

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 16, 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By the end of the week, 91 percent of the cotton crop was squared, 8 percentage points behind the previous year, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Fifty-six percent of the cotton crop had advanced to the setting bolls stage, compared with 78 percent last year and a 5-year average of 58 percent. Ten percent of the cotton crop had advanced to the bolls opening stage, compared with 8 percent last year and a 5-year average of 5 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 largest part of pastures and ranges was reported in fair condition, similar to last year, despite soil moisture levels remaining mostly adequate. In the northeastern part of the State, hot and dry conditions have affected soil moisture. Dryland farm fields were showing significant heat stress, with some crop failure noted. Most irrigated fields were adequately producing corn, hay, and other crops, although some plant stress was noted due to hot temperatures. Heat stress and some grass mortality were noted in lower elevation rangelands. Livestock producers in certain locations have been forced to haul water as natural water sources become depleted. On the other hand, in higher elevations, forage growth was still improving due to good levels of water flowing in creeks and rivers. In the southeastern part of the State, high winds, scattered thunderstorms, and hail damage were reported in the western side of this region and close to the south-central counties of the State. In the northwestern and southwestern part of the State, extreme high temperatures have been affecting agricultural conditions. In the southwestern part of the State, ground water restrictions were applied in some areas. According to the United States Drought Monitor published on July 13, abnormally dry conditions covered 15.4 percent of the State and moderate drought covered 0.9 percent. The State was free of severe, extreme, and exceptional drought. Measurable precipitation was observed in the southeastern and north-central part of the State, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), boosting soil moisture levels in these areas.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton				
Squaring	91	77	99	97
Setting Bolls	56	36	78	58
Bolls Opening	10	2	8	5

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	6.7	6.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	7	14	17	6
Short	11	10	20	13
Adequate	81	75	62	79
Surplus	1	1	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	11	11	16	7
Short	8	12	18	11
Adequate	80	76	65	79
Surplus	1	1	1	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	3
Fair.....	6	5	11	16
Good.....	39	40	42	42
Excellent.....	55	55	47	39
Cotton				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	--
Poor.....	1	1	--	3
Fair.....	8	6	15	24
Good.....	41	50	57	55
Excellent.....	49	42	28	18
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	15	21	22	38
Poor.....	24	33	33	22
Fair.....	32	25	31	26
Good.....	20	11	12	14
Excellent.....	9	10	2	--

NA – not available

(--) – zero