

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
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 16, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Despite above average temperatures across the State, hard freezes were evident in the northwestern part of New Mexico during the week, marking the end of the 2016 growing season for that area, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. Overnight temperatures in the area dipped as low as 27 degrees. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels continued to drop, with conditions now rated 33 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 36 percent last week, 49 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 32 percent. Dry conditions defined most areas, with 20 of the 46 weather stations reporting no moisture during the week. The largest rainfall accumulation was reported at Artesia where 1.38 inches fell. Average temperatures varied from 3 to 10 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 71 degrees at Cloudcroft to 94 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows varied from 27 degrees at Chama and El Vado Dam to 51 degrees at Santa Teresa and Truth or Consequences. Overall, winter wheat seeding was nearing completion ahead of normal. Crop emergence was progressing well despite questionable moisture levels in some areas. Harvest activities for alfalfa hay, red chile, corn for grain and silage, cotton, and peanuts were ongoing. Reports from Union County indicated that livestock producers were still debating about what to do with their cattle since the market is depressed; some were planning to pasture their herds longer since grass supplies were fairly good. Elsewhere, producers in Luna County were planning for the need for above average supplemental feeding since the limited rainfall received in late-summer did little to alleviate prolonged drought conditions, and available grass was extremely limited. Pecan nut set was reported as 20 percent light, 45 percent moderate, and 35 percent heavy. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 31 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Stock water supplies were reported as 6 percent very short, 21 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
5 th cutting harvested.....	99	90	95	97
6 th cutting harvested.....	56	49	52	67
Chile				
Red harvested	45	27	34	22
Corn				
Dented	87	83	95	98
Mature	74	68	66	79
Harvested for grain	7	2	8	19
Harvested for silage.....	85	80	90	92
Cotton				
Bolls opening	78	75	89	87
Harvested.....	18	1	17	10
Peanuts				
Harvested.....	45	30	33	33
Sorghum				
Mature	46	25	57	37
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	98	85	68	88
Emerged	73	50	55	70

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	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	9	13	34
Short	57	55	38	34
Adequate	30	33	46	31
Surplus	3	3	3	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	8	8	9	NA
Short	33	32	32	NA
Adequate	58	59	58	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 hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	3	3	2	7
Fair.....	41	41	28	33
Good	46	46	44	48
Excellent	10	10	26	8
Corn				
Very poor	2	2	--	1
Poor.....	2	2	--	8
Fair.....	29	29	12	37
Good	48	48	51	38
Excellent	19	19	37	16
Cotton				
Very poor	1	1	--	5
Poor.....	27	27	4	17
Fair.....	35	35	25	35
Good	31	31	61	29
Excellent	6	6	10	14
Pasture and range				
Very poor	3	3	4	30
Poor.....	20	19	9	23
Fair.....	44	44	33	26
Good	28	29	42	17
Excellent	5	5	12	4
Peanut				
Very poor	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	6	6	--	21
Fair.....	67	67	72	66
Good	27	27	28	9
Excellent	--	--	--	--
Pecan				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	1	3	--	1
Fair.....	9	9	13	21
Good	42	47	77	58
Excellent	48	41	10	20
Sorghum				
Very poor	--	--	--	11
Poor.....	4	4	1	17
Fair.....	73	73	12	32
Good	22	22	81	37
Excellent	1	1	6	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	--	NA	--	NA
Poor.....	36	NA	--	NA
Fair.....	39	NA	44	NA
Good	8	NA	46	NA
Excellent	17	NA	10	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	NA
Poor.....	4	4	2	NA
Fair.....	34	34	24	NA
Good	53	52	66	NA
Excellent	7	8	7	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	12	12	15	NA
Poor.....	12	12	15	NA
Fair.....	15	15	15	NA
Good	53	53	52	NA
Excellent	8	8	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/2016/NM_Weather_10162016.pdf