



Issue: AZ-CW5002

# ARIZONA AGRI-WEEKLY

## For Week Ending December 15, 2002

Released December 16, 2002 by the Arizona Agricultural Statistics Service and University of Arizona, College of Agriculture, 3003 N Central Avenue, Suite 950, Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2994, (602) 280-8850, Fax: (602) 280-8897, [www.nass.usda.gov/az/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/az/). To receive this information via email send a message to [listserv@newsbox.usda.gov](mailto:listserv@newsbox.usda.gov) and include in the BODY of the message: subscribe usda-az-crop-weather John Doe (replace with your name).

### Field Crops Report

As of December 15, **cotton** harvest was 95 percent complete, equal to last year's rate and slightly ahead of the five year average of 93 percent.

**Alfalfa** harvest progress was reported as 39 percent not being harvested, 14 percent light, 25 percent moderate, and 22 percent active. **Alfalfa** condition was reported as 5 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Sheep continue to move onto alfalfa fields to graze on winter pasture.

### Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

**Range and Pasture** conditions were reported as 34 percent very poor, 41 percent poor, 22 percent fair, and 3 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.

### Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops Report

Last week producers in central Arizona shipped broccoli, cauliflower, head lettuce, mixed greens, leaf lettuce, romaine and spinach while eastern Arizona producers shipped chilies and tomatoes. Producers in western Arizona shipped bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, chinese cabbage, cilantro, endive, escarole, kale, mixed greens, parsley, radicchio, rapini, spinach and spring mix. Western lettuce shipments included boston, iceberg, leaf and romaine.

Citrus producers in central and western Arizona shipped grapefruit, lemons, oranges and tangerines last week.

### Weather Summary

Temperatures throughout the State were slightly above average for the week ending December 14. Temperatures ranged from one degree below normal at Douglas and Tucson, to three degrees above normal at Flagstaff, Phoenix, and Prescott. The highest temperature of the week was 75 degrees at Yuma, while the lowest reading was 14 degrees at Grand Canyon. No precipitation was reported at any of the 17 reporting stations. Six 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 DECEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 14, 2002**

| Station           | Temperatures |         |      |     | Precipitation 2/ |                |                |
|-------------------|--------------|---------|------|-----|------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                   | Avg.         | Dep. 1/ | High | Low | Past Week        | Jan. 1 to Date | Normal to Date |
| Canyon De Chelly  | 33           | 2       | 56   | 20  | 0.00             | 5.92           | 9.17           |
| Casa Grande       | 52           | 0       | 70   | 34  | 0.00             | 3.18           | 8.71           |
| Coolidge          | 52           | 1       | 72   | 35  | 0.00             | 3.93           | 8.95           |
| Douglas           | 46           | -1      | 67   | 23  | 0.00             | 8.58           | 13.14          |
| Flagstaff         | 31           | 3       | 52   | 18  | 0.00             | 11.99          | 21.89          |
| Gila Bend         | 55           | 0       | 73   | 39  | 0.00             | 1.68           | 6.51           |
| Grand Canyon      | 32           | 2       | 54   | 14  | 0.00             | 7.15           | 15.84          |
| Kingman           | 44           | 2       | 62   | 30  | 0.00             | 6.61           | 9.47           |
| Parker            | 54           | 2       | 73   | 40  | 0.00             | 0.30           | 4.83           |
| Payson            | 40           | 1       | 60   | 23  | 0.00             | 8.96           | 21.02          |
| Phoenix           | 54           | 3       | 70   | 44  | 0.00             | 2.66           | 7.10           |
| Prescott Airport  | 38           | 3       | 60   | 24  | 0.00             | 5.02           | 13.53          |
| Safford Ag Center | 45           | 1       | 64   | 26  | 0.00             | 5.59           | 9.28           |
| Tucson            | 53           | -1      | 71   | 36  | 0.00             | 7.35           | 11.49          |
| Willcox           | 44           | 0       | 67   | 24  | 0.00             | 5.96           | 12.60          |
| Winslow           | 35           | 0       | 54   | 15  | 0.00             | 3.68           | 7.69           |
| Yuma              | 57           | 2       | 75   | 44  | 0.00             | 0.00           | 2.73           |

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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