

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 NOVEMBER 26, 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: With the 2023 crop season winding down, producers worked to finish harvesting their remaining row crops and were busy harvesting pecan orchards, according to the Mountain Regional Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Mostly dry weather across eastern and southern counties promoted rapid harvest progress under 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork. By week’s end, the 6th cutting of alfalfa hay was virtually complete. The red chile harvest, at 83 percent complete, advanced 10 percentage points during the week. Cotton growers harvested 13 percent of their crop during the week, leaving progress, at 63 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year. Pecans were being harvested at a faster pace when compared with last year; 94 percent of the crop was reported in good to excellent condition. Reports from Union County noted that all crops had been harvested, winter wheat had been planted, and cattle had been turned onto corn and sorghum stalks, or wheat fields. Livestock conditions were observed with minimal changes from the previous week. Cattle and sheep remained in mostly fair to good condition.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for November 21, drought conditions continued to intensify across the State. A very small portion of Union County remains classified as drought-free. Abnormal dryness (D0) was present across 3 percent of New Mexico, moderate drought (D1) was noted across 8 percent, and severe drought (D2) covered 41 percent. Extreme drought (D3) and exceptional drought (D4) were spread across 41 and 7 percent of the State, respectively. Comparatively, 58 percent of New Mexico was classified as either drought-free or abnormally dry at this time last year. While much of the eastern and southern portions of the State were relatively dry, a storm system delivered up to 1.5 inches of moisture to isolated portions of northwestern New Mexico. Approximately 1 inch of precipitation was noted across a wider swath of the area. Comments from Mora County indicated the first snowstorm of the season brought 1-4 inches of wet snow to much of the county.

No hail damage was reported during the week. No wind damage was reported during the week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 46 percent short, 21 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 11 percent very short, 27 percent short, and 62 percent adequate last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 27 percent very short, 41 percent short, 31 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 10 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 60 percent adequate last year.

Note: This report concludes the weekly crop progress report for 2023. Next year’s New Mexico weekly report will begin in April 2024.

Monthly reports will be released for December on January 2, 2024; for January on January 29, 2024; for February on February 26, 2024; and for March on March 25, 2024.

Our thanks to the weekly reporters for providing crop progress observations during the 2023 season.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
6 th cutting harvested	99	85	NA	NA
Chiles				
Red harvested	83	73	NA	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain	70	60	67	NA
Harvested for silage.....	95	89	NA	NA
Cotton				
Bolls Opening	97	91	NA	NA
Harvested	63	50	58	NA
Onions				
Planted	85	75	87	NA
Emerged.....	60	52	47	NA
Peanuts				
Harvested	90	64	91	NA
Pecans				
Harvested	43	38	34	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.....	6.8	6.6	6.5	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	35	35	17	NA
Short	43	42	36	NA
Adequate	21	23	44	NA
Surplus.....	1	--	3	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	36	36	21	NA
Short	43	42	40	NA
Adequate	20	22	39	NA
Surplus.....	1	--	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and Range				
Very poor	10	9	5	NA
Poor	41	40	20	NA
Fair.....	39	39	34	NA
Good	5	8	23	NA
Excellent	5	4	18	NA
Pecans				
Very poor	--	--	1	NA
Poor	1	1	1	NA
Fair.....	5	5	1	NA
Good	10	2	37	NA
Excellent	84	92	60	NA
Winter Wheat				
Very poor	--	--	1	NA
Poor	22	19	2	NA
Fair.....	50	55	44	NA
Good	15	19	35	NA
Excellent	13	7	18	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	NA
Poor	14	14	5	NA
Fair.....	34	40	29	NA
Good	41	40	38	NA
Excellent	9	4	27	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	8	8	--	NA
Poor	8	8	6	NA
Fair.....	34	34	30	NA
Good	49	49	52	NA
Excellent	1	1	12	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero