

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 SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Although fairly widespread, rainfall accumulation at most weather stations was less than in recent weeks, which benefitted producers that were harvesting crops or trying to seed winter wheat, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. Statewide, measureable rainfall was recorded at 41 of 46 reporting weather stations, with Animas, Moriarty, NMSU, Otis, and Santa Teresa being the only dry locations during the week. Topsoil moisture levels continued to improve, with conditions now rated 43 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 42 percent last week, 43 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 35 percent. Depending on location, grass growth in native pastures had either responded well to the recent moisture, or was already showing signs of drying out due to the hot, dry weather conditions that prevailed during much of the summer. Overall, range and pasture conditions were reported at 33 percent good to excellent, up 3 percentage points when compared with last week. The largest rainfall accumulation was reported at Clovis where 2.89 inches fell. Additionally, Artesia, Clayton, Cloudcroft, Fort Sumner, and Ocate recorded over 1 inch of moisture. Average temperatures varied from 4 degrees below to 6 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 72 degrees at Cloudcroft to 95 degrees at Fort Sumner and Tucumcari. Overnight temperatures varied from 29 degrees at El Vado Dam to 61 degrees at Carlsbad. Reports from Colfax County mentioned significant rainfall and up to 5 inches of hail in isolated areas. Wheat seeding in Union County was progressing well, with good emergence evident in most fields. Recent rainfall in Lea County slowed corn harvest and wheat seeding. Pecan nut set was reported as 21 percent light, 52 percent moderate, and 27 percent heavy. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 32 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Stock water supplies were reported as 6 percent very short, 20 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested.....	99	92	98	99
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested.....	65	54	62	76
6 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested.....	11	2	16	19
Chile				
Green harvested.....	85	80	91	87
Red harvested.....	1	NA	7	1
Corn				
Dough.....	92	85	94	96
Dented.....	65	50	62	74
Mature.....	11	4	16	32
Harvested for silage.....	51	44	67	64
Cotton				
Bolls opening.....	60	57	48	46
Sorghum				
Headed.....	97	93	98	92
Coloring.....	55	44	46	39
Mature.....	16	10	6	2
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	30	16	16	30
Emerged.....	1	NA	--	1

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	6.4	6.0	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	8	8	14	31
Short.....	49	50	43	34
Adequate.....	39	37	42	32
Surplus.....	4	5	1	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	8	8	10	NA
Short.....	29	30	35	NA
Adequate.....	62	60	54	NA
Surplus.....	1	2	1	NA

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	3	4	2	7
Fair.....	42	42	22	29
Good .....	46	45	48	49
Excellent .....	9	9	28	11
Corn				
Very poor .....	2	2	--	3
Poor.....	2	3	--	10
Fair.....	31	31	12	25
Good .....	47	46	51	40
Excellent .....	18	18	37	22
Cotton				
Very poor .....	3	3	--	4
Poor.....	28	25	3	17
Fair.....	32	32	24	31
Good .....	30	33	63	31
Excellent .....	7	7	10	17
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	2	2	4	29
Poor.....	20	22	6	23
Fair.....	45	46	33	26
Good .....	29	26	46	18
Excellent .....	4	4	11	4
Peanut				
Very poor .....	1	--	--	6
Poor.....	5	3	--	28
Fair.....	66	69	71	56
Good .....	28	28	26	9
Excellent .....	--	--	3	1
Pecan				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	7	9	13	23
Good .....	47	53	77	55
Excellent .....	46	38	10	21
Sorghum				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	14
Poor.....	2	2	1	13
Fair.....	75	75	10	26
Good .....	22	22	85	41
Excellent .....	1	1	4	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	2	2	1	NA
Poor.....	4	4	2	NA
Fair.....	35	36	24	NA
Good .....	54	53	65	NA
Excellent .....	5	5	8	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	12	12	15	NA
Poor.....	13	12	15	NA
Fair.....	15	16	15	NA
Good .....	54	54	52	NA
Excellent .....	6	6	3	NA

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

New Mexico’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/New\\_Mexico/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2016/NM\\_Weather\\_09182016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/NM_Weather_09182016.pdf)