

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



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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING AUGUST 28, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Monsoon driven storm systems weakened somewhat during the week, as rainfall was less widespread and total weekly accumulations were less for many locations, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Generally, improvements in crop, soil moisture, and pasture conditions continued. Reports from Rio Arriba County indicated that some arroyos were running high following a week of solid rainfall, and the apple and chile crops in the area appeared in good condition with harvest just around the corner. Similarly, some flooding was noted along the Gila River in southwestern New Mexico. Comments from San Juan and Union Counties noted that pasture grasses were responding well to the recent precipitation, with good growth evident nearly area wide. Most stock ponds were full, which provided relief to livestock producers that had been hauling water to their herds. Growers across the State were busy harvesting hay and green chile. Additionally, winter wheat growers were seeding the 2023 crop in a limited capacity by week’s end. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 54 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 51 percent last week, 31 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 37 percent. Additionally, 38 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 30 percent last week, 24 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 24 percent. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from over 4 inches to only a trace or none in some areas. The heavier accumulations were confined to western New Mexico. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 23, drought conditions continued to show some week-to-week improvement following continued monsoonal moisture. Roughly 15 percent of the State remained categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 0.3 and 14.5 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) increased to cover 46.9 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) decreased its presence to account for 26.7 percent. The area noted in abnormal dryness increased to 10.7 percent of the State. Drought-free conditions, at 0.9 percent, maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties, although a slight increase in area covered was noted. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light, 4 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe. Pecan nut set was reported as 99 percent moderate and 1 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 5 percent very short, 32 percent short, 59 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus, compared with 18 percent very short, 23 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 25 percent very short, 25 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 19 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	93	70	96	NA
4 th cutting harvested	32	22	70	70
Chile				
Green harvested	66	52	54	51
Corn				
Silked	95	88	92	NA
Doughed	41	29	65	57
Dented	5	1	32	27
Harvested for silage	3	--	10	NA
Cotton				
Setting bolls	60	47	67	70
Bolls opening	1	--	--	6
Winter wheat				
Planted	1	NA	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	57	65	45	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	25	30	63	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	6.4	6.0	6.8	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	8	10	33	24
Short	38	39	36	39
Adequate	52	47	27	33
Surplus	2	4	4	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	17	22	36	29
Short	48	47	36	37
Adequate	34	30	26	31
Surplus	1	1	2	3
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	2	4
Poor	4	8	8	8
Fair	27	34	25	23
Good	56	49	33	48
Excellent.....	12	8	32	17
Corn				
Very poor.....	4	4	--	1
Poor	6	11	5	5
Fair	35	41	39	39
Good	15	10	36	36
Excellent.....	40	34	20	19
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	2
Poor	31	31	19	14
Fair	38	38	41	42
Good	21	24	31	32
Excellent.....	5	2	9	10
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	4	6	10	11
Poor	26	31	26	29
Fair	32	33	40	36
Good	26	19	19	19
Excellent.....	12	11	5	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor	7	7	9	10
Fair	75	75	32	52
Good	13	13	59	37
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor	5	7	5	2
Fair	18	20	6	8
Good	38	41	89	70
Excellent.....	38	31	--	20
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	6	4
Poor	10	15	8	8
Fair	30	31	21	38
Good	35	36	45	40
Excellent.....	24	17	20	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	--	19	9
Poor	4	5	10	6
Fair	30	35	25	29
Good	56	54	40	51
Excellent.....	10	6	6	5

NA – not available
 (--) – zero