

# 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 OCTOBER 1, 2023

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Cotton harvest in Arizona had progressed to 17 percent complete by week's end, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Arizona's current cotton harvest is 2 percentage points behind the State's 5-year average. Eighty-six percent of Arizona's cotton crop had advanced to the bolls opening stage, which was well behind the State's 5-year average of 96 percent. The crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 20 percent of Arizona cotton rated fair to poor. Arizona's alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 9 percent of the crop rated as fair to very poor. Alfalfa harvest continues to take place throughout Arizona on more than 75 percent of the crop's acreage within the State. According to reports from northeastern counties, it is thought that this will be the last cutting of alfalfa hay due to incoming cooler weather. The largest portion of Arizona's pastures and ranges were reported in fair condition, with only 20 percent of the State's acreage rated in good to excellent condition. Reports from Apache and Navajo County stated that there have been no improvements in rangeland condition, and that grazing conditions, as well as livestock water supplies, continued to diminish as a result of persistent drought and the inability to rest pasture. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 13 percent rated very short, 7 percent rated short, 79 percent rated adequate, and 1 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend. Measurable precipitation was lacking across much of Arizona with most areas receiving less than 0.05 inches throughout the week. Despite continuing aridic conditions, precipitation totaling nearly an inch was received in isolated areas of western Coconino County, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Drought conditions continue to intensify throughout the State leading the National Weather Service to issue a drought information statement for southeastern Arizona on September 25. As of September 26, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that abnormally dry conditions (D0) enveloped 45 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) decreased from 29 to 24 percent, severe drought (D2) increased from 13 to 17 percent, and extreme drought (D3) remained unchanged, covering 5 percent of the State's total land area. Arizona remained free of exceptional (D4) drought. According to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), daytime highs throughout the State slightly increased and ranged from the mid to high 70s in mountainous areas to over 100 degrees across southwestern regions of Arizona. Contrastingly, overnight lows slightly decreased and ranged from 30 to 55 degrees across northern and eastern counties whereas southern and western counties experienced nighttime temperatures of 60 to 80 degrees exhibiting large temperature fluctuations that are consistent for the season.

### CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton				
Bolls opening .....	86	79	85	96
Harvested .....	17	16	20	19

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	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	13	4	10	5
Short .....	7	16	1	10
Adequate .....	79	79	87	83
Surplus .....	1	1	2	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	12	7	8	5
Short .....	6	6	1	10
Adequate .....	81	86	87	83
Surplus .....	1	1	4	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	--	11	2
Poor .....	--	--	3	2
Fair.....	8	9	5	13
Good.....	38	38	30	43
Excellent.....	53	53	51	40
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	2	1
Poor .....	1	1	--	5
Fair.....	19	28	4	16
Good.....	36	29	46	51
Excellent.....	44	42	48	27
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	19	17	2	12
Poor .....	27	24	4	23
Fair.....	34	37	35	31
Good.....	18	21	31	24
Excellent.....	2	1	28	10

NA – not available

(--) – zero