

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
September 20, 2021

Contact: Longino Bustillos
(800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Generally, rainfall continued to be isolated and limited across much of the State, allowing producers ample time for field or ranch work during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Hay harvest advanced at a quick pace, with the fourth cutting virtually complete by week’s end. Reports from Union County noted that corn for grain harvest was underway in a small number of fields. Above average temperatures aided phenological crop development. Chile growers started red chile harvest during the week, with progress slightly ahead of normal. Green chile harvest was on par with the average pace. Ranchers continued to move yearlings off of summer grazing land, while trying to purchase enough feed and hay in preparation for winter feeding needs. Statewide, 33 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 49 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals were highly variable, ranging from about 2 inches in a few isolated locations to merely a trace. Much of the State either saw less than 0.1 inch or was dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for September 14, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 11.0 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness increased to cover 11.8 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased to cover 29.5 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) was unchanged at 28.6 percent. Extreme (D3) drought remained across 19.1 percent of the State. The State remained free of exceptional drought (D4). Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 68 percent short to very short, compared with 91 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 57 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light and 3 percent moderate. Pecan nut set was reported as 1 percent none, 4 percent light, and 95 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 12 percent very short, 32 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 44 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 17 percent very short, 25 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 20 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 36 percent adequate last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 th cutting harvested	96	87	96	NA
5 th cutting harvested	40	28	42	59
Chile				
Green harvested.....	79	71	84	79
Red harvested.....	5	NA	1	2
Corn				
Doughed.....	95	87	85	86
Dented.....	80	65	69	68
Mature.....	40	33	43	34
Harvested for silage.....	61	51	72	60
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	98	92	NA	NA
Bolls opening	10	7	32	37
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	45	30	46	53
Emerged	25	10	25	23
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	35	27	76	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	45	55	70	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	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	33	30	38	18
Short.....	35	37	53	39
Adequate	26	28	9	40
Surplus	6	5	--	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	38	38	38	23
Short.....	36	35	48	35
Adequate	22	23	14	41
Surplus	4	4	--	1

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.....	4	3	1	3
Poor	12	9	1	7
Fair.....	30	25	33	26
Good	30	34	56	54
Excellent	24	29	9	10
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	1	1	1
Poor	1	1	1	3
Fair.....	45	40	41	34
Good	26	26	19	38
Excellent	28	32	38	24
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	6	3
Poor	18	16	21	15
Fair.....	43	39	48	41
Good	32	29	17	34
Excellent	7	16	8	7
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	9	12	15	10
Poor	24	21	34	26
Fair.....	48	50	37	37
Good	18	14	12	21
Excellent	1	3	2	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	7	2
Poor	9	9	22	12
Fair.....	32	32	27	55
Good	59	59	44	31
Excellent	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor	9	5	4	1
Fair.....	12	10	32	9
Good	78	85	64	64
Excellent	1	--	--	26
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	4	4	10	3
Poor	5	6	9	7
Fair.....	30	23	43	38
Good	40	44	30	42
Excellent	21	23	8	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	7	12	10	8
Poor	10	7	7	8
Fair.....	40	33	31	27
Good	40	43	49	51
Excellent	3	5	3	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero