

# 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 14, 2024

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** As the peak of the spring season drew closer, New Mexico producers once again saw dryer and cooler days, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Chile producers continued to see improvement, as planting progress increased to 55 percent complete by April 14, while emergence increased to 24 percent complete. Calving advanced to 73 percent complete, up from 65 percent from last week. Ewes lambing increased to 60 percent, up from 51 percent last week. Most cattle and sheep were observed to be in fair condition, with both coming in at 40 percent. Operators will likely see improvement in their herds, as reporters in Rio Arriba and Taos County said that producers are preparing to take livestock out to leased grazing lands.

According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, most of the State saw precipitation levels far below normal, with large parts of western and central counties seeing little to no moisture. It was a different story in eastern counties however, as Roosevelt and Curry County saw 1.5-3.5 inches, well above normal levels. Average temperatures throughout the State were well below normal last week. In large parts of eastern New Mexico, temperatures dropped to over 8 degrees below normal, while the rest of the State saw temperatures 3 to 6 degrees below normal. In Union County, reporters said that more moisture is needed despite observed greening of range grass, and that a few wheat/triticale fields appear to have been abandoned. According to the United States Drought Monitor for April 9, exceptional drought (D4) remained unchanged from last week at 4 percent. The worst of the drought conditions remained in Eddy County and parts of Chaves County. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 13 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 19 percent, moderate drought (D1) covered 39 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) covered 22 percent. Drought-free conditions were present in 4 percent of the State, up from 2 percent last week.

Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 9 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 50 percent short, 26 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 31 percent very short, 45 percent short, and 24 percent adequate last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 31 percent very short, 38 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 32 percent very short, 39 percent short, 28 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested.....	10	1	4	5
Chile				
Planted.....	55	33	64	53
Emerged.....	24	14	15	10
Corn				
Planted.....	15	2	14	8
Cotton				
Planted.....	8	--	12	9
Winter Wheat				
Headed.....	2	1	1	3
Cattle and Calves				
Cows calved.....	73	65	69	64
Receiving supplemental feed.....	81	85	69	81
Sheep and Lambs				
Ewes lambing.....	60	51	58	63
Receiving supplemental feed.....	80	64	80	75

NA – not available  
 (–) – zero

### DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.3	6.3	7.0	6.6
Topsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	26	32	25	31
Short.....	50	46	40	39
Adequate.....	21	19	34	29
Surplus.....	3	3	1	1
Subsoil Moisture				
Very short.....	34	35	29	37
Short.....	48	43	53	41
Adequate.....	16	20	17	22
Surplus.....	2	2	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	1	15	5
Poor .....	1	3	13	4
Fair .....	65	73	49	42
Good .....	21	9	16	45
Excellent .....	12	14	7	4
<b>Onions</b>				
Very poor .....	--	NA	--	NA
Poor .....	--	NA	--	NA
Fair .....	2	NA	--	NA
Good .....	46	NA	30	NA
Excellent .....	52	NA	70	NA
<b>Pasture and Range</b>				
Very Poor .....	25	26	6	11
Poor .....	31	36	14	19
Fair .....	27	20	55	47
Good .....	16	18	15	20
Excellent .....	1	--	10	3
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very Poor .....	18	9	25	23
Poor .....	40	15	36	26
Fair .....	25	42	27	25
Good .....	6	19	5	17
Excellent .....	11	15	7	9
<b>Cattle and Calves</b>				
Very Poor .....	4	4	1	5
Poor .....	21	18	6	12
Fair .....	40	40	38	38
Good .....	19	22	31	31
Excellent .....	16	16	24	14
<b>Sheep and Lambs</b>				
Very poor .....	2	3	3	6
Poor .....	8	15	7	7
Fair .....	40	52	59	40
Good .....	36	29	23	40
Excellent .....	14	1	8	7

NA – not available

(--) – zero