

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 5, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Most locations welcomed additional rainfall during the week, although total accumulations varied tremendously, even within counties, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Growers across the State were busy harvesting corn silage and hay, with fieldwork conditions promoting rapid progress. Because of the sporadic moisture totals, some livestock ponds were full, while ranchers in other areas had to keep hauling water since not all wells were recharging. Demand for replacement cattle remained strong under limited availability. In Curry County, reports noted that hay growers were seeing good yields from all hay types, and that all agricultural production was much improved when compared with recent seasons. Comments from Union County suggested that pasture grass conditions were wide-ranging across the county, with some improvement noted where rainfall has been consistent. Statewide, 31 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 57 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 39 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals ranged from about 8 inches in a few isolated locations to merely a trace, although the moisture received was fairly widespread. The heavier accumulations were noted in southern counties. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 31, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 13.5 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness covered 10.6 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased to cover 25.8 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) fell to 28.9 percent. With the additional moisture, extreme (D3) drought was reduced to 21.2 percent of the State. For the first time since late September 2020, there was no exceptional drought (D4) noted in the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 64 percent short to very short, compared with 95 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 62 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Pecan nut set was reported as 5 percent light and 95 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 18 percent very short, 23 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus, compared with 18 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 38 percent adequate last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 14 percent very short, 18 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 26 percent very short, 46 percent short, and 28 percent adequate last year.

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 .....	82	72	71	79
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	14	4	17	37
Chile				
Green harvested.....	63	55	59	62
Corn				
Silked .....	96	92	88	NA
Doughed.....	73	67	71	69
Dented .....	51	33	46	40
Mature .....	20	2	13	NA
Harvested for silage.....	29	10	28	35
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	80	69	95	83
Bolls opening .....	5	--	15	21
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	15	1	13	21
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	35	45	72	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	60	63	79	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 .....	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	26	33	42	20
Short.....	38	36	53	42
Adequate .....	32	27	5	34
Surplus .....	4	4	--	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	36	36	41	24
Short.....	36	36	52	39
Adequate .....	25	26	7	35
Surplus .....	3	2	--	2

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.....	2	2	2	4
Poor .....	7	8	3	8
Fair.....	18	25	30	26
Good .....	39	33	52	50
Excellent .....	34	32	13	12
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	2
Poor .....	5	5	1	5
Fair.....	39	39	42	36
Good .....	31	36	25	40
Excellent .....	25	20	31	17
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	3
Poor .....	19	19	21	17
Fair.....	41	41	55	37
Good .....	31	31	16	35
Excellent .....	9	9	3	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	7	10	19	11
Poor .....	24	26	38	28
Fair.....	46	40	31	37
Good .....	17	19	8	20
Excellent .....	6	5	4	4
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	1
Poor .....	9	9	20	10
Fair.....	32	32	33	58
Good .....	59	59	42	31
Excellent .....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	5	5	1	--
Fair.....	6	6	28	9
Good .....	88	89	71	65
Excellent .....	1	--	--	26
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	7	6	9	3
Poor .....	6	8	9	7
Fair.....	23	21	44	40
Good .....	43	45	30	40
Excellent .....	21	20	8	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	15	19	13	7
Poor .....	9	10	10	8
Fair.....	25	25	22	27
Good .....	44	40	50	53
Excellent .....	7	6	5	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero