

# 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 SEPTEMBER 6, 2015

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Temperatures across much of New Mexico were warmer than normal, climbing to as many as 10 degrees above average in Red River. Daytime highs varied by 23 degrees, from 77 degrees in Chama to 100 degrees in Carlsbad. Overnight lows dipped to 37 degrees at Eagle Nest. While most weather stations throughout the State reported some precipitation, much of the southeast was dry during the week. In fact, two of the three largest year-to-date moisture deficits now exist in Artesia and Carlsbad. Conversely, Quemado and Chama totaled 3.03 and 1.79 inches, respectively, during the week. Statewide, most crops continue to be rated in good to excellent condition. Fieldwork is advancing at a rapid pace, with reports suggesting that green chile harvest will end sooner than expected this year because many fields have fruit that is turning red earlier than in years past. Reports from some south-central areas indicated that sorghum acreage that would normally be harvested for grain has been chopped for silage due to poor, if not non-existent, head development. Pecan nut set was reported as 8 percent heavy and 92 percent moderate. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light and 4 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Stock water supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 19 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

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 .....	90	75	94	95
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	43	38	52	56
Chile				
Green harvested .....	73	56	57	64
Corn				
Dough.....	79	67	77	82
Dented .....	30	25	47	49
Harvested for silage.....	54	37	35	38
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	96	92	89	86
Bolls opening .....	32	27	23	20
Fall lettuce				
Planted.....	88	44	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Headed .....	90	79	73	75
Coloring .....	19	13	19	19
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	5	1	3	9

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	7.0	6.4	6.7	6.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	15	32	37
Short .....	34	34	27	35
Adequate .....	49	49	40	27
Surplus .....	2	2	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	11	11	33	NA
Short .....	29	29	28	NA
Adequate .....	59	59	38	NA
Surplus .....	1	1	1	NA

NA – not available  
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa				
Very poor .....	1	1	2	6
Poor.....	3	3	7	7
Fair.....	21	22	34	27
Good .....	49	48	46	53
Excellent .....	26	26	11	7
Corn				
Very poor .....	--	--	1	2
Poor.....	--	--	3	6
Fair.....	11	11	25	32
Good .....	51	51	41	40
Excellent .....	38	38	30	20
Cotton				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	--	1	5	14
Fair.....	23	22	50	33
Good .....	67	67	24	30
Excellent .....	10	10	21	19
Pasture and Range				
Very poor .....	4	4	19	33
Poor.....	5	5	25	26
Fair.....	31	35	37	24
Good .....	48	44	18	15
Excellent .....	12	12	1	2
Peanuts				
Very poor .....	--	--	3	4
Poor.....	--	--	20	17
Fair.....	68	68	71	57
Good .....	29	29	6	22
Excellent .....	3	3	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	13	13	24	25
Good .....	77	77	60	52
Excellent .....	10	10	16	22
Sorghum				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	17
Poor.....	1	1	--	12
Fair.....	10	10	28	35
Good .....	85	85	65	31
Excellent .....	4	4	7	5
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	1	1	2	NA
Poor.....	2	2	9	NA
Fair.....	24	26	43	NA
Good .....	65	63	43	NA
Excellent .....	8	8	3	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	15	15	19	NA
Poor.....	15	15	24	NA
Fair.....	15	15	31	NA
Good .....	52	52	26	NA
Excellent .....	3	3	--	NA

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

New Mexico’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/New\\_Mexico/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2015/NM\\_Weather\\_09062015.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2015/NM_Weather_09062015.pdf)