	85	69
Receiving supplemental feed.....	80	71	55	77

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELD WORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork .....	7.0	6.9	6.5	6.5
Topsoil moisture		(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	25	30	38	39
Short.....	40	44	42	37
Adequate.....	34	25	20	24
Surplus.....	1	1	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	29	38	38	36
Short.....	53	53	42	43
Adequate.....	17	8	20	21
Surplus.....	1	1	--	--

NA – not available

(-) – zero

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

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	15	6	2	3
Poor.....	13	11	2	5
Fair.....	49	50	10	40
Good.....	16	24	86	49
Excellent.....	7	9	--	3
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	NA	NA	NA
Poor.....	--	NA	NA	NA
Fair.....	--	NA	NA	NA
Good.....	30	NA	NA	NA
Excellent.....	70	NA	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	25	20	35	21
Poor.....	36	30	35	29
Fair.....	27	36	15	24
Good.....	5	6	5	17
Excellent.....	7	8	10	9
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	2	6
Poor.....	6	10	13	11
Fair.....	38	34	38	41
Good.....	31	35	31	32
Excellent.....	24	20	16	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	3	5	--	9
Poor.....	7	10	2	7
Fair.....	59	50	26	34
Good.....	23	30	50	44
Excellent.....	8	5	22	6
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	6	5	5	15
Poor.....	14	13	23	24
Fair.....	55	59	47	42
Good.....	15	13	24	18
Excellent.....	10	10	1	1

NA – not available

(-) – zero