

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 AUGUST 11, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: New Mexico agriculture benefitted from 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA, and with no drastic weather events, crops progressed steadily, and field and livestock conditions showed minimal changes from the previous week. Green chile harvest increased to 35 percent complete, slightly behind the previous year, but ahead of the historical average. The cotton crop was 54 percent squared and 39 percent had started setting bolls, and the first of the bolls were observed to be opening. Most cattle and sheep remained in fair or good condition, and 25 percent of both cattle and sheep received supplemental feed.

According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, most of the State recorded some amount of precipitation during the survey period. South of interstate 40, rainfall totaled less than half an inch, except for Grant County, which received 1 inch. The northern half of the State was hit with heavier storms and recorded 1-4 inches of rain last week. Reports from Union County noted damage to corn fields due to the heavy rainfall and strong wind. Temperatures in New Mexico ranged from 1 to 6 degrees above normal across the State last week, according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for August 6, there were minimal changes in drought conditions across the State. Drought-free conditions dropped slightly, from 17 percent the previous week to 16 percent last week, and changing in turn, abnormally dry (D0) conditions from 35 percent to 36 percent. Moderate drought (D1) remained unchanged at 25 percent, while severe drought (D2) rose from 14 to 15 percent. Extreme drought conditions (D3) changed from 9 percent the previous week to 8 percent last week and New Mexico remained free of exceptional drought (D4). The worst of the drought conditions continue to be in parts of Chaves, Eddy, and Otero Counties. Conditions have improved slightly for Hidalgo, Grant and Luna counties in the southwest corner.

No hail damage was reported for New Mexico crops. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 12 percent light. Pecan nut set was reported as 2 percent heavy, 78 percent moderate, and 20 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 41 percent short, and 36 percent adequate, compared with 21 percent very short, 47 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 62 percent short, and 15 percent adequate, compared with 28 percent very short, 53 percent short, 17 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
3 rd cutting harvested	56	50	55	61
4 th cutting harvested	27	25	NA	NA
Chile				
Green harvested	35	27	40	27
Corn				
Silking.....	46	35	46	61
Doughed.....	10	9	NA	NA
Dented.....	3	2	NA	NA
Cotton				
Squaring.....	54	46	68	82
Setting Bolls	39	37	32	40
Bolls Opening.....	6	5	NA	NA
Cattle and Calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	25	28	NA	NA
Sheep and Lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	25	36	NA	NA

NA – not available
 (-) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.5
Topsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	42	36	34	28
Short	41	40	38	41
Adequate	16	22	21	29
Surplus	1	2	1	2
Subsoil Moisture				
Very short	36	27	30	31
Short	45	43	46	46
Adequate	19	27	24	22
Surplus	--	3	--	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)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	1
Poor	--	--	1	4
Fair	44	53	21	27
Good	30	30	52	50
Excellent	26	17	26	18
Chile				
Very poor	--	--	--	3
Poor	--	--	16	10
Fair	9	11	18	26
Good	25	32	38	44
Excellent	66	57	28	17
Corn				
Very poor	--	--	--	1
Poor	13	4	8	6
Fair	35	44	18	37
Good	8	17	32	26
Excellent	44	35	42	30
Cotton				
Very Poor	2	6	--	2
Poor	13	18	13	20
Fair	25	21	43	45
Good	23	27	21	23
Excellent	37	28	23	10
Pasture and range				
Very Poor	15	24	17	13
Poor	36	27	26	30
Fair	39	36	32	34
Good	7	11	15	16
Excellent	3	2	10	7
Pecans				
Very Poor	--	--	--	--
Poor	3	1	3	4
Fair	8	13	5	15
Good	27	33	12	49
Excellent	62	53	80	32
Cattle and calves				
Very Poor	2	5	2	3
Poor	10	13	9	10
Fair	37	40	31	34
Good	41	32	34	39
Excellent	10	10	24	14
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	--	--	9	11
Poor	3	9	12	12
Fair	32	35	31	31
Good	63	54	47	43
Excellent	2	2	1	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero