

# 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  
April 18, 2022

Contact: Longino Bustillos  
(800) 530-8810

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 17, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Across much of New Mexico, temperatures were above average during the week while precipitation was well below average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Statewide, 75 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in fair or worse condition. Heavy spring moisture is needed across New Mexico. Comments from several counties indicated that dry winds have led to topsoil depletion and air quality problems. Farmers were busy preparing to plant or planting row crops, with progress for chile and cotton advancing ahead of the normal pace. Statewide, 75 percent of the chile crop was planted by week's end, while 14 percent of the cotton crop was planted. Lambing was ahead of last year and the average pace, with 55 percent of the sheep herd receiving supplemental feed. According to the United States Drought Monitor for April 12, exceptional drought (D4) spread to cover 7.2 percent of the State, while extreme drought (D3) expanded to cover 44.9 percent of New Mexico, up 1.1 and 3.7 percentage points from last week, respectively. Severe drought (D2) was categorized across 41.3 percent of New Mexico, and moderate drought (D1) was present on 5.6 percent. Another 1.1 percent of the State was abnormally dry (D0). Wind damage in all crops was reported as 20 percent light and 10 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 20 percent very short, 18 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 49 percent very short, 34 percent short, and 17 percent adequate last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 27 percent very short, 23 percent short, and 50 percent adequate, compared with 41 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 28 percent adequate last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested .....	4	1	4	8
Chile				
Planted .....	75	67	43	51
Emerged .....	23	16	14	17
Corn				
Planted .....	13	1	8	11
Cotton				
Planted .....	14	11	7	13
Onions				
Planted .....	40	30	51	68
Emerged .....	25	20	39	50
Winter wheat				
Headed .....	3	2	7	15
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved .....	66	65	78	71
Receiving supplemental feed.....	79	88	93	83
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled .....	85	82	78	67
Receiving supplemental feed.....	55	61	95	80

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 .....	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	38	36	52	33
Short .....	42	44	35	38
Adequate.....	20	20	12	28
Surplus.....	--	--	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	38	37	58	30
Short .....	42	41	35	44
Adequate.....	20	22	6	26
Surplus.....	--	--	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	2	5	2
Poor .....	2	4	2	5
Fair.....	10	12	60	49
Good .....	86	82	28	40
Excellent.....	--	--	5	4
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	5	6	28	15
Poor .....	23	21	24	23
Fair.....	47	51	39	43
Good .....	24	21	9	18
Excellent.....	1	1	--	1
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	35	40	50	15
Poor .....	35	42	23	27
Fair.....	15	9	10	28
Good .....	5	3	5	22
Excellent.....	10	6	12	8
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	3	10	6
Poor .....	13	14	17	9
Fair.....	38	41	36	42
Good .....	31	34	23	36
Excellent.....	16	8	14	7
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	2	22	10
Poor .....	2	4	8	9
Fair.....	26	35	27	36
Good .....	50	45	38	43
Excellent.....	22	14	5	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero