

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
 August 12, 2024

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 11, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By week's end, 64 percent of Arizona cotton crop had opened bolls, up 31 percentage points 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 just 2 percent of the crop rated poor. Alfalfa hay harvest continued 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 16 percent of the crop rated fair to poor. Pasture and range conditions throughout the State improved slightly when compared to that of the previous report. Thirty percent of the State's pasture and rangeland was rated very poor, 18 percent was rated poor, 25 percent was rated fair, 15 percent was rated good, and 12 percent was rated excellent. Reports from Apache, Navajo, and Pima Counties continued to state that recent precipitation has improved soil moisture and crop conditions, but has had minimal effect on grazing conditions, and that ranchers have continued to transport feed to rangeland livestock. As of August 6, the National Drought Mitigation Center's Grass Productivity Forecast (Grass-Cast) showed that native forage production for northeastern and southwestern counties is generally expected to be 5 to 15 percent less than the area's 36-year average apart from south-central Coconino, north-west Gila, and southern Apache Counties where production is expected to be 5 to 30 percent more than the area's 36-year average. Native forage production for northern Yavapai, western Pima, eastern Cochise, south-eastern Graham, and northern Pinal Counties is expected to be at least 30 percent less than the area's 36-year average. Native forage production for all remaining areas of the State is expected to be 15 to 30 percent less than the area's 36-year average. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 7 percent rated very short, 3 percent rated short, 88 percent rated adequate, and 2 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend.

Over the past week, measurable precipitation was experienced across much of the State, however, the northeastern corner remained relatively dry. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data. The heaviest precipitation totals accumulated along the southern and western borders, with isolated areas reporting at least 3 inches of rainfall. As of August 6, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed some changes when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 62 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) encompassed 19 percent, and severe drought (D2) enveloped 2 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 at or above normal according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC).

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton				
Bolls Opening	64	57	45	33

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.....	7.0	6.5	7.0	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	7	16	16	10
Short	3	2	5	10
Adequate	88	79	79	77
Surplus	2	3	--	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	8	17	4	7
Short	3	2	8	11
Adequate	88	81	88	79
Surplus	1	--	--	3

NA – not available
 (–) – zero

CROP, PASTURE, AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	--
Poor.....	1	3	3	5
Fair.....	15	19	11	17
Good.....	29	32	38	37
Excellent.....	55	46	47	41
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	2	1
Poor.....	2	--	1	2
Fair.....	--	--	14	14
Good.....	47	56	40	51
Excellent.....	51	44	43	32
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	30	31	19	18
Poor.....	18	13	22	22
Fair.....	25	29	39	40
Good.....	15	24	18	17
Excellent.....	12	3	2	3

NA – not available

(--)- zero