

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE  
PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004  
Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION  
WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Summer storms and moderate rains throughout the week progressed the recent drought mitigation for much of the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The increased rainfall gave a boost to arroyos and other natural water sources and livestock producers saw the accumulation of water in their ponds and new vegetative growth. Although rainstorms caused delays in the progressing hay and wheat harvest, they brought cooler temperatures and higher humidity that improved the corn crop in several counties. According to reports from Dona Ana county, a severe storm in the past week also delivered moderate to severe hail damage to some cotton fields. In other areas of the state, multiple reports noted more typical summer conditions and overall improvement in pasture conditions and rangeland growth. Reports from Curry county stated that livestock auction consignments are higher than normal, but some livestock producers are buying more stock to graze out their constantly improving pastureland. Statewide, 41 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 59 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 47 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals ranged from about 6 inches to merely a trace. Rainfall was widespread, with heavier concentrations in various locations around the state. Total accumulations were well above average in many areas, some of the most noticeable being in the northwest corner and across the east side of New Mexico. According to the United States Drought Monitor for July 13, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 7.1 percent of the State, an increase of nearly double last week’s 3.6 percent. Abnormal dryness decreased to cover 7.5 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased, and was present across 14.5 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) dropped slightly to 24.2 percent. Small changes were evident in extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought, with 22.1 and 24.8 percent of the State classified in the two categories, respectively. Collectively, about 56,903 square miles were still affected by extreme and exceptional drought. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 56 percent short to very short, compared with 81 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 73 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light and 6 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 21 percent very short, 30 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 6 percent very short, 37 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 22 percent very short, 26 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 23 percent very short, 45 percent short, and 32 percent adequate last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	80	68	74	80
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	25	15	40	46
Corn				
Silked .....	21	6	12	18
Cotton				
Squaring .....	45	33	60	55
Setting bolls.....	7	1	11	10
Onions				
Harvested.....	65	47	80	88
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	67	16	74	26
Winter wheat				
Harvested.....	83	70	91	89
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	61	70	77	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	83	79	68	NA

NA – not available  
(-- ) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork .....	6.4	5.9	6.7	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	20	13	41	28
Short.....	36	41	40	45
Adequate .....	39	41	19	25
Surplus .....	5	5	--	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	26	22	40	26
Short.....	45	53	48	44
Adequate .....	28	24	12	29
Surplus .....	1	1	--	1

NA – not available  
(-- ) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	7
Poor .....	10	11	2	4
Fair.....	44	53	31	29
Good .....	29	25	56	53
Excellent .....	17	11	10	7
Chile				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor .....	10	10	6	6
Fair.....	21	21	35	30
Good .....	42	42	59	51
Excellent .....	26	26	--	13
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor .....	4	4	1	4
Fair.....	51	52	51	39
Good .....	31	23	14	35
Excellent .....	14	21	34	20
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	2
Poor .....	23	30	16	15
Fair.....	41	43	54	44
Good .....	27	18	26	30
Excellent .....	9	9	4	9
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor .....	27	27	NA	NA
Fair.....	19	19	NA	NA
Good .....	27	27	NA	NA
Excellent .....	27	27	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	17	23	20	12
Poor .....	24	30	39	35
Fair.....	31	24	29	36
Good .....	20	13	4	15
Excellent .....	8	10	8	2
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor .....	9	9	11	11
Fair.....	49	73	56	60
Good .....	42	18	33	28
Excellent .....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	2	--
Poor .....	8	8	5	2
Fair.....	10	13	23	10
Good .....	82	79	70	61
Excellent .....	--	--	--	27
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	5	2	9	3
Poor .....	10	12	8	8
Fair.....	35	36	34	39
Good .....	42	42	36	41
Excellent .....	8	8	13	9
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	17	17	6	8
Poor .....	5	8	8	8
Fair.....	21	24	40	33
Good .....	49	44	46	47
Excellent .....	8	7	--	4
NA – not available				
(--)-- zero				