

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 MAY 14, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: While the northern half of the State has received beneficial precipitation in recent weeks, the southern portion continued to accumulate only trace amounts of moisture, with some areas remaining completely dry, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. The largest moisture accumulation was reported at Ocate, where 2.58 inches fell. Additionally, 6 other northern weather stations reported over an inch of rainfall during the week, with all northern stations tallying some measurable moisture. Conversely, precipitation totals in the south ranged from 0.01 to 1.09 inches, with most locations receiving less than half an inch, and Alamogordo, Deming, Quemado, NMSU, and Santa Teresa receiving no precipitation. Reporter comments varied drastically with regard to moisture. In Union County, reports suggested that pasture grasses were greening, and were providing enough nutrition for livestock that ranchers were able to lessen the amount of supplemental feed needed. Elsewhere, comments from Grant and Luna Counties indicated that native pastures were already showing signs of drought stress, and rain was desperately needed to stave off severe drought conditions. Additionally, Eddy County comments noted that stock tanks supplied by water run-off were low, and that pastures were being grazed off with no green up evident. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 42 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 45 percent last week, 30 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 27 percent. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 6 degrees above average. Daytime highs ranged from 67 degrees at Angel Fire to 94 degrees at Carlsbad and Hachita. Overnight lows varied from 29 degrees at Angel Fire to 51 degrees at Carlsbad. Alfalfa fields continued to show improvement with condition reported as 71 percent good to excellent, compared with 63 percent last week, 48 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 60 percent. Alfalfa producers in Dona Ana County had reportedly harvested 40 percent of their second cutting. Chile emergence was ahead of the average pace, with 44 percent of the crop reported in good to excellent condition. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent moderate and 7 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent moderate and 15 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 5 percent very short, 19 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 19 percent very short, 23 percent short, and 58 percent adequate.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	52	46	50	56
Chile				
Emerged	71	64	55	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	49	35	43	56
Emerged	19	8	7	18
Cotton				
Planted.....	68	65	46	57
Emerged	33	25	29	NA
Onions				
Emerged	95	93	100	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	26	5	6	12
Sorghum				
Planted.....	5	2	10	13
Winter wheat				
Headed	92	83	82	65
Cows calved	89	86	94	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	58	68	63	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	57	62	48	NA

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	6.7	6.4	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	14	10	41
Short	43	41	60	32
Adequate	41	43	30	27
Surplus	1	2	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	10	9	NA
Short	47	42	36	NA
Adequate	39	48	55	NA
Surplus	--	--	--	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
Poor.....	1	--	2	6
Fair.....	28	37	50	33
Good	69	61	37	45
Excellent	2	2	11	15
Chile				
Very poor	--	--	6	NA
Poor.....	3	6	19	NA
Fair.....	53	39	9	NA
Good	34	43	38	NA
Excellent	10	12	28	NA
Onion				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	2
Fair.....	16	16	--	14
Good	69	78	39	39
Excellent	15	6	61	45
Pasture and range condition				
Very poor	7	8	2	34
Poor.....	15	15	17	23
Fair.....	49	50	48	25
Good	26	25	30	15
Excellent	3	2	3	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	3	2	3	38
Poor.....	17	12	19	12
Fair.....	40	31	36	25
Good	33	50	40	17
Excellent	7	5	2	8
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	1	2	NA
Poor.....	2	2	3	NA
Fair.....	44	46	37	NA
Good	46	47	53	NA
Excellent	6	4	5	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	14	9	13	NA
Poor.....	15	14	12	NA
Fair.....	16	24	18	NA
Good	55	53	55	NA
Excellent	--	--	2	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/2017/NM_Weather_05142017.pdf