

# 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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Contact: Longino Bustillos  
 (800) 530-8810

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Generally, rainfall continued to be isolated and limited across much of the State, allowing producers ample time for field or ranch work during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Hay harvest advanced at a quick pace, with the fourth cutting virtually complete by week's end. Reports from Union County noted that corn for grain harvest was underway in a small number of fields. Above average temperatures aided phenological crop development. Chile growers started red chile harvest during the week, with progress slightly ahead of normal. Green chile harvest was on par with the average pace. Ranchers continued to move yearlings off of summer grazing land, while trying to purchase enough feed and hay in preparation for winter feeding needs. Statewide, 33 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 49 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. During the past week, converted moisture totals were highly variable, ranging from about 2 inches in a few isolated locations to merely a trace. Much of the State either saw less than 0.1 inch or was dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for September 14, drought-free conditions existed across an area equal to 11.0 percent of the State, while abnormal dryness increased to cover 11.8 percent of the State. Moderate drought (D1) increased to cover 29.5 percent of New Mexico, while severe drought (D2) was unchanged at 28.6 percent. Extreme (D3) drought remained across 19.1 percent of the State. The State remained free of exceptional drought (D4). Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 68 percent short to very short, compared with 91 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 57 percent. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 6 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 12 percent very short, 32 percent short, 44 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus, compared with 15 percent very short, 44 percent short, 39 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 17 percent very short, 25 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus, compared with 20 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 36 percent adequate last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	96	87	96	NA
5 <sup>th</sup> cutting harvested .....	40	28	42	59
Chile				
Green harvested.....	79	71	84	79
Red harvested.....	5	NA	1	2
Corn				
Doughed.....	95	87	85	86
Dented.....	80	65	69	68
Mature.....	40	33	43	34
Harvested for silage.....	61	51	72	60
Cotton				
Setting bolls.....	98	92	NA	NA
Bolls opening .....	10	7	32	37
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	45	30	46	53
Emerged .....	25	10	25	23
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	35	27	76	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	45	55	70	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 .....	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	33	30	38	18
Short.....	35	37	53	39
Adequate .....	26	28	9	40
Surplus .....	6	5	--	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	38	38	38	23
Short.....	36	35	48	35
Adequate .....	22	23	14	41
Surplus .....	4	4	--	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	4	3	1	3
Poor .....	12	9	1	7
Fair.....	30	25	33	26
Good.....	30	34	56	54
Excellent.....	24	29	9	10
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor.....	--	1	1	1
Poor .....	1	1	1	3
Fair.....	45	40	41	34
Good.....	26	26	19	38
Excellent.....	28	32	38	24
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	6	3
Poor .....	18	16	21	15
Fair.....	43	39	48	41
Good.....	32	29	17	34
Excellent.....	7	16	8	7
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	9	12	15	10
Poor .....	24	21	34	26
Fair.....	48	50	37	37
Good.....	18	14	12	21
Excellent.....	1	3	2	6
<b>Peanuts</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	7	2
Poor .....	9	9	22	12
Fair.....	32	32	27	55
Good.....	59	59	44	31
Excellent.....	--	--	--	--
<b>Pecans</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	9	5	4	1
Fair.....	12	10	32	9
Good.....	78	85	64	64
Excellent.....	1	--	--	26
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	4	4	10	3
Poor .....	5	6	9	7
Fair.....	30	23	43	38
Good.....	40	44	30	42
Excellent.....	21	23	8	10
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	7	12	10	8
Poor .....	10	7	7	8
Fair.....	40	33	31	27
Good.....	40	43	49	51
Excellent.....	3	5	3	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero