

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 OCTOBER 17, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Coupled with high winds, limited rainfall and above average temperatures continued to dominate much of the State during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. With meaningful rainfall limited to a handful of eastern locations, growers continued a quick harvest pace for most crops. Green chile harvest was virtually complete, while red chile harvest surpassed the halfway mark during the past week. Statewide, 91 percent of the 2022 winter wheat crop was seeded, with most of the remaining acreage coming from growers that will plant their fields following the corn harvest. Overall, 63 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 28 percent last year and a 5-year average of 51 percent. The decline in crop condition from last week was mostly due to the limited rainfall affecting dryland fields. Reports from Union County noted that temperature swings from daytime to nighttime were causing illness in some livestock. Ranchers were busy shipping yearlings, with reports of good weight gains coming off of summer grazing grounds. Statewide, 27 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 48 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 38 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals ranged from about 1 inch in a few isolated northeastern areas to merely a trace. Much of the southern half of the State was dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for October 12, drought-free conditions were reduced, now existing across an area equal to 6.7 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness increased to cover 16.8 percent. Moderate drought (D1) decreased slightly to 26.3 percent. Severe drought (D2) increased to cover 39.0 percent of New Mexico. Extreme (D3) drought fell to 11.3 percent of the State. The State remained free of exceptional drought (D4). Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 70 percent short to very short, compared with 92 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 54 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Pecan nut set was reported as 8 percent light, 89 percent moderate, and 3 percent heavy. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 9 percent very short, 28 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus, compared with 19 percent very short, 34 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 12 percent very short, 28 percent short, and 60 percent adequate, compared with 20 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 43 percent adequate last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
5 th cutting harvested	82	69	86	NA
6 th cutting harvested	18	5	47	64
Chile				
Red harvested	52	40	46	37
Corn				
Mature	90	84	78	77
Harvested for grain.....	14	4	26	17
Harvested for silage.....	98	94	89	90
Cotton				
Bolls opening	58	44	66	78
Peanuts				
Harvested.....	13	8	21	26
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	91	89	83	93
Emerged	82	78	62	78
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	30	26	76	54
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	45	39	78	54

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	6.2	6.7	6.8	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	23	27	47	17
Short.....	47	41	45	37
Adequate	27	31	8	42
Surplus	3	1	--	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	31	36	43	18
Short.....	41	35	47	36
Adequate	25	28	10	45
Surplus	3	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.....	--	--	2	NA
Poor	1	2	9	NA
Fair.....	35	39	17	NA
Good	50	44	51	NA
Excellent	14	15	21	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor	1	5	5	5
Fair.....	35	32	16	29
Good	28	30	19	39
Excellent	36	33	59	26
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	2
Poor	16	19	22	16
Fair.....	37	39	56	45
Good	32	34	12	32
Excellent	15	8	5	5
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	12	11	12	10
Poor	15	17	36	28
Fair.....	46	41	35	37
Good	19	21	12	21
Excellent	8	10	5	4
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	4	1
Poor	9	9	20	9
Fair.....	32	32	36	59
Good	59	59	40	31
Excellent	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	2	--	--	--
Poor	3	1	4	1
Fair.....	5	1	30	9
Good	89	97	66	61
Excellent	1	1	--	29
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	10	6	1	2
Poor	10	5	51	22
Fair.....	17	14	20	25
Good	48	54	9	37
Excellent	15	21	19	14
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	3	4	2	2
Poor	7	8	11	8
Fair.....	31	25	40	39
Good	38	40	23	41
Excellent	21	23	24	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	3	5	15	12
Poor	10	12	15	11
Fair.....	32	34	30	26
Good	48	44	40	47
Excellent	7	5	--	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero