

# ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 2024

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** By week’s end, 72 percent of Arizona cotton had been harvested, up 28 percentage points from the State’s 5-year average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Alfalfa hay harvest continued to take place on just over 50 percent of the crop’s acreage throughout the State. Arizona’s alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 6 percent of the crop rated fair. Pasture and range conditions throughout the State deteriorated slightly when compared to that of the previous report. Reports from eastern counties have stated that intermittent snow and rain was received over the past week which has helped to improve soil moisture levels throughout the area. Despite the precipitation received, reporters continue to state that rangelands continue to show signs of stress. As of October 27, the National Drought Mitigation Center’s Vegetation Drought Response Index (VegDRI) showed that the vegetative conditions of rangelands remained relatively static when compared to that of the previous report. Excluding the Painted Desert, southeastern Apache County, areas just north of the Little Colorado River in Navajo and Apache Counties, and the Defiance Plateau, the vegetative conditions of northern rangelands slightly deteriorated and was rated from near-normal to extreme drought with the worst conditions concentrated in the Juniper Mountains, the San Francisco Plateau in Navajo and Apache Counties, and northeastern Mohave County. The vegetative conditions of southwestern rangelands remained relatively static and was rated from pre-drought stress to extreme drought with the worst conditions reported along the Gila River in Maricopa County and areas south of the Gila River in Yuma County. Rangeland vegetative conditions throughout southeastern counties improved and was rated from near-normal to severe drought with the worst conditions concentrated in southwestern Cochise and south-central Pima Counties. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 7 percent rated very short, 5 percent rated short, 83 percent rated adequate, and 5 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend.

Over the past week, measurable precipitation was experienced across the eastern half of Arizona while western areas remained relatively dry. According to data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the San Francisco Mountains as well as areas just north of the Mogollon Rim in Coconino County received the most precipitation, accumulating approximately 2.25 inches, while other areas of the State received anywhere from trace amounts to 1.50 inches of total precipitation. The seasonal mean temperature outlook continues to show that temperatures will likely be above normal for the entirety of the State, with the eastern two-thirds of Arizona having a higher probability of experiencing warmer temperatures than the remaining third of the State. Similarly, the seasonal total precipitation outlook continues to show that precipitation will likely be below normal for the entirety of the State, with southeastern regions having a higher probability of experiencing below average precipitation than remaining areas of the State. Arizona’s seasonal drought outlook was adjusted on October 31 to account for the newly released monthly drought outlook for November. The seasonal outlook continues to show that conditions are expected to persist throughout all areas of the State that were affected by moderate drought (D1) or higher on October 29. Drought development is expected across all remaining areas of the State. Streamflow conditions throughout the State remained relatively static when compared to that of the previous report. Streamflow in many portions of the Salt, Upper Gila, San Pedro, and Verde River Basins continues to be rated below normal as precipitation has been erratic. Contrastingly, streamflow conditions in the Lower Gila, Santa Cruz, Little, Lower, and Upper Colorado River Basins continue to be rated normal. As of October 29, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a slight deterioration in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 33 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) encompassed 26 percent, and severe drought (D2) enveloped 27 percent of the State’s total land area. Arizona once again remained free of extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4) drought. Apart from southern Apache as well as central areas of Navajo and Cochise Counties, temperatures were at or below normal according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 8 degrees below to 8 degrees above normal and ranged from the mid 40’s in north-central Coconino County to 90 degrees across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 10 degrees below to 4 degrees above normal and ranged from 15 to 45 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas counties within the Sonoran Desert experienced lows of 50 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit.

### CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton Harvested.....	72	71	42	44

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	7.0	7.0	6.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	7	15	8	4
Short .....	5	11	1	12
Adequate.....	83	74	91	84
Surplus.....	5	--	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	6	15	7	4
Short .....	5	10	--	11
Adequate.....	84	75	93	85
Surplus.....	5	--	--	--

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.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	--	--	--	2
Fair .....	6	1	6	10
Good .....	40	25	38	39
Excellent.....	54	74	56	48
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	32	54	17	20
Poor.....	33	18	23	24
Fair .....	18	4	40	31
Good .....	15	24	20	19
Excellent.....	2	--	--	6

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero