

# ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE**  
 230 N 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Suite 302A, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1723  
 Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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Contact: Dave DeWalt  
 (800) 645-7286

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** By the end of last week, 87 percent of cotton has reached the bolls opening stage compared with 90 percent last year, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Twenty-four percent has been defoliated, same as last year, and 14 percent has been harvested compared with 12 percent last year. Cotton conditions were rated mostly fair to good. Alfalfa conditions were rated mostly good to excellent, depending on location last week with harvesting taking place on three-quarters of the alfalfa acreage across the State. Pasture and range conditions were generally rated mostly poor to very poor. Western Arizona growers shipped mixed melons. In other parts of the State, producers shipped potatoes. In the Northeastern and East Central part of the State, unusually high temperatures have made for a difficult week for livestock producers. Streams and reservoirs are below normal and soil moisture continues to decline, affecting range conditions in the North Central and Northwestern part of the State. Very hot temperatures also affected soil conditions in the South Central part of the State. For the week ending on September 16<sup>th</sup>, only Heber, with 0.06 inches of precipitation, reported some precipitation. All but 6 of the 48 reporting weather stations reported above normal temperatures. The highest temperature during the week was 114 degrees at Parker. The lowest temperature during the week was 34 degrees at Grand Canyon. Twenty-five of the 48 reporting stations reported temperatures of 100 degrees or greater.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

| Commodity           | Current week<br>(percent) | Previous week<br>(percent) | Previous year<br>(percent) | 5-year average<br>(percent) |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cotton              |                           |                            |                            |                             |
| Bolls Opening ..... | 87                        | 74                         | 90                         | 81                          |
| Defoliated .....    | 24                        | 20                         | 24                         | 23                          |
| Harvested .....     | 14                        | 8                          | 12                         | 8                           |

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          | 7.0           | 7.0           | NA             |
| Topsoil moisture                 | (percent)    | (percent)     | (percent)     | (percent)      |
| Very short.....                  | --           | --            | --            | NA             |
| Short.....                       | 17           | 15            | 8             | NA             |
| Adequate.....                    | 82           | 83            | 92            | NA             |
| Surplus.....                     | 1            | 2             | --            | NA             |
| Subsoil moisture                 |              |               |               |                |
| Very short.....                  | --           | --            | --            | NA             |
| Short.....                       | 16           | 14            | 9             | NA             |
| Adequate.....                    | 83           | 84            | 91            | NA             |
| Surplus.....                     | 1            | 2             | --            | NA             |

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             | 5              |
| Poor.....         | 4            | 7             | 7             | 4              |
| Fair.....         | 14           | 16            | 22            | 19             |
| Good.....         | 54           | 47            | 42            | 43             |
| Excellent.....    | 28           | 30            | 28            | 29             |
| Cotton            |              |               |               |                |
| Very poor.....    | 1            | 1             | 1             | 2              |
| Poor.....         | 2            | 2             | 4             | 2              |
| Fair.....         | 55           | 46            | 14            | 12             |
| Good.....         | 34           | 41            | 55            | 52             |
| Excellent.....    | 8            | 10            | 26            | 32             |
| Pasture and range |              |               |               |                |
| Very poor.....    | 32           | 29            | 15            | 17             |
| Poor.....         | 33           | 30            | 3             | 11             |
| Fair.....         | 15           | 16            | 24            | 26             |
| Good.....         | 13           | 19            | 33            | 35             |
| Excellent.....    | 7            | 6             | 25            | 11             |

NA – not available

(--)- zero

Arizona’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Arizona/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2018/AZ-Weather-09162018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Arizona/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/AZ-Weather-09162018.pdf)

Notice: Please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress report’s weather data table may be discontinued for budget reasons. Please contact the NASS Mountain Regional Field Office at (720) 787-3150 with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress report’s crop progress and condition data will remain and be available.