

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 22, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Rainfall totals during the week varied depending on location, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reports from several counties in the northeast noted extremely hot temperatures coupled with high winds which led to the quick drying of soil moisture in many fields. Where rainfall has been steady, pasture grass was improving. Statewide, 40 percent of the State’s pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 44 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 37 percent. In Union County, yearlings were starting to be moved off of summer pastures, with comments noting they had gained very well. Elsewhere, peaches were being harvested in Rio Arriba County, with growers noting that apples would be picked in the next few weeks. Fieldwork in Curry County was still delayed due to additional early-week rain. Growers in the county were planning to start harvesting corn silage when they are able to get back into their fields, with most expecting very good yields. During the past week, converted moisture totals ranged from about 4 inches in a few isolated locations to merely a trace for much of the State. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 17, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 12.9 percent of the State, up slightly from last week. Abnormal dryness covered 7.7 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased to cover 16.8 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) rose to 39.2 percent. More significant changes were evident in extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought, with 21.7 and 1.7 percent of the State classified in the two categories, respectively. Collectively, about 28,435 square miles were still affected by extreme and exceptional drought. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 68 percent short to very short, compared with 85 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 61 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 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 17 percent very short, 26 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 13 percent very short, 41 percent short, 45 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 14 percent very short, 19 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 25 percent very short, 37 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 rd cutting harvested	89	76	76	NA
4 th cutting harvested	58	39	55	61
Chile				
Green harvested.....	46	36	43	42
Corn				
Silked	89	82	79	NA
Doughed.....	52	32	48	42
Dented	27	19	24	NA
Mature	1	--	NA	NA
Harvested for silage.....	8	6	NA	NA
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	57	51	77	66
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	48	50	79	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	68	66	59	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	6.2	6.7	6.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	37	38	35	21
Short.....	31	27	50	40
Adequate	28	30	15	35
Surplus	4	5	--	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	43	43	38	22
Short.....	31	30	47	39
Adequate	24	25	15	37
Surplus	2	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.....	2	3	2	3
Poor	10	7	6	7
Fair.....	31	25	40	29
Good	30	35	44	53
Excellent	27	30	8	8
Chile				
Very poor.....	1	1	7	NA
Poor	10	10	10	NA
Fair.....	19	19	24	NA
Good	44	44	45	NA
Excellent	26	26	14	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	2
Poor	5	7	3	5
Fair.....	39	40	37	34
Good	32	30	34	40
Excellent	24	23	25	19
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	7	3
Poor	19	20	22	17
Fair.....	41	41	50	40
Good	31	30	16	32
Excellent	9	9	5	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	15	14	13	8
Poor	25	23	31	29
Fair.....	38	37	35	38
Good	16	16	15	20
Excellent	6	10	6	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	6	1
Poor	9	9	22	11
Fair.....	40	46	28	56
Good	51	45	44	32
Excellent	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor	5	8	--	2
Fair.....	7	9	27	10
Good	88	83	73	61
Excellent	--	--	--	26
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	8	9	8	2
Poor	8	9	8	7
Fair.....	21	20	40	42
Good	47	49	35	41
Excellent	16	13	9	8
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	24	23	12	8
Poor	13	20	12	7
Fair.....	21	17	31	32
Good	37	35	41	49
Excellent	5	5	4	4
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				