

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 JUNE 19, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: An active monsoon brought above average rainfall to much of New Mexico during the week, with total accumulations climbing to more than 1.5 inches across a wide swath of land in several western counties, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Despite the large boost in weekly moisture, most producers hoped for very long, very active monsoon to help reverse long-term drought, replenish the State’s reservoirs to support the necessary irrigation that growers need to produce a bumper crop, and fill natural livestock water sources so that ranchers no longer have to haul water to their herds. Reports from Grant, Hidalgo, and Luna Counties noted that rainfall was scattered, and accumulations were small, doing little to change current crop or pasture conditions. Similarly, portions of Union County remained dry, leaving farmers busy planting corn and sorghum in less than adequate soil moisture. Potential prevented plantings concerned some growers, as approximately 15-20 percent of the fields typically seeded to corn or sorghum had yet to be tilled. Comments from Rio Arriba County indicated that farmer’s markets were open, offering green peas, root crops, and squash. The increase in rainfall provided some relief to firefighters battling wildfires across the State, with reports indicating a large containment increase on the Black Fire, which had burned roughly 325,000 acres by June 19 and was 64 percent contained. The Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak fire complex was estimated to cover roughly 341,400 acres as of the June 19 update, with containment listed at 72 percent. Statewide, 68 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 63 percent last year and a 5-year average of 53 percent. Supplemental feeding needs remained high, with 85 percent of the cattle herd and 81 percent of the sheep herd being fed. Topsoil moisture was reported as 93 percent very short to short, compared with 75 percent last year and a 5-year average of 75 percent. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from approximately 4 inches to merely a trace across several counties on the eastern side of the storms. Large portions of Curry, Eddy, Lea, Roosevelt, and Union Counties were dry. Since January 1, most of the State has received less than 5 inches of precipitation, with some of the driest counties in southeastern New Mexico, where precipitation has totaled 10 percent of normal or less, affecting large acreages of cotton, dry hay and haylage, sorghum, and wheat, as well as large percentages of the cattle and sheep herds. Statewide, based on accumulated moisture, year-to-date conditions continued to be among the driest ever recorded. All 33 counties in the State had disaster designations. According to the United States Drought Monitor for June 14, drought continued to worsen. Approximately 90 percent of the State remains in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 52.2 and 38.3 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) was categorized across 7.0 percent, and moderate drought (D1) was present across 2.6 percent. The U.S. Drought Monitor published on Thursday should incorporate the above average precipitation that fell toward week’s end. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 12 percent light, 8 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 17 percent very short, 31 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 31 percent very short, 37 percent short, 31 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 45 percent very short, 23 percent short, and 32 percent adequate, compared with 55 percent very short, 17 percent short, 27 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	90	87	NA	NA
2 nd cutting harvested.....	30	20	42	43
Corn				
Planted	91	81	NA	NA
Emerged	69	63	82	78
Cotton				
Planted	96	89	93	NA
Emerged	70	50	77	78
Squaring	1	NA	6	5
Onions				
Harvested	40	14	3	28
Peanuts				
Planted	96	85	92	NA
Emerged	62	53	54	56
Winter wheat				
Harvested for grain	36	22	31	35
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	85	86	82	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	81	86	82	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	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	59	57	45	40
Short	34	37	30	35
Adequate.....	7	6	24	24
Surplus.....	--	--	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	55	55	55	41
Short	40	40	35	40
Adequate.....	5	5	10	19
Surplus.....	--	--	--	--

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	1	--	3
Poor	8	6	5	4
Fair.....	38	40	40	29
Good	44	45	30	53
Excellent.....	9	8	25	11
Chile				
Very poor.....	4	6	2	1
Poor	13	16	7	5
Fair.....	30	38	17	36
Good	42	25	40	45
Excellent.....	11	15	34	13
Corn				
Very poor.....	4	4	1	1
Poor	6	6	2	3
Fair.....	47	47	42	45
Good	9	10	32	31
Excellent.....	34	33	23	20
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	NA	2	1
Poor	16	NA	29	16
Fair.....	53	NA	41	47
Good	23	NA	18	30
Excellent.....	3	NA	10	6
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor	1	3	--	2
Fair.....	20	18	10	12
Good	78	69	35	47
Excellent.....	1	10	55	39
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	23	18	31	19
Poor	45	43	32	34
Fair.....	29	36	20	33
Good	3	3	12	12
Excellent.....	--	--	5	2
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	NA	NA	NA
Poor	7	NA	NA	NA
Fair.....	75	NA	NA	NA
Good	13	NA	NA	NA
Excellent.....	--	NA	NA	NA
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	--
Poor	5	5	1	2
Fair.....	24	26	1	11
Good	30	30	98	69
Excellent.....	40	39	--	18
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	61	62	30	16
Poor	22	22	28	23
Fair.....	4	4	30	32
Good	4	4	9	21
Excellent.....	9	8	3	8
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	4	3	7	4
Poor	25	22	15	13
Fair.....	35	37	36	39
Good	29	28	37	37
Excellent.....	7	10	5	7
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	2	--	20	7
Poor	15	10	8	9
Fair.....	40	46	30	38
Good	42	44	42	45
Excellent.....	1	--	--	1

NA – not available
(--) – zero