

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
 1050 Stewart St, Room E1200 Las Cruces, NM 88003
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 28, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: With the last full week of April in the books, New Mexico producers generally saw wetter 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 70 percent complete by April 28, while emergence increased to 35 percent complete. Calving advanced to 85 percent complete, up from 80 percent from last week. Ewes lambled increased to 65 percent, up from 61 percent last week. Most cattle and sheep were observed to be in fair condition, coming in at 46 and 39 percent respectively. Reporters in Rio Arriba and Taos counties said ranchers are moving most livestock to grazing land.

According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, Northwestern New Mexico saw above average moisture last week, while the rest of the State saw very little to none. McKinley, San Juan, and Rio Arriba counties saw the most precipitation at 0.5 inch, even up to 1.0 inch in some spots. 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 gusty winds were observed, and that growth was slow on rangeland despite continued greening. According to the United States Drought Monitor for April 23, exceptional drought (D4) decreased from last week to 2 percent. The worst of the drought conditions remained in Eddy County and parts of Chaves County. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 12 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 22 percent, moderate drought (D1) covered 39 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) covered 22 percent. Drought-free conditions remained unchanged from last week at 4 percent.

Freeze damage was reported at 3 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent severe, 4 percent moderate and 14 percent light. No hail damage was reported. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 33 percent very short, 54 percent short, 13 percent adequate, compared with 29 percent very short, 52 percent short, 18 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 54 percent very short, 29 percent short, 16 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 38 percent very short, 40 percent short, 21 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 st cutting harvested.....	27	19	9	19
Chile				
Planted.....	70	63	85	75
Emerged	35	32	34	34
Corn				
Planted.....	24	19	39	29
Emerged	1	--	NA	NA
Cotton				
Planted.....	33	23	31	26
Emerged.....	3	--	NA	NA
Winter Wheat				
Headed	30	22	28	30
Cattle and Calves				
Cows calved.....	85	80	79	80
Receiving supplemental feed.....	76	81	82	83
Sheep and Lambs				
Ewes lambled.....	65	61	73	80
Receiving supplemental feed.....	92	77	73	74

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	6.9	6.8	6.5	6.6
Topsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	37	28	26	37
Short	50	53	46	40
Adequate	11	16	27	23
Surplus	2	3	1	--
Subsoil Moisture				
Very short	43	37	35	41
Short	46	51	54	40
Adequate	10	11	10	19
Surplus	1	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	--	20	6
Poor	1	--	12	4
Fair	61	54	42	39
Good	27	28	25	46
Excellent.....	10	18	1	5
Chile				
Very poor	3	NA	NA	NA
Poor	5	NA	NA	NA
Fair	19	NA	NA	NA
Good	26	NA	NA	NA
Excellent.....	47	NA	NA	NA
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor	--	--	--	NA
Fair	2	10	--	NA
Good	42	36	32	NA
Excellent.....	56	54	68	NA
Pasture and Range				
Very Poor.....	25	34	11	17
Poor	40	40	14	25
Fair	21	18	48	39
Good	13	7	17	16
Excellent.....	1	1	10	3
Winter wheat				
Very Poor.....	22	22	29	22
Poor	44	45	41	27
Fair	25	24	14	25
Good	2	2	2	15
Excellent.....	7	7	14	11
Cattle and Calves				
Very Poor.....	3	2	1	6
Poor	22	22	6	11
Fair	46	48	37	38
Good	18	18	39	36
Excellent.....	11	10	17	9
Sheep and Lambs				
Very poor	--	--	--	8
Poor	8	17	4	8
Fair	39	48	53	37
Good	39	30	33	41
Excellent.....	14	5	10	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero