

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE  
2507 North Telshor Blvd, Las Cruces, NM 88011  
Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Longino Bustillos  
(800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION  
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Hot, mostly dry weather prevailed across New Mexico during the week. Where moisture did fall, totals were well below average. The two exceptions were Carlsbad – 1.44 inches above normal – and Santa Teresa – 0.02 inch above normal. All weather stations in the southeast reported rainfall, with totals varying from 0.06 inch to 2.14 inches. Average weekly temperatures varied by 25 degrees – from 56 degrees in Eagle Nest to 81 degrees in Carlsbad. Daytime highs broke the century mark in Carlsbad, Roswell, and Tucumcari. Overnight lows dipped to freezing or below at El Vado Dam and in Chama. Statewide, most crops continue to be rated in good to excellent condition. Apple harvest was underway in the northwest, with many roadside vendors offering quality produce. Fieldwork and crop development continued to advance well under mostly optimal conditions. Reports indicated that pasture conditions were adequate in many locations, although the need for additional rainfall remained a concern for ranchers in isolated portions of the southwest. Pecan nut set was reported as 11 percent heavy, 82 percent moderate, and 7 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light and 4 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Stock water supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 21 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	65	55	71	78
6 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	21	5	23	25
Chile				
Green harvested .....	92	88	86	88
Red harvested .....	9	1	NA	NA
Corn				
Dough.....	95	90	94	98
Dented .....	65	55	79	80
Mature .....	19	10	39	40
Harvested for silage.....	70	60	65	68
Cotton				
Bolls opening .....	51	41	37	49
Fall lettuce				
Planted.....	95	90	NA	NA
Sorghum				
Coloring .....	50	35	52	43
Mature .....	8	2	--	2
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	19	7	35	43

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.....	6.0	6.7	5.5	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	15	30	31
Short.....	43	39	22	31
Adequate .....	42	45	44	35
Surplus .....	1	1	4	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	10	11	29	NA
Short.....	35	34	27	NA
Adequate .....	54	54	41	NA
Surplus .....	1	1	3	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				
Very poor .....	--	1	2	5
Poor.....	2	3	6	9
Fair.....	22	21	36	26
Good .....	48	45	45	53
Excellent .....	28	30	11	7
Corn				
Very poor .....	--	--	3	3
Poor.....	--	--	4	9
Fair.....	12	11	26	26
Good .....	51	51	34	40
Excellent .....	37	38	33	22
Cotton				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	3	--	5	16
Fair.....	24	23	50	33
Good .....	63	67	24	28
Excellent .....	10	10	21	19
Pasture and Range				
Very poor .....	4	4	15	28
Poor.....	6	6	19	24
Fair.....	33	32	36	26
Good .....	46	47	25	19
Excellent .....	11	11	5	3
Peanuts				
Very poor .....	--	--	3	5
Poor.....	--	--	20	25
Fair.....	71	68	71	50
Good .....	26	29	6	18
Excellent .....	3	3	--	2
Pecans				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	13	13	24	20
Good .....	77	77	60	51
Excellent .....	10	10	16	28
Sorghum				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	16
Poor.....	1	1	3	12
Fair.....	10	10	29	32
Good .....	85	85	62	34
Excellent .....	4	4	6	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	1	1	2	NA
Poor.....	2	2	10	NA
Fair.....	24	24	40	NA
Good .....	65	65	45	NA
Excellent .....	8	8	3	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	15	15	19	NA
Poor.....	15	15	24	NA
Fair.....	15	15	30	NA
Good .....	52	52	26	NA
Excellent .....	3	3	1	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/2015/NM\\_Weather\\_09202015.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2015/NM_Weather_09202015.pdf)