

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 AUGUST 7, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Seasonal monsoonal precipitation continued to fall across a wide-ranging swath of New Mexico, while portions of the State continued to miss the beneficial moisture, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Comments from Union County indicated that the area was finally starting to see an uptick in rainfall, which led to greatly improved pasture grass growth. In Rio Arriba County, good mountain showers were noted, and most fruit crops were looking good. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 63 percent very short to short, compared with 61 percent last week, 64 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 61 percent. Producers across the State were busy harvesting hay, green chile, and onions. Statewide, 41 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 39 percent last week, 37 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 42 percent. Supplemental feeding needs remained high, although were decreasing in some areas as pasture conditions improved somewhat. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from approximately over 5 inches in a few isolated locations across the State to only a trace or none in some areas. Southeastern New Mexico remained extremely dry, but northwestern counties received varying amounts of precipitation this week. The steady monsoon has improved yearly precipitation in many northcentral and western counties, 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 August 2, drought conditions continued to show some slight improvements from week-to-week. Roughly 29 percent of the State remained categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 9.3 and 20.1 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) decreased to cover 41.8 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) increased its presence to 24.7 percent. The area noted in abnormal dryness increased to 3.4 percent of the State. Drought-free conditions maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties, at 0.7 percent. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light, 6 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe. Pecan nut set was reported as 99 percent moderate and 1 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 35 percent short, 54 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 16 percent very short, 32 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 36 percent very short, 24 percent short, and 40 percent adequate, compared with 16 percent very short, 23 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	97	93	NA	NA
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	40	35	66	71
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	8	1	20	36
Chile				
Green harvested .....	20	10	22	21
Corn				
Silked.....	66	54	63	62
Doughed .....	4	--	21	10
Cotton				
Squaring .....	70	64	84	83
Setting bolls .....	15	10	40	41
Onions				
Harvested .....	87	85	NA	NA
Peanuts				
Pegging .....	92	91	97	76
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	69	72	55	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	35	35	74	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 .....	6.3	5.8	6.7	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	16	17	29	25
Short .....	47	44	35	36
Adequate.....	35	37	33	35
Surplus.....	2	2	3	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	25	26	39	28
Short .....	55	53	35	40
Adequate.....	20	21	26	31
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.....	1	--	--	3
Poor .....	2	6	4	6
Fair.....	35	38	19	21
Good .....	49	44	41	55
Excellent.....	13	12	36	15
Chile				
Very poor.....	4	--	1	2
Poor .....	14	11	9	6
Fair.....	26	24	24	32
Good .....	37	44	42	45
Excellent.....	19	21	24	15
Corn				
Very poor.....	2	1	--	1
Poor .....	14	13	4	4
Fair.....	49	45	43	36
Good .....	4	7	35	39
Excellent.....	31	34	18	20
Cotton				
Very poor.....	3	--	--	2
Poor .....	27	19	20	15
Fair.....	35	38	41	43
Good .....	25	28	30	32
Excellent.....	10	15	9	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	5	4	13	13
Poor .....	36	35	24	29
Fair.....	40	42	38	37
Good .....	13	15	16	16
Excellent.....	6	4	9	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor .....	7	7	9	13
Fair.....	75	75	46	52
Good .....	13	13	45	34
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	5	5	5	2
Fair.....	22	22	6	10
Good .....	33	33	89	70
Excellent.....	40	40	--	18
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	7	4
Poor .....	17	13	10	8
Fair.....	34	32	25	40
Good .....	40	41	47	41
Excellent.....	8	13	11	7
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	--	16	11
Poor .....	1	1	15	9
Fair.....	30	34	21	32
Good .....	63	59	40	44
Excellent.....	6	6	8	4

NA – not available  
(--) – zero