

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 OCTOBER 8, 2023

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Arizona cotton harvest had progressed to 19 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 4 percentage points behind the State's 5-year average and 5 points behind the previous year's report. Ninety-five percent of Arizona's cotton crop had advanced to the bolls opening stage, falling 4 percentage points behind the State's 5-year average. Arizona cotton was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 11 percent of the crop rated fair to poor. Arizona's alfalfa crop also was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 12 percent of the crop rated as fair. Alfalfa harvest continues to take place throughout Arizona on more than 75 percent of the crop's acreage within the State. By the end of the week, 17 percent of Arizona's alfalfa harvest was reported as finished. The largest portion of Arizona's pastures and ranges were once again reported to be in fair condition, with 10 percent rated very poor, 25 percent rated poor, 37 percent rated fair, 27 percent rated good, and only 1 percent of the State's acreage rated as excellent. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 5 percent rated very short, 9 percent rated short, and 86 percent rated adequate. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend. Over the past week, measurable precipitation was lacking across much of Arizona with most areas receiving less than 0.10 inch. Despite continuing aridic conditions, precipitation totaling nearly 0.60 inches was received in isolated areas of Coconino County, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In addition to the September 25 drought information statement that remains in effect for southeast Arizona, the National Weather Service issued another drought information statement on October 5, this time focused on northern Arizona, as drought conditions continued to escalate throughout the Southwest. As of October 3, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 41 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) decreased from 24 to 23 percent, severe drought (D2) increased from 17 to 22 percent, and extreme drought (D3) increased by 1 percent, enveloping 6 percent of the State's total land area. Arizona once again remained free of exceptional (D4) drought. According to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC), daytime highs throughout much of Arizona were slightly above normal, and ranged from the low to mid 60s in the mountainous areas of Coconino County to the mid to high 90s across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows slightly decreased and ranged from 25 to 50 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas southern and western counties experienced lows of 55 to 75 degrees exhibiting large temperature fluctuations congruous for the season.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton				
Bolls opening.....	95	86	97	99
Harvested.....	19	17	24	23

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	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	5	13	7	6
Short	9	7	2	11
Adequate	86	79	90	81
Surplus	--	1	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	5	12	6	5
Short	15	6	2	11
Adequate	80	81	89	82
Surplus	--	1	3	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.....	--	1	5	1
Poor.....	--	--	5	3
Fair.....	12	8	12	13
Good.....	37	38	32	42
Excellent.....	51	53	46	41
Cotton				
Very poor.....	--	--	1	1
Poor.....	1	1	--	6
Fair.....	10	19	7	18
Good.....	36	36	42	47
Excellent.....	53	44	50	28
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	10	19	5	13
Poor.....	25	27	8	25
Fair.....	37	34	39	30
Good.....	27	18	23	21
Excellent.....	1	2	25	11

NA – not available

(--) – zero