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ARIZONA AGRI-WEEKLY

For Week Ending October 20, 2002

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Field Crops Report

As of October 20, **cotton** harvest was 40 percent complete, compared with 41 percent last year and 37 percent for the five-year average.

Alfalfa harvest progress was reported as 31 percent not being harvested, 13 percent light, 14 percent moderate, and 42 percent active. **Alfalfa** condition was reported as 3 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Sheep are starting to be moved onto alfalfa fields and grazing on winter pasture.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Range and Pasture conditions were reported as 43 percent very poor, 41 percent poor, 14 percent fair, and 2 percent good. **Livestock** were reported to be in fair condition. **Stock Water** was reported as short. **Soil Moisture** was reported as short. **Insect Damage** was reported as none to light.

During September, ranges and pastures in Arizona were in mostly fair condition, improving when compared to the previous month. Arizona livestock were in fair condition, improving when compared with last month. Stock water supplies and soil moisture throughout the state were both reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Northern grazing conditions ranged from fair to good during the month of September, improving from last month. Most ranchers reported increased rain and improved native grasses. High level elevations were in fair to good condition. Mid level were reported in very poor to fair condition, improving when compared to last month. Low level elevations ranged from fair to good condition. Livestock were reported to be in fair condition. Stock water supplies and soil moisture were reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Overall, Central pasture conditions were reported as very poor to fair. Most ranchers reported increased rains, which improved stock tanks, but hot, windy weather has not made improvement to range conditions. Range and pasture conditions were reported as very poor to fair at high level, very poor to poor at mid level, and very poor to fair at low level elevations. Livestock conditions were reported as poor to fair. Stock water supplies and soil moisture were reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Southern pastures were reported in poor to fair condition, improving when compared with last month. Ranchers reported mixed range conditions. Some areas are in good condition, while others are bad. Conditions were poor to good at high level elevations. Mid level conditions ranged from poor to good, while low level elevations were reported in poor to fair condition. Livestock conditions were reported as fair to good. Stock water supplies and soil moisture were reported as short to adequate. Insect damage was reported as light.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops Report

Last week producers in central Arizona shipped cantaloupes, honeydews and watermelons, while eastern Arizona producers shipped apples, chilies, head lettuce, romaine and tomatoes. Producers in western Arizona shipped cantaloupes and honeydews.

Citrus producers in central and western Arizona shipped lemons last week.

Weather Summary

Temperatures for most of the State were slightly above average. For the week ending October 19, temperatures ranged normal at Canyon De Chelly, Winslow, and Yuma to 4 degrees above normal at Phoenix and Prescott. The highest temperature of the week was 97 degrees at Parker and Yuma, while the lowest reading was 28 degrees at Grand Canyon. Precipitation was reported at 9 of the 17 reporting stations. Precipitation ranged from 0.03 inches at Casa Grande to 0.48 inches at Flagstaff and Payson. Seven of 17 reporting stations are at or above 50 percent of normal precipitation levels for this time of year.

Major Contributors: The University of Arizona, Cooperative Extension Service; U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service; U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Services Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Rural Economic and Community Development Services; Arizona Citrus, Fruit and Vegetable Standardization



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Weather Information Table (temperatures, precipitation, and/or growing degree days)

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION DATA
 FOR THE WEEK OCTOBER 13 TO OCTOBER 19, 2002**

Station	Temperatures				Precipitation 2/		
	Avg.	Dep. 1/	High	Low	Past Week	Jan. 1 to Date	Normal to Date
Canyon De Chelly	54	0	73	36	0.21	5.07	7.58
Casa Grande	72	1	94	48	0.03	2.50	7.28
Coolidge	72	2	97	51	0.00	3.35	7.30
Douglas	64	1	87	37	0.00	7.96	11.56
Flagstaff	47	1	69	30	0.48	9.77	18.43
Gila Bend	75	1	97	54	0.00	0.44	5.37
Grand Canyon	48	3	71	28	0.00	5.70	13.53
Kingman	64	2	85	47	0.32	4.80	8.05
Parker	75	1	97	56	0.00	0.30	4.14
Payson	57	1	78	38	0.48	7.21	17.68
Phoenix	75	4	96	61	0.04	1.95	5.76
Prescott Airport	55	4	78	40	0.05	4.07	11.94
Safford Ag Center	65	2	88	40	0.07	4.95	7.90
Tucson	71	1	90	52	0.07	6.54	10.02
Willcox	62	1	84	39	0.00	5.09	10.81
Winslow	56	0	78	34	0.00	3.37	6.61
Yuma	77	0	97	58	0.00	0.00	2.33

1/ Departure of temperature for reporting period from average temperature for that week.

2/ Daily precipitation totals 5 a.m. to 5 a.m. instead of midnight to midnight. Periods of record used in computing "average to date" for precipitation and "departure" for average temperatures may be obtained from National Weather Service, Phoenix.

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