

# NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE**  
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 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JUNE 5, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** While most counties across the State were dry or recorded limited rainfall, portions of southeastern New Mexico accumulated beneficial precipitation during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The heaviest amounts were noted in Lea County, where growers were busy harvesting the second cutting of alfalfa hay and winter wheat for grain, as well as wrapping up row crop planting. Comments indicated that despite the moisture, most growers were in desperate need of a soaking rain to offset the prolonged dry conditions. In Rio Arriba County, the lack of rainfall has hurt most high mountain valleys, while a surge of grasshoppers was noted around the Cebolla area. Additionally, vegetable growers in the county had fresh green peas available at roadside stands. Statewide, fire danger remained extreme in many counties. The dry conditions coupled with lightning generated by storms during the week sparked a new fire – the Cienegita Fire - on June 3, which is located on the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation. As of June 5, this fire covered less than 40 acres with 25 percent containment. Growth of the Calf Canyon and Hermits Peak fire complex was limited to less than 2,900 acres during the week, while containment grew to 65 percent. When compared with last week, growth of the Black Fire also slowed during the week, covering roughly 278,000 acres with 27 percent containment. Statewide, growers had planted 65 percent of the peanut crop, on par with the 5-year average. Reports from Union County indicated that growers have baled roughly 20 percent of their winter wheat acreage for dry hay, while in some instances, cattle have been returned to headed wheat fields to graze. Statewide, 51 percent of the pastures and ranges were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 59 percent last year and a 5-year average of 47 percent. Overall, supplemental feeding needs remained high, with 87 percent of the cattle herd and 85 percent of the sheep herd being fed. Topsoil moisture was reported as 88 percent very short to short, compared with 75 percent last year and a 5-year average of 67 percent. Converted moisture totals during the past week ranged from approximately 5.0 inches in Lea County to just a trace in many other eastern counties. Most counties along the State’s western border were dry. Since January 1, some of the driest counties were in southeastern and southwestern New Mexico, where precipitation has totaled 25 percent of normal or less, affecting large acreages of cotton, dry hay and haylage, sorghum, and wheat, as well as large percentages of the cattle and sheep herds. Statewide, based on accumulated moisture, year-to-date conditions continued to be among the driest ever recorded, and there were currently 33 counties with disaster designations. According to the United States Drought Monitor for May 31, conditions stabilized when compared with last week, although approximately 90 percent of the State was categorized in exceptional (D4) or extreme (D3) drought - 45.8 and 44.2 percent, respectively. Severe drought (D2) was categorized across 7.1 percent, and moderate drought (D1) was present across 2.1 percent. Confined to a small portion of Dona Ana and Otero Counties, 0.7 percent of the State was abnormally dry (D0). Hail damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 10 percent light, 11 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 33 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 38 percent very short, 39 percent short, 22 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 43 percent very short, 20 percent short, and 37 percent adequate, compared with 49 percent very short, 22 percent short, 28 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested .....	85	78	88	82
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	10	2	14	25
Corn				
Planted .....	71	66	83	83
Emerged .....	50	39	54	58
Cotton				
Planted .....	74	70	76	86
Emerged .....	38	36	54	60
Peanuts				
Planted .....	65	53	57	65
Emerged .....	37	25	18	24
Winter wheat				
Headed .....	97	86	94	NA
Harvested for grain .....	2	1	2	12
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	87	85	83	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	85	75	78	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.....	6.8	6.1	5.9	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	54	54	40	32
Short.....	34	34	35	35
Adequate.....	12	12	22	32
Surplus.....	--	--	3	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	56	56	49	32
Short.....	37	37	40	41
Adequate.....	7	7	10	26
Surplus.....	--	--	1	1

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	1	4
Poor.....	6	8	14	6
Fair.....	35	30	31	21
Good.....	50	51	35	61
Excellent.....	8	10	19	8
Chile				
Very poor.....	6	6	2	1
Poor.....	13	13	8	6
Fair.....	41	41	20	34
Good.....	25	25	44	45
Excellent.....	15	15	26	14
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	5	5	--	1
Fair.....	20	20	10	13
Good.....	60	60	35	41
Excellent.....	15	15	55	44
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	13	18	21	12
Poor.....	38	35	38	35
Fair.....	41	38	24	34
Good.....	7	8	8	15
Excellent.....	1	1	9	4
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	NA	--	--
Poor.....	6	NA	4	3
Fair.....	23	NA	7	10
Good.....	28	NA	88	69
Excellent.....	43	NA	1	18
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	62	62	40	15
Poor.....	22	22	23	20
Fair.....	4	4	24	32
Good.....	4	3	2	24
Excellent.....	8	9	11	9
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	2	3	2
Poor.....	19	17	18	10
Fair.....	35	36	41	39
Good.....	30	33	29	41
Excellent.....	14	12	9	8
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	1	12	9
Poor.....	10	10	14	11
Fair.....	40	36	40	33
Good.....	45	46	34	45
Excellent.....	5	7	--	2

NA – not available

(--) – zero