

# ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE**  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Cotton harvest has begun in Arizona, with 5 percent of the crop reported as harvested by week's end according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Arizona's current cotton harvest was 3 percentage points ahead of the State's 5-year average. Contrastingly, by week's end, 62 percent of Arizona's cotton crop had advanced to the bolls opening stage, which is well behind the State's 5-year average of 74 percent. Arizona's cotton crop was again rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 25 percent of the crop being rated as very poor to fair. The State's alfalfa crop was also rated in mostly good to excellent condition following the previous week's trend. Alfalfa hay harvest was taking place on over 75 percent of the crop's acreage within the State. Despite measurable precipitation being reported throughout the State, the largest portion of the Arizona's pastures and ranges were again reported to be in poor condition, with only 17 percent of the State's acreage being rated in the good to excellent categories. Reports from Greenlee County stated that nighttime temperatures have been consistently dropping to around 50 degrees Fahrenheit, which has stunted the growth of forages that ranchers and their livestock depend on. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 4 percent rated very short, 12 percent rated short, 83 percent rated adequate, and 1 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend. Reports continued to come in from across Arizona stating that livestock producers were still hauling water and purchasing feed to mitigate the effects that prevailing drought conditions have had on their livestock. Over the past week, measurable precipitation was noted across vast areas of Arizona ranging from 0.25 to 2.50 inches of rain with most of the precipitation being received throughout western areas of the State. In contrast, isolated areas located in northeastern Arizona remained dry according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Despite the precipitation, drought conditions mirrored that of the previous week's. As of August 29, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that abnormally dry conditions (D0) covered 51 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) spanned 37 percent of the State, and severe drought (D2) enveloped a mere 2 percent of the State's total land area. Again, Arizona was free of extreme (D3) as well as exceptional (D4) drought. Throughout the week, Arizona daytime highs ranged from the mid to high 70s in the San Francisco Mountains to over 100 degrees throughout southern and western regions of the State according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC).

### CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton				
Bolls Opening .....	62	58	68	74
Harvested .....	5	--	--	2

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.....	6.5	6.7	7.0	6.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	4	8	8	5
Short .....	12	13	2	10
Adequate .....	83	79	85	82
Surplus .....	1	--	5	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	4	6	10	6
Short .....	6	10	4	11
Adequate .....	89	83	85	81
Surplus .....	1	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)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	1	--	5	1
Poor.....	1	4	6	6
Fair.....	10	11	10	16
Good.....	38	43	40	43
Excellent.....	50	42	39	34
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor.....	2	1	--	--
Poor.....	1	2	--	3
Fair.....	22	22	5	19
Good.....	34	34	49	51
Excellent.....	41	41	46	27
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	19	20	--	14
Poor.....	31	33	8	24
Fair.....	33	31	43	35
Good.....	16	15	29	19
Excellent.....	1	1	20	8

NA – not available

(--) – zero