

# NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE**  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 20, 2023

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** The agriculture world had its eye on Hurricane Hilary last week and growers in New Mexico were hoping some precipitation from the storm would come their way; unfortunately, it was a mostly dry week for the State, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports indicated there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork over the week, and with no danger of flooding or high winds that growers further west had to prepare for, fieldwork continued as normal. The green chile harvest progressed to 57 percent complete, 15 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. The crop was in mostly good to excellent condition. By the end of the week, the onion harvest was at 92 percent complete. Cotton was observed in varying condition: 11 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 20 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. The crop was nearly all squared, 90 percent according to reports, and 55 percent had started setting bolls. Corn is in varying stages across New Mexico since some fields had to be replanted after hail and wind damage earlier in the season. Statewide, 68 percent of corn had silked, and 20 percent had reached the dough stage. In Union County, sorghum and millet were headed and new triticale fields were emerging. The area of New Mexico that remained drought-free held at 5 percent, according to the United States Drought Monitor. The abnormally dry category (D0) was 30 percent, moderate drought (D1) rose to 47 percent, and severe drought (D2) sat at 15 percent. Three percent of New Mexico was in extreme drought (D3). According to NOAA Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service, parts of western New Mexico received up to 1 inch of rain last week. The rest of the State got less than half of that. Most counties were reporting dryer soil and worsening range conditions. Cattle continued to fare fine, the excellent category up another 4 percent from the previous week, but 24 percent of sheep are in poor to very poor condition. Temperatures were near-normal all week, according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center. Daytime highs ranged from 60 degrees to 90 degrees, coming in slightly cooler-than-average in the west, and slightly warmer-than-average in the east. Wind damage to all crops was reported as 1 percent light. There was no reported hail damage. Pecan nut set was reported again as 1 percent light and 99 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 33 percent very short, 37 percent short, 24 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 38 percent very short, 29 percent short, 31 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

### CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	74	60	68	NA
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	16	2	21	48
Chiles				
Green harvested .....	57	43	50	42
Corn				
Silked .....	68	52	87	NA
Doughed .....	20	3	27	36
Cotton				
Squaring.....	90	73	94	NA
Setting Bolls .....	55	40	45	57
Onions				
Harvested.....	92	89	NA	NA
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	80	73	96	NA

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	6.6	6.0	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	37	34	10	27
Short .....	44	38	39	40
Adequate.....	18	27	47	31
Surplus.....	1	1	4	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	39	30	22	32
Short .....	46	46	47	43
Adequate.....	15	24	30	24
Surplus.....	--	--	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	3
Poor .....	1	1	8	7
Fair .....	29	21	34	31
Good .....	44	52	49	48
Excellent.....	26	26	8	11
<b>Chile Peppers</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	6	NA
Poor .....	7	16	16	NA
Fair .....	15	18	25	NA
Good .....	43	38	40	NA
Excellent.....	35	28	13	NA
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	4	1
Poor .....	7	8	11	7
Fair .....	19	18	41	40
Good .....	23	32	10	30
Excellent.....	51	42	34	22
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	5	3
Poor .....	11	13	31	21
Fair .....	37	43	38	41
Good .....	20	21	24	29
Excellent.....	32	23	2	6
<b>Pasture and Range</b>				
Very poor .....	19	17	6	11
Poor .....	24	26	31	32
Fair .....	29	32	33	36
Good .....	15	15	19	15
Excellent.....	13	10	11	6
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	5	2
Poor .....	25	25	7	13
Fair .....	50	50	75	52
Good .....	25	25	13	33
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	1	--
Poor .....	1	3	7	3
Fair .....	1	5	20	13
Good .....	9	12	41	63
Excellent.....	89	80	31	21
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor .....	3	2	1	3
Poor .....	9	9	15	10
Fair .....	28	31	31	40
Good .....	32	34	36	36
Excellent.....	28	24	17	11
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor .....	12	9	--	10
Poor .....	12	12	5	7
Fair .....	33	31	35	34
Good .....	42	47	54	45
Excellent.....	1	1	6	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero