

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 MAY 7, 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Spotty rain passed over the eastern half of New Mexico last week, totaling less than 0.5 inch and having minimal effect on growing and grazing conditions, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. On May 2nd the National Weather Service issued a Drought Information Statement for Santa Teresa, NM, stating that abnormally dry conditions remain in place for much of southwest New Mexico and there is an increased risk for drought redevelopment. The status will depend largely on the Monsoon onset in early July. The statement noted that the Climate Prediction Center of NOAA had issued an El Niño Watch, expecting a transition to cooler, wetter conditions by June-August. Drought conditions last week were nearly unchanged from the week before: 0.8 percent of the State moved from the severe drought category to extreme drought, according to the United States Drought Monitor. New Mexico was categorized as: 0.2 percent exceptional drought conditions (D4), 4.8 percent extreme (D3), 11.2 percent severe (D2), 15.9 percent moderate (D1), 21.3 percent abnormal (D0) and 46.6 percent of the State categorized as drought-free. New Mexico had 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week and much of that time was spent planting peanuts and corn. A reporter in Union County said that after last week's efforts, corn planting was nearly complete for that portion of the State. Although planting is on track with historical averages, the percent of acres emerged for chile, corn and cotton were all lower than this time in previous years. Thirty-eight percent of chile crops had emerged, 7 percent of corn, and 4 percent of cotton, compared to 55 percent, 11 percent, and 15 percent respectively for the 5-year averages. Onion condition was reported as 59 percent excellent and 41 percent good. Pasture and range conditions in New Mexico were on par with historical reports, and 51 percent of both cattle and sheep were reported to be good or excellent condition. The percent of livestock that received supplemental feed was lower than the previous week and previous year, at 71 percent of cattle and 63 percent of sheep. Eighty-three percent of cattle have calved, and 85 percent of ewes have lambed. Freeze and wind damage were minimal last week, and no hail damage was reported. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 40 percent very short, 34 percent short, 23 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 45 percent very short, 28 percent short, 26 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	11	10	22	34
Chile				
Planted.....	88	86	94	85
Emerged.....	38	37	69	55
Corn				
Planted.....	53	43	37	43
Emerged.....	7	5	7	11
Cotton				
Planted.....	37	34	42	39
Emerged.....	4	2	10	15
Peanuts				
Planted.....	9	NA	14	6
Winter Wheat				
Headed.....	46	33	35	59
Cattle and Calves				
Cows calved.....	83	81	89	89
Receiving supplemental feed.....	71	82	88	80
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	85	74	96	91
Receiving supplemental feed.....	63	73	70	70

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELD WORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.9	6.5	6.6	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	31	26	53	42
Short	43	46	37	37
Adequate	20	27	10	20
Surplus	--	1	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	33	35	56	41
Short	57	54	37	40
Adequate	9	10	7	19
Surplus	1	1	--	--

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	21	20	1	5
Poor	10	12	8	5
Fair	41	42	23	32
Good	18	25	61	50
Excellent	10	1	7	8
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	5	1
Poor	--	--	15	3
Fair	--	--	40	16
Good	41	32	25	38
Excellent	59	68	15	42
Pasture and Range				
Very poor	15	11	18	18
Poor	23	14	37	34
Fair	45	48	35	34
Good	11	17	10	13
Excellent	6	10	--	1
Winter wheat				
Very poor	29	29	54	23
Poor	40	41	31	25
Fair	18	14	7	25
Good	2	2	5	18
Excellent	11	14	3	9
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	1	1	4	5
Poor	8	6	22	15
Fair	40	37	40	40
Good	30	39	30	34
Excellent	21	17	4	6
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	--	--	1	9
Poor	3	4	4	6
Fair	46	53	25	34
Good	42	33	55	46
Excellent	9	10	15	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero