

# 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 15, 2023

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Cotton harvest in Arizona had progressed to 22 percent complete by week's end, falling 5 percentage points behind the State's 5-year average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Arizona cotton was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 6 percent of the crop rated fair to very poor. Arizona's alfalfa crop was also rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 6 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 which was corroborated by reports from both Apache and Navajo Counties. The largest portion of Arizona's pastures and ranges were once again reported to be in fair condition; however, significant increases were observed in the poor and very poor categories with 19 percent rated very poor, 31 percent rated poor, 32 percent rated fair, and 18 percent rated good. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 10 percent rated very short, 4 percent rated short, 85 percent rated adequate, and 1 percent rated surplus. 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 persistent drought, precipitation totaling nearly 0.50 inches was received in isolated areas of Gila County, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As drought conditions continued to escalate throughout the Southwest, another drought information statement was issued by the National Weather Service for southwest Arizona and southeast California on October 5 in response to one of the driest monsoons recorded. According to the National Weather Service, most areas of southern Arizona received less than 50 percent of normal monsoon precipitation, and as a result, streamflow in the Salt, San Pedro, and Upper Gila River Basins was well below normal. The drought information statements for northern Arizona, as well as southeast Arizona, remained in effect. As of October 10, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 38 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) increased to 24 percent, severe drought (D2) increased to 24 percent, and extreme drought (D3) remained at the previous week's levels, 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 1 to 4 degrees 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 across the State resembled the previous week's, and ranged from 30 to 45 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas southern and western counties experienced lows of 55 to 70 degrees.

### CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cotton				
Harvested.....	22	19	32	27

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	6.3	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	5	9	5
Short.....	4	9	2	10
Adequate.....	85	86	84	81
Surplus.....	1	--	5	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	10	5	8	5
Short.....	6	15	3	10
Adequate.....	83	80	87	81
Surplus.....	1	--	2	4

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 .....	--	--	4	1
Poor .....	--	--	5	4
Fair.....	6	12	10	13
Good.....	40	37	29	41
Excellent.....	54	51	52	41
<b>Cotton</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	1	2
Poor .....	1	1	--	7
Fair.....	5	10	--	18
Good.....	32	36	40	43
Excellent.....	62	53	59	30
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	19	10	4	13
Poor .....	31	25	4	23
Fair.....	32	37	45	32
Good.....	18	27	25	23
Excellent.....	--	1	22	9

NA – not available

(--) – zero