

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 21, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Monsoonal moisture was spread across virtually all of New Mexico during the week, with significant rainfall accumulating in portions of the State that have mostly missed out on any beneficial precipitation up to this point, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Generally, crop, soil moisture, and pasture conditions continued to show improvements in many locations, although reports did note that some isolated flooding occurred. Heavy rain was positioned in a wide swath throughout most counties in the lower two-thirds of the State. This led to a reduction in the number of days suitable for fieldwork, when compared with last week. Where conditions allowed, producers stayed busy harvesting hay and green chile. Reports from San Juan County noted that pasture grass was greening up across the county, and cattle in the area were gaining weight under the improved feeding conditions. In Union County, comments indicated that the millet crop was headed out, while roughly 10 percent of the sorghum crop was coloring. Pasture grasses in the area were seeding out, and wind-blown pastures were recovering under larger rainfall totals. Statewide, topsoil moisture was reported as 51 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 42 percent last week, 32 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 40 percent. Additionally, 30 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in good to excellent condition, compared with 24 percent last week, 22 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 24 percent. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from over 5 inches to only a trace or none in portions of extreme northwestern New Mexico. According to the United States Drought Monitor for August 16, drought conditions continued to show some slight week-to-week improvements. Roughly 28 percent of the State remained categorized in the exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought categories – 0.3 and 27.9 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) decreased to cover 33.9 percent of New Mexico, while moderate drought (D1) increased its presence to account for 29.4 percent. The area noted in abnormal dryness increased to 7.9 percent of the State. Drought-free conditions, at 0.6 percent, maintained their hold in Dona Ana and Otero Counties. Hail damage in all crops was reported 1 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 5 percent light, 5 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 5 percent very short, 30 percent short, 62 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus, compared with 17 percent very short, 26 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 32 percent very short, 21 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 14 percent very short, 19 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus 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	70	59	87	NA
4 th cutting harvested	22	16	55	59
Chile				
Green harvested	52	36	45	41
Corn				
Silked	88	79	88	NA
Doughed	29	12	49	39
Dented	1	NA	26	NA
Cotton				
Squaring	96	83	NA	NA
Setting bolls	47	34	56	61
Peanuts				
Pegging	96	94	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed	65	65	48	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed	30	30	68	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	6.0	6.5	6.5	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	10	13	37	25
Short	39	45	31	35
Adequate	47	40	28	36
Surplus	4	2	4	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	22	22	43	28
Short	47	53	31	37
Adequate	30	25	24	33
Surplus	1	--	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	2	3
Poor	8	7	10	8
Fair	34	40	31	27
Good	49	45	30	50
Excellent.....	8	7	27	12
Chile				
Very poor.....	6	5	1	NA
Poor	16	15	10	NA
Fair	25	27	19	NA
Good	40	39	44	NA
Excellent.....	13	14	26	NA
Corn				
Very poor.....	4	4	--	1
Poor	11	10	5	5
Fair	41	45	39	37
Good	10	6	32	37
Excellent.....	34	35	24	20
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	4	--	2
Poor	31	30	19	16
Fair	38	37	41	42
Good	24	24	31	32
Excellent.....	2	5	9	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	6	6	15	10
Poor	31	36	25	30
Fair	33	34	38	36
Good	19	15	16	18
Excellent.....	11	9	6	6
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor	7	7	9	12
Fair	75	75	40	49
Good	13	13	51	38
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	1
Poor	7	7	5	3
Fair	20	25	7	10
Good	41	35	88	68
Excellent.....	31	32	--	18
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	1	8	3
Poor	15	16	8	8
Fair	31	33	21	39
Good	36	38	47	40
Excellent.....	17	12	16	10
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	--	24	11
Poor	5	3	13	7
Fair	35	33	21	32
Good	54	60	37	46
Excellent.....	6	4	5	4
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				