

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



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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 27, 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Moisture was received across much of the State last week, but it did little to improve conditions, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports indicated there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork over the week. The green chile harvest progressed to 59 percent complete, 7 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. The crop was in mostly good to excellent condition. By the end of the week, most of the onions were harvested, at 95 percent complete. Cotton was observed in varying condition, with 15 percent rated poor, 35 percent fair, 23 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. The crop was nearly all squared, at 91 percent, according to reports, and 57 percent had started setting bolls. In Union County, reports indicated that corn was showing stress and stunted growth from previous hail damage. Statewide, 70 percent of corn had silked, 25 percent had reached the dough stage, and 1 percent was dented. In the northeast part of the State, there were reports of millet being harvested for hay and sorghum was turning color. The United States Drought Monitor reported changes in every category last week, trending towards worsening drought. The area of New Mexico that remained drought-free was down to 3 percent, the smallest it has been since October 2022. The abnormally dry category (D0) was 11 percent, moderate drought (D1) dropped to 33 percent, pushing more land into the severe drought (D2) category, which rose from 15 percent to 43 percent. Ten percent of New Mexico was in extreme drought (D3), up from 3 percent the week before. According to NOAA Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service, most of central New Mexico received up to 1 inch of rain last week. The rest of the State got a trace to a half an inch of moisture. Cattle continued to fare well, the excellent category up another 4 percent from the previous week, but 24 percent of sheep remained in poor to very poor condition. Temperatures were above average all week, according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center, but only by a few degrees for most of the State. Counties along the eastern border, however, faced highs 6-8 degrees above normal, with the hottest temperatures hitting De Baca, Chaves, and Eddy Counties. Daytime highs ran hot at the beginning of the week, reaching the upper 90s, and over 100 degrees in several areas. By midweek, the State started to cool off, with temperatures dropping to the high 70s and mid-80s for most of New Mexico. Wind damage to all crops was reported as 7 percent light, and hail damage was reported as 9 percent light, 6 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe. Pecan nut set was reported as 2 percent light and 98 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 34 percent very short, 28 percent short, 33 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 30 percent very short, 38 percent short, 31 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

| Commodity | Current week (percent) | Previous week (percent) | Previous year (percent) | 5-year average (percent) |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alfalfa Hay | | | | |
| 3 rd cutting harvested | 80 | 74 | 90 | NA |
| 4 th cutting harvested | 20 | 16 | 31 | 60 |
| Chiles | | | | |
| Green harvested | 59 | 57 | 64 | 52 |
| Corn | | | | |
| Silked | 70 | 68 | 94 | NA |
| Doughed | 25 | 20 | 39 | 53 |
| Dented | 1 | NA | 4 | 22 |
| Cotton | | | | |
| Squaring | 91 | 90 | NA | NA |
| Setting Bolls | 57 | 55 | 58 | 66 |
| Onions | | | | |
| Harvested | 95 | 92 | NA | NA |
| Peanuts | | | | |
| Pegging | 82 | 80 | NA | 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 | 6.5 | 6.9 | 6.4 | 6.5 |
| Topsoil moisture | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Very short | 45 | 37 | 8 | 25 |
| Short | 40 | 44 | 38 | 42 |
| Adequate | 15 | 18 | 52 | 30 |
| Surplus | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Subsoil moisture | | | | |
| Very short | 46 | 39 | 17 | 31 |
| Short | 38 | 46 | 48 | 44 |
| Adequate | 16 | 15 | 34 | 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) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alfalfa hay | | | | |
| Very poor | -- | -- | 1 | 4 |
| Poor | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Fair..... | 23 | 29 | 27 | 25 |
| Good..... | 46 | 44 | 56 | 50 |
| Excellent | 30 | 26 | 12 | 16 |
| Chile Peppers | | | | |
| Very poor | -- | -- | NA | NA |
| Poor | 12 | 7 | NA | NA |
| Fair..... | 21 | 15 | NA | NA |
| Good..... | 40 | 43 | NA | NA |
| Excellent | 27 | 35 | NA | NA |
| Corn | | | | |
| Very poor | -- | -- | 4 | 1 |
| Poor | 2 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| Fair..... | 28 | 19 | 35 | 41 |
| Good..... | 24 | 23 | 15 | 29 |
| Excellent | 46 | 51 | 40 | 24 |
| Cotton | | | | |
| Very poor | -- | -- | 5 | 2 |
| Poor | 15 | 11 | 31 | 20 |
| Fair..... | 35 | 37 | 38 | 42 |
| Good..... | 23 | 20 | 21 | 28 |
| Excellent | 27 | 32 | 5 | 8 |
| Pasture and Range | | | | |
| Very poor | 10 | 19 | 4 | 12 |
| Poor | 23 | 24 | 26 | 30 |
| Fair..... | 25 | 29 | 32 | 35 |
| Good..... | 20 | 15 | 26 | 17 |
| Excellent | 22 | 13 | 12 | 6 |
| Peanuts | | | | |
| Very poor | -- | -- | 5 | 2 |
| Poor | 25 | 25 | 7 | 11 |
| Fair..... | 50 | 50 | 75 | 53 |
| Good..... | 25 | 25 | 13 | 34 |
| Excellent | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Pecans | | | | |
| Very poor | 1 | -- | 1 | -- |
| Poor | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Fair..... | 1 | 1 | 18 | 11 |
| Good..... | 6 | 9 | 38 | 64 |
| Excellent | 91 | 89 | 38 | 23 |
| Cattle and calves | | | | |
| Very poor | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Poor | 5 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| Fair..... | 25 | 28 | 30 | 37 |
| Good..... | 36 | 32 | 35 | 36 |
| Excellent | 32 | 28 | 24 | 13 |
| Sheep and lambs | | | | |
| Very poor | 12 | 12 | -- | 9 |
| Poor | 12 | 12 | 4 | 7 |
| Fair..... | 32 | 33 | 30 | 31 |
| Good..... | 41 | 42 | 56 | 48 |
| Excellent | 3 | 1 | 10 | 5 |

NA – not available
 (--) – zero