

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JULY 9, 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By the end of the week, 77 percent of the cotton crop was squared, 20 percentage points behind the previous year, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Thirty-six percent of the cotton crop had advanced to the setting bolls stage, also 20 percentage points behind of the previous year. Two percent of the cotton crop had advanced to the bolls opening stage, compared with 4 percent last year and a 5-year average of 1 percent. The cotton crop was rated mostly in good to excellent condition. Similarly, the alfalfa crop was rated mostly in good to excellent condition. Alfalfa hay harvest was taking place on more than three-quarters of the acreage across the State. The majority of the pastures and ranges were rated in very poor to poor condition despite soil moisture levels remaining mostly adequate. In the northeastern part of the State, hot, dry, and windy conditions have depleted soil moisture, with the exceptions being high elevation mountainous areas and irrigated land. Local Extension offices in the area noted that some producers expressed difficulty in getting their alfalfa to grow. Grass hay fields had been harvested once. In the southeastern part of the State, excessive heat, wind, and minimal measurable precipitation, resulted in rapid deterioration of rangeland grasses, and led to growing concern for producers that rely on canal water drawn from the rivers as water levels were dropping despite being better than previous years. The fire alert was high. In the south-central part of the State, hot and dry conditions and spotty rain prevailed. According to the United States Drought Monitor published on July 6, abnormally dry conditions covered 15.1 percent of the State and moderate drought covered 1.5 percent. The State was free of severe, extreme, and exceptional drought. Minimal measurable precipitation was observed in the southeastern and south-central part of the State, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Daytime high temperatures climbed well above 110 degrees across most south-central, southeastern, and northwestern counties.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton				
Squaring	77	57	97	93
Setting Bolls	36	17	56	42
Bolls Opening	2	NA	4	1

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	6.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	14	14	20	8
Short	10	10	23	15
Adequate	75	75	57	76
Surplus	1	1	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	11	11	17	8
Short	12	12	21	13
Adequate	76	76	62	77
Surplus	1	1	--	2

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	2
Fair.....	5	6	13	15
Good.....	40	38	34	42
Excellent.....	55	56	53	41
Cotton				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	1	1	--	2
Fair.....	6	6	20	25
Good.....	50	48	49	52
Excellent.....	42	44	31	21
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	21	13	31	37
Poor.....	33	26	41	22
Fair.....	25	22	24	27
Good.....	11	20	4	14
Excellent.....	10	19	--	--

NA – not available

(--)- zero