

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
September 13, 2021

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Rainfall was isolated and limited during the week, with much of the northern half of the State dry, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Hot temperatures aided phenological crop development, although they proved detrimental to native pasture grasses in many areas. Comments from several counties in the northeast noted record breaking heat, high winds, and fire danger. In the southwest, reports indicated that grass growth had been sporadic following varying rainfall totals during the monsoon season, leaving normal livestock food sources in less than adequate condition on many ranches. Auction receipts decreased as ranchers delivered not only fewer replacement cattle to markets, but yearling calves as well, especially in areas that had adequate grass available. Statewide, 33 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 54 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 38 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals were highly variable, ranging from about 6 inches in an isolated location of Otero County to merely a trace. Much of the State either saw less than 0.1 inch or was dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for September 7, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 13.6 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness continued to cover 10.6 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased to cover 28.2 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) fell slightly to 28.6 percent. Extreme (D3) drought was further reduced, and was now present across 19.1 percent of the State. The State remained free of exceptional drought (D4). Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 67 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 2 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light and 4 percent moderate. Pecan nut set was reported as 1 percent none, 4 percent light, and 95 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 11 percent very short, 29 percent short, 42 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 44 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 13 percent very short, 23 percent short, 63 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 23 percent very short, 43 percent short, 33 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				
4 th cutting harvested	87	82	85	90
5 th cutting harvested	28	14	31	48
Chile				
Green harvested.....	71	63	73	72
Corn				
Doughed	87	73	78	78
Dented	65	51	58	55
Mature	33	20	30	22
Harvested for silage.....	51	29	52	48
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	92	80	NA	NA
Bolls opening	7	5	22	28
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	30	15	38	38
Emerged	10	NA	19	12
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	27	35	79	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	55	60	75	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	6.8	6.6	5.9	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	30	26	40	19
Short.....	37	38	55	43
Adequate	28	32	5	35
Surplus	5	4	--	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	38	36	40	23
Short.....	35	36	50	39
Adequate	23	25	10	37
Surplus	4	3	--	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.....	3	2	2	4
Poor	9	7	5	9
Fair.....	25	18	33	27
Good	34	39	54	50
Excellent	29	34	6	10
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	--	1	1
Poor	1	5	2	3
Fair.....	40	39	40	33
Good	26	31	23	42
Excellent	32	25	34	21
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	3
Poor	16	19	21	16
Fair.....	39	41	51	38
Good	29	31	16	34
Excellent	16	9	7	9
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	12	7	19	10
Poor	21	24	35	28
Fair.....	50	46	35	37
Good	14	17	10	20
Excellent	3	6	1	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	1
Poor	9	9	20	12
Fair.....	32	32	33	56
Good	59	59	42	31
Excellent	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	--
Poor	5	5	4	1
Fair.....	10	6	30	9
Good	85	88	65	64
Excellent	--	1	--	26
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	4	7	10	3
Poor	6	6	11	8
Fair.....	23	23	45	38
Good	44	43	28	42
Excellent	23	21	6	9
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	12	15	13	6
Poor	7	9	12	9
Fair.....	33	25	25	27
Good	43	44	45	52
Excellent	5	7	5	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero