

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



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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING AUGUST 14, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Monsoonal moisture continued to fall on a large portion of New Mexico, although the rain pattern remained hit-or-miss for many of the same regions, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Generally, crop, soil moisture, and pasture conditions continue to show improvements in many locations. Comments from Union County noted that light rainfall helped to maintain topsoil moisture, as well as grass growth in most pastures. Additionally, many fields that were idle during early summer months were now being worked. Crops in the area varied drastically relative to phenological development, mostly resulting from two distinct planting timeframes. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 58 percent very short to short, compared with 63 percent last week, 65 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 60 percent. Producers across the State stayed busy harvesting hay, green chile, and onions. The harvest of alfalfa hay was well behind both last year and the average pace. Statewide, 42 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 41 percent last week, 37 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 41 percent. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from over 4 inches in a few isolated locations across the State to only a trace or none in some areas. The heavier accumulations were recorded in portions of Catron, Grant, Otero, and Roosevelt Counties, while meaningful moisture continued to miss much of Eddy County, where year-to-date rainfall totaled 25 percent of normal or less, affecting the areas cotton, dry hay, and haylage, as well as cattle and sheep herds. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 9, drought conditions continued to show some slight week-to-week improvements. Roughly 30 percent of the State remained categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 3.0 and 26.8 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) decreased to cover 35.1 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) increased its presence across 28.5 percent. The area noted in abnormal dryness increased to 6.1 percent of the State. Drought-free conditions maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties, although a slight reduction was noted to 0.6 percent. No hail damage was reported during the week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 8 percent light, 7 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 8 percent very short, 29 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 24 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 30 percent very short, 24 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 13 percent very short, 20 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	59	40	75	79
4 th cutting harvested	16	8	37	46
Chile				
Green harvested	36	20	34	31
Corn				
Silked	79	66	80	75
Doughed	12	4	31	22
Cotton				
Squaring	83	70	97	90
Setting bolls	34	15	50	52
Onions				
Harvested	95	87	NA	NA
Peanuts				
Pegging	94	92	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	65	69	50	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	30	35	66	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	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	13	16	38	25
Short	45	47	27	35
Adequate	40	35	30	34
Surplus	2	2	5	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	22	25	43	28
Short	53	55	30	41
Adequate	25	20	25	29
Surplus	--	--	2	2
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	3	2
Poor	7	2	7	6
Fair	40	35	25	22
Good	45	49	35	57
Excellent.....	7	13	30	13
Chile				
Very poor.....	5	4	1	2
Poor	15	14	10	7
Fair	27	26	19	32
Good	39	37	44	43
Excellent.....	14	19	26	16
Corn				
Very poor.....	4	2	--	2
Poor	10	14	7	5
Fair	45	49	40	33
Good	6	4	30	37
Excellent.....	35	31	23	23
Cotton				
Very poor.....	4	3	--	2
Poor	30	27	20	15
Fair	37	35	41	44
Good	24	25	30	33
Excellent.....	5	10	9	6
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	6	5	14	12
Poor	36	36	23	29
Fair	34	40	37	35
Good	15	13	16	18
Excellent.....	9	6	10	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor	7	7	9	11
Fair	75	75	46	52
Good	13	13	45	36
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	1
Poor	7	5	8	3
Fair	25	22	9	10
Good	35	33	83	70
Excellent.....	32	40	--	16
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	9	3
Poor	16	17	9	7
Fair	33	34	20	36
Good	38	40	49	43
Excellent.....	12	8	13	11
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	--	23	13
Poor	3	1	20	11
Fair	33	30	17	31
Good	60	63	35	42
Excellent.....	4	6	5	3
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				