

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION  
WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Locally heavy monsoonal moisture continued its presence across southern New Mexico, while drier conditions were observed in many northern locations, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from Dona Ana County indicated that some flooding occurred in the Anthony and La Union areas, which could lead to some crop damage in the coming weeks. In Curry County, fieldwork was at a standstill due to much-needed rainfall. Comments for the county indicated that the corn crop was in good to excellent condition. Elsewhere, limited moisture in Union County led to further deterioration of pasture and range condition. Statewide, 37 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 43 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 39 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals ranged from about 15 inches in an isolated area of Dona Ana County just west of El Paso, Texas, to merely a trace in many northern counties. Much of the southern half of the State totaled at least 0.5 inch, with several large areas accumulating more than 2 inches. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 10, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 12.6 percent of the State, up slightly from last week. Abnormal dryness covered 7.5 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) decreased slightly, and was present across 13.2 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) rose to 36.2 percent. More significant changes were evident in extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought, with 26.0 and 4.5 percent of the State classified in the two categories, respectively. Collectively, about 37,108 square miles were still affected by extreme and exceptional drought. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 65 percent short to very short, compared with 85 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 63 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light and 4 percent moderate. Pecan nut set was reported as 4 percent light and 96 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 15 percent very short, 24 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 16 percent very short, 37 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 13 percent very short, 20 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 27 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 38 percent adequate last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting harvested .....	76	68	71	84
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	39	22	42	51
Chile				
Green harvested.....	36	24	33	31
Corn				
Silked .....	82	66	68	77
Doughed.....	32	23	27	25
Dented .....	19	14	NA	NA
Harvested for silage.....	6	4	NA	NA
Cotton				
Squaring .....	99	85	94	91
Setting bolls.....	51	42	70	57
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	50	55	70	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	66	74	65	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 .....	6.2	6.7	6.8	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	38	29	33	20
Short.....	27	35	52	43
Adequate .....	30	33	15	32
Surplus .....	5	3	--	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	43	39	39	22
Short.....	30	35	51	43
Adequate .....	25	26	10	33
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.....	3	--	2	2
Poor .....	7	4	4	5
Fair.....	25	19	33	26
Good .....	35	41	48	59
Excellent .....	30	36	13	8
Chile				
Very poor.....	1	1	6	1
Poor .....	10	9	8	7
Fair.....	19	24	34	33
Good .....	44	42	43	43
Excellent .....	26	24	9	16
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	2
Poor .....	7	4	1	4
Fair.....	40	43	36	32
Good .....	30	35	29	41
Excellent .....	23	18	33	21
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	3
Poor .....	20	20	22	16
Fair.....	41	41	57	42
Good .....	30	30	12	33
Excellent .....	9	9	4	6
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	14	13	17	10
Poor .....	23	24	26	29
Fair.....	37	38	32	37
Good .....	16	16	19	20
Excellent .....	10	9	6	4
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	5	1
Poor .....	9	9	20	11
Fair.....	46	46	33	56
Good .....	45	45	42	32
Excellent .....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor .....	8	5	1	2
Fair.....	9	6	26	10
Good .....	83	89	72	62
Excellent .....	--	--	--	25
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	9	7	2	2
Poor .....	9	10	7	6
Fair.....	20	25	37	39
Good .....	49	47	41	44
Excellent .....	13	11	13	9
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	23	16	17	11
Poor .....	20	15	15	9
Fair.....	17	21	35	32
Good .....	35	40	32	45
Excellent .....	5	8	1	3
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				