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 AUGUST 28, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Average temperatures dipped cooler and rainfall increased across much of the State during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. Measureable rainfall was recorded at 45 of 46 reporting weather stations, with Animas being the only dry location during the week. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels improved from last week, with conditions rated 73 percent short to very short, compared with 49 percent last year and the 5-year average of 73 percent. The largest rainfall accumulation was reported at Carlsbad where 4.92 inches fell. Alcalde, Artesia, and Cloudcroft recorded over two inches, while 11 additional weather stations totaled 1 inch or more. Average temperatures varied from 8 degrees below to 3 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 71 degrees at Cloudcroft to 97 degrees at Fort Sumner. Overnight lows varied from 38 degrees at Quemado to 63 degrees at NMSU. Producers in some areas began seeding their 2017 winter wheat crop during the week, although reports from some counties suggested that progress would be later than normal due to less than adequate soil moisture. Some livestock producers were busy selling cattle because of the uncertainty in both sustainable feedstuffs for overwintering, as well as the market outlook. Comments from Union County indicated that recent rainfall had been moderate to heavy in most locations, restricting field access to just two days. Additionally, hail damaged corn that was not being harvested for silage was struggling to continue developing. Rainfall in Curry County was erratic, with much of the area still dry to exceedingly dry. Silage harvest in the county was progressing slowly; however, production was reportedly good. Reports from Dona Ana County showed that heavy rainfall in some areas affected yield potential, and in some cases caused a complete loss of chile, corn, cotton, pecans, sorghum, and some unharvested alfalfa hay. Widespread moisture fell in Lea County during the week, although reports indicated that additional rain was needed to boost pasture grass growth and to fill stock water tanks. Pecan nut set was reported as 24 percent light, 61 percent moderate, and 15 percent heavy. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 32 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Stock water supplies were reported as 11 percent very short, 23 percent short, 59 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				
4th cutting harvested	70	55	72	84
5th cutting harvested	39	28	37	34
Chile				
Green harvested	54	38	50	43
Corn				
Silking	95	90	94	96
Dough	60	49	63	54
Dented	13	3	22	23
Corn harvested for silage	37	34	32	24
Cotton				
Setting bolls	89	75	91	82
Bolls opening	40	21	22	13
Peanuts				
Pegging	90	82	90	86
Sorghum				
Headed	75	56	73	55
Coloring	29	24	11	9
Mature	2	--	--	--
Winter wheat planted	1	NA	1	1

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	6.1	6.7	6.4	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	15	16	15	37
Short	58	62	34	36
Adequate	24	21	49	26
Surplus	3	1	2	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	17	17	11	NA
Short	38	39	29	NA
Adequate	43	43	59	NA
Surplus	2	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	--	--	1	5
Poor	4	3	3	6
Fair	43	43	22	30
Good	46	47	48	49
Excellent	7	7	26	10
Chile				
Very poor	1	--	--	NA
Poor	7	7	--	NA
Fair	22	21	26	NA
Good	48	48	56	NA
Excellent	22	24	18	NA
Corn				
Very poor	2	2	--	2
Poor	4	4	--	6
Fair	30	31	11	36
Good	47	48	51	34
Excellent	17	15	38	22
Cotton				
Very poor	3	3	--	5
Poor	25	25	1	14
Fair	31	31	22	33
Good	33	33	67	32
Excellent	8	8	10	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor	3	3	4	30
Poor	23	23	5	25
Fair	46	46	35	26
Good	25	25	44	16
Excellent	3	3	12	3
Peanut				
Very poor	--	--	--	4
Poor	4	5	--	16
Fair	73	72	68	67
Good	23	23	29	12
Excellent	--	--	3	1
Pecan				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	--	1
Fair	9	6	13	26
Good	53	47	77	58
Excellent	38	47	10	15
Sorghum				
Very poor	--	--	--	17
Poor	3	3	1	14
Fair	77	77	10	31
Good	19	19	85	35
Excellent	1	1	4	3
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	NA
Poor	4	4	2	NA
Fair	37	37	26	NA
Good	52	52	63	NA
Excellent	5	5	8	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	12	12	15	NA
Poor	12	13	15	NA
Fair	20	20	15	NA
Good	50	50	52	NA
Excellent	6	5	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_08282016.pdf