

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By week’s end, 80 percent of Arizona cotton had squared, and 52 percent had set bolls, up 6 and 27 percentage points, respectively, from the State’s 5-year average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Arizona cotton was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 1 percent of the crop rated poor. Ninety-six percent of the State’s barley had been harvested, down 1 percentage point from the previous year’s levels. Ninety-five percent of Arizona’s Durum wheat had been harvested, up 4 percentage points from the previous year’s levels. Alfalfa hay harvest continued to take place on more than 75 percent of the crop’s acreage throughout the State. Arizona’s alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 20 percent of the crop rated fair to poor. Pasture and range conditions throughout the State deteriorated when compared to that of the previous report. Reports from Navajo and Apache Counties have stated that ranchers are transporting feed to rangeland livestock. As of June 25, the National Drought Mitigation Center’s Grass Productivity Forecast (Grass-Cast) showed that native forage production for southwestern and northeastern counties is generally expected to be 5 to 15 percent less than the area’s 36-year average. Native forage production for Cochise, Pima, Pinal, and Yavapai Counties is expected to be at least 30 percent less than the area’s 36-year average, whereas native forage production for all remaining areas is generally expected to be 15 to 30 percent less than the area’s 36-year average. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 15 percent rated very short, 3 percent rated short, 79 percent rated adequate, and 3 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend.

Over the past week, measurable precipitation was experienced across much of the State, however, northeastern and far western areas were the exception and remained relatively dry. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), northern portions of the Mogollon Rim, the San Rafael Valley, and the Chiricahua Mountains received the most precipitation, accumulating approximately 4.50 inches while other areas of Arizona received anywhere from trace amounts to 2.50 inches. The seasonal mean temperature outlook continues to show that temperatures will likely be above normal for the entirety of the State, with northern and eastern regions having a higher probability of experiencing hotter temperatures than southern and western areas. The seasonal total precipitation outlook continues to show that precipitation will likely be below normal for the entirety of the State, with the eastern third of Arizona having a higher probability of experiencing below average precipitation than the western two-thirds of the State. Arizona’s seasonal drought outlook was adjusted on June 30 to account for the newly released monthly drought outlook for July. The seasonal outlook now shows that conditions are expected to persist throughout all areas of the State that were affected by moderate drought (D1) or higher on June 25. Additionally, drought is expected to develop across all areas of the State apart from the Sonoran Desert. Streamflow conditions in portions of the Lower Colorado River Basin continue to be well below normal, however, Arizona’s remaining river basin’s streamflow conditions are now rated from normal to high as monsoonal weather patterns have settled across the State. A report from Graham County stated that another microburst had occurred which resulted in localized flooding and damage to canals, roads, and farm irrigation ditches in and around the town of Pima. As of June 25, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a slight improvement in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 52 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) encompassed 16 percent, and severe drought (D2) enveloped 3 percent of the State’s total land area. Arizona once again remained free of extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought. Temperatures across much of the State were above normal according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 4 degrees below to 8 degrees above normal and ranged from the low 70’s in southern Apache County to well over 100 degrees across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 2 to 17 degrees above normal and ranged from 50 to 75 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas counties within the Sonoran Desert experienced lows of 80 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Harvested for grain.....	96	89	97	98
Cotton				
Squaring.....	80	66	55	74
Setting Bolls.....	52	30	14	25
Durum wheat				
Harvested for grain.....	95	91	91	92

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	7.0	7.0	6.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	15	14	8
Short	3	12	10	13
Adequate.....	79	66	75	78
Surplus.....	3	7	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	15	14	11	6
Short	5	11	12	14
Adequate.....	76	67	76	78
Surplus.....	4	8	1	2

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE, AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	7	4	--	--
Fair.....	13	14	6	13
Good	27	32	38	41
Excellent.....	53	50	56	46
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	--
Poor.....	1	--	1	1
Fair	--	--	6	10
Good	35	45	48	62
Excellent.....	64	55	44	27
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	30	18	13	26
Poor.....	11	19	26	23
Fair	32	28	22	25
Good	18	30	20	22
Excellent.....	9	5	19	4

NA – not available
 (--) – zero