

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
 1050 Stewart St, Room E1200 Las Cruces, NM 88003
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 21, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: As the second half of April began, New Mexico producers once again saw dryer and cooler days, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Chile producers continued to see improvement, as planting progress increased to 64 percent complete by April 21, while emergence increased to 32 percent complete. Calving advanced to 80 percent complete, up from 73 percent from last week. Ewes lambing increased to 61 percent, up from 60 percent last week. Most cattle and sheep were observed to be in fair condition, with both coming in at 48 percent.

According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data, very little to no precipitation was measured in the State last week. Southeastern Lea County saw the most precipitation at 0.5 inch, while the rest of the state saw less than 0.1 inch. Average temperatures throughout the State were well below normal last week. In large parts of eastern New Mexico, temperatures dropped to over 8 degrees below normal, while the rest of the State saw temperatures 3 to 6 degrees below normal. In Union County, reporters said field work was slowly progressing, but a few wheat/triticale fields appear to have been abandoned. According to the United States Drought Monitor for April 16, exceptional drought (D4) remained unchanged from last week at 4 percent. The worst of the drought conditions remained in Eddy County and parts of Chaves County. Extreme drought (D3) was noted across 13 percent of the State, severe drought (D2) covered 19 percent, moderate drought (D1) covered 39 percent, and abnormal dryness (D0) covered 22 percent. Drought-free conditions remained unchanged from last week at 4 percent.

No freeze or hail damage was reported. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent moderate and 7 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 29 percent very short, 52 percent short, 18 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 23 percent very short, 50 percent short, and 26 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 38 percent very short, 40 percent short, 21 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 31 percent very short, 38 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa Hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	19	10	7	11
Chile				
Planted.....	63	55	78	64
Emerg'd	32	24	23	19
Corn				
Planted.....	19	15	27	19
Cotton				
Planted.....	23	8	21	17
Winter Wheat				
Headed	22	2	11	12
Cattle and Calves				
Cows calved.....	80	73	73	73
Receiving supplemental feed.....	81	81	73	83
Sheep and Lambs				
Ewes lamb'd.....	61	60	67	73
Receiving supplemental feed.....	77	80	72	76

NA – not available
 (–) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	6.3	6.8	6.7
Topsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	28	26	23	34
Short	53	50	41	39
Adequate	16	21	35	26
Surplus	3	3	1	1
Subsoil Moisture				
Very short	37	34	32	38
Short	51	48	50	41
Adequate	11	16	17	21
Surplus	1	2	1	--

NA – not available
 (–) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	1	20	7
Poor	--	1	14	5
Fair	54	65	40	37
Good	28	21	18	46
Excellent.....	18	12	8	5
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor	--	--	--	NA
Fair	10	2	--	NA
Good	36	46	39	NA
Excellent.....	54	52	61	NA
Pasture and Range				
Very Poor.....	34	25	5	14
Poor	40	31	11	21
Fair	18	27	52	42
Good	7	16	20	20
Excellent.....	1	1	12	3
Winter wheat				
Very Poor.....	22	18	28	23
Poor	45	40	39	27
Fair	24	25	18	24
Good	2	6	3	16
Excellent.....	7	11	12	10
Cattle and Calves				
Very Poor.....	2	4	--	5
Poor	22	21	4	10
Fair	48	40	34	36
Good	18	19	36	35
Excellent.....	10	16	26	14
Sheep and Lambs				
Very poor	--	2	--	6
Poor	17	8	--	6
Fair	48	40	62	37
Good	30	36	24	42
Excellent.....	5	14	14	9

NA – not available

(--) – zero