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 JULY 10, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Monsoonal moisture continued during the week, although total rainfall amounts lessened when compared with the previous 3-week stretch, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Soil moisture continued to show slight improvements with the boost in precipitation. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 84 percent very short to short, compared with 88 percent last week, 54 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 67 percent. While the monsoon has been strong for some areas, other locations were still dry. Comments from Union County noted that spotty showers resulted in limited pasture grass growth, with some returning to dormancy due to drought stress. Additionally, corn acreage in the county has also been affected by the prolonged dryness, with a large percentage of fields normally planted to corn remaining unworked. In Dona Ana County, reports noted an increase in cotton acreage due to the crop's drought tolerance. The pecan crop in the county was in excellent condition, while alfalfa production was behind normal. While a new wildfire started during the week, conditions allowed for quick containment and resulted in a very small area of consumption. There was no growth of the Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak fire complex during the week, while containment continued to hover around 93 percent. The Bureau of Land Management continued to lift restrictions as wildfire conditions improved. Statewide, 58 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 66 percent last week, 53 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 52 percent. Supplement feeding needs remained high, although in line with what was noted in 2021. Producers were busy harvesting alfalfa hay, onions, and winter wheat for grain. The third cutting of alfalfa was underway by week's end. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from approximately 3 inches in several isolated locations to merely a trace in some areas. A few pockets of the State were dry. Despite the rainfall being fairly widespread, total weekly accumulations were below average for many locations. An active monsoon has helped to improve yearly precipitation, although total accumulations for most counties remained below average. The driest areas remained in portions of Chaves, Eddy, and Lea Counties, where precipitation has totaled 25 percent of normal or less, affecting large acreages of cotton, dry hay, and haylage, as well as large percentages of the cattle and sheep herds. According to the United States Drought Monitor for July 5, drought conditions stabilized somewhat during the week, with approximately 57 percent of the State categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 11.4 and 45.8 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) increased to cover 37.8 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) was present across 3.6 percent. Abnormal dryness was noted across 1.6 percent of the State, confined to Dona Ana and Otero Counties. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 10 percent light, 8 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 21 percent very short, 28 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 30 percent very short, 30 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 30 percent short, and 38 percent adequate, compared with 31 percent very short, 24 percent short, 42 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2nd cutting harvested.................................	70	55	67	68
3rd cutting harvested	3	NA	15	32
Corn				
Emerged..	96	89	NA	NA
Silked..	5	1	5	8
Cotton				
Squaring	25	12	31	39
Onions				
Harvested	67	58	45	73
Peanuts				
Emerged..	99	90	NA	NA
Pegging	33	24	15	18
Winter wheat				
Harvested for grain	62	47	69	79
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed....................	75	74	70	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed....................	70	70	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	6.3	5.9	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short..	44	49	13	28
Short	40	39	41	39
Adequate...	15	11	41	31
Surplus..	1	1	5	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short..	40	45	22	27
Short	50	46	53	46
Adequate...	10	9	24	26
Surplus..	--	--	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...	1	1	--	5
Poor	12	14	11	7
Fair...	30	31	53	31
Good	41	35	25	49
Excellent...	16	19	11	8
Chile				
Very poor...	4	4	1	--
Poor	13	13	10	6
Fair...	25	28	21	32
Good	44	42	42	48
Excellent...	14	13	26	14
Corn				
Very poor...	4	4	--	3
Poor	10	6	4	4
Fair...	33	35	52	45
Good	12	10	23	31
Excellent...	41	45	21	17
Cotton				
Very poor...	5	5	--	2
Poor	16	16	30	16
Fair...	53	53	43	47
Good	23	22	18	29
Excellent...	3	4	9	6
Pasture and range				
Very poor...	9	14	23	16
Poor	49	52	30	36
Fair...	34	25	24	31
Good	6	7	13	13
Excellent...	2	2	10	4
Peanuts				
Very poor...	5	5	--	--
Poor	7	7	9	9
Fair...	75	75	73	62
Good	13	13	18	29
Excellent...	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor...	--	--	--	--
Poor	5	5	8	3
Fair...	22	23	13	13
Good	32	31	79	70
Excellent...	41	41	--	14
Cattle and calves				
Very poor...	2	3	2	3
Poor	23	26	12	8
Fair...	34	32	36	39
Good	27	23	42	42
Excellent...	14	16	8	8
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor...	1	4	17	9
Poor	15	17	8	7
Fair...	32	30	24	35
Good	50	45	44	46
Excellent...	2	4	7	3

NA – not available
(--) – zero