



Issue: AZ-CW1004

# ARIZONA AGRI-WEEKLY

## For Week Ending March 7, 2004

Released March 8, 2004, 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 March 7, **alfalfa** harvest progress was reported as 72 percent not being harvested, 6 percent light, 11 percent moderate and 11 percent active. **Alfalfa** condition was reported as 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 47 percent good and 33 percent excellent. Sheep continue to graze on alfalfa fields for winter pasture.

**Small Grains** emergence is complete, while heading is just getting underway.

### Herbs, Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops Report

Last week producers in central Arizona shipped broccoli, cabbage, carrots, chinese cabbage, head lettuce, mixed greens, parsley, romaine lettuce and spinach. Western Arizona producers shipped broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, chinese cabbage, endive, escarole, green onions, head lettuce, leaf lettuce, mixed greens, parsley, romaine lettuce, spinach and spring mix last week.

Citrus producers harvested grapefruit, lemons, minneolas, navels, fairchild and tangerines in central and western Arizona last week.

### Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

**Range and Pasture** conditions were reported as 38 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 23 percent good and 2 percent excellent. **Livestock** were reported to be in fair to good condition. **Stock Water** was reported as short to adequate. **Soil Moisture** was reported as short. **Insect Damage** was reported as none to light.

During February, ranges and pastures in Arizona were in mostly fair condition. Overall, conditions improved slightly from last month. Arizona livestock were in fair condition. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate and soil moisture throughout the state was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Northern grazing conditions varied widely from poor to good. Ranchers reported some good moisture in the higher elevations, but mid and low level elevations received very little moisture. Some ranchers are providing supplemental feed to keep the range in fair condition. High-level elevations were reported in mostly fair to good condition. Mid-level elevations were reported in poor to fair condition, while low-level elevations were in mostly poor condition. Livestock were reported to be in fair condition. Stock water supplies were reported as short and soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Overall, Central pasture conditions were reported as mostly fair, improving slightly from last month. Ranchers reported better range conditions with warmer weather and a few showers. Range and pasture conditions were reported as mostly fair at high, mid, and low level elevations. Livestock conditions were reported as fair to good. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate, and soil moisture was reported as short to adequate. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Southern pastures were reported in mostly fair condition, improving from last month. Ranchers reported very little rain in February and ranges remain dry, but cattle are in good shape. Range conditions were mostly fair at high, mid, and low elevations. Livestock conditions were reported as fair to good. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate and soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was minimal.

### Weather Summary

Temperatures for most of the State were below normal for the week ending March 7. Temperatures ranged from 7 degrees below normal at Tucson, to 1 degree below normal at Prescott. The highest temperature of the week was 79 degrees at Yuma, while the lowest reading was 8 degrees at Flagstaff. Precipitation was reported at all of the 17 reporting stations. Precipitation ranged from 0.03 inches at Prescott, to 1.88 inches at Safford.

**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 FEBRUARY 29 TO MARCH 6, 2004**

Station	Temperatures				Precipitation 2/		
	Avg.	Dep. 1/	High	Low	Past Week	Jan. 1 to Date	Normal to Date
Canyon De Chelly	42	-2	61	22	0.16	1.22	1.57
Casa Grande	59	-6	71	35	0.54	2.49	1.78
Coolidge	58	-5	72	37	0.82	3.09	2.10
Douglas	52	-6	66	28	0.44	1.42	1.51
Flagstaff	35	-4	54	8	0.64	2.46	5.18
Gila Bend	62	-4	75	43	0.29	1.75	1.67
Grand Canyon	36	-3	53	11	0.26	3.32	3.67
Kingman	50	-3	67	31	0.04	1.06	2.63
Parker	62	-3	78	42	0.13	0.85	1.72
Payson	45	-3	63	23	0.19	2.56	5.21
Phoenix	62	-5	72	44	1.19	3.03	1.82
Prescott Airport	43	-1	64	25	0.03	1.66	2.73
Safford Ag Center	52	-5	65	29	1.88	3.01	1.69
Tucson	58	-7	69	35	0.59	1.84	2.05
Willcox	50	-6	62	28	0.96	2.64	2.24
Winslow	44	-3	65	16	0.21	0.60	1.11
Yuma	64	-4	79	47	0.39	0.92	0.72

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.

Steven Manheimer, State Statistician

Maria Bautista - Clare Jervis - Dennis Koong  
 Tenopra Sheppard -- Agricultural Statisticians