

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 APRIL 7, 2024

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: By week's end, 16 percent of Arizona cotton had been planted, 7 percentage points below the State's 5-year average, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Ninety-one percent of the State's barley had headed, and 57 percent had matured, up 23 and 52 percentage points, respectively, from the previous year's levels. Arizona barley was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 2 percent of the crop rated fair. Eighty-nine percent of Arizona's Durum wheat had headed, and 53 percent had matured, up 41 and 51 percentage points, respectively, from the previous year's levels. Durum wheat was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 1 percent of the crop rated fair. Alfalfa hay harvest continued to take place on more than 75 percent of the crop's acreage throughout the State. Arizona's alfalfa crop was rated in mostly good to excellent condition, with only 4 percent of the crop rated fair. Pasture and range conditions throughout the State slightly improved when compared to that of the previous report. Sixteen percent of the State's pasture and rangeland was rated very poor, 8 percent was rated poor, 41 percent was rated fair, 30 percent was rated good, and 5 percent was rated excellent. A report from Navajo and Apache Counties stated that most cattle can still be found on winter ranges as spring and summer pastures are still greening up. Corroborating reports from eastern counties stated that high winds contributed the depletion of topsoil moisture levels over the past week. Topsoil moisture levels remained mostly adequate, with 11 percent rated very short, 10 percent rated short, 70 percent rated adequate, and 9 percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture levels followed a similar trend.

Over the past week, measurable precipitation was experienced across central and eastern regions of the State while north and southwestern areas remained relatively dry. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the White and Swisshelm Mountains received the most precipitation, accumulating approximately 1.25 inches, while other areas of the State received anywhere from trace amounts to 0.50 inch of precipitation. The drought information statement for southeast Arizona remained in effect as extreme drought conditions persist throughout eastern Cochise County. According to the National Weather Service, Arizona experienced several widespread rain events over the last 30 days. Despite recent precipitation, the seasonal outlook for April, May, and June continues to show equal odds for either above, near, or below normal seasonal mean temperatures and seasonal total precipitation apart from southeast Arizona where the seasonal total precipitation outlook is leaning below normal and northeast Arizona where the seasonal mean temperature outlook is leaning above normal. Arizona's seasonal drought outlook now shows that conditions are expected to improve or end throughout all areas of the State apart from central Navajo, southern Apache, and eastern Greenlee Counties where conditions are expected to persist. Streamflow conditions in the San Pedro in addition to portions of the Lower Colorado River Basins continues to be well below normal. However, conditions throughout the State have improved as snowpack has continued to melt and precipitation has been relatively steady. Combined, these conditions have allowed Arizona's remaining river basin's streamflow conditions to be rated from much above normal to normal. As of April 2, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed a significant improvement in conditions when compared to that of the previous report. Abnormally dry conditions (D0) spanned 45 percent of the State, moderate drought (D1) enveloped 27 percent, severe drought (D2) encompassed 5 percent, and extreme drought (D3) remained at 2 percent of the State's total land area. Arizona once again remained free of exceptional (D4) drought. Over the past week, temperatures across much of the State decreased according to the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Daytime highs throughout Arizona ranged from 3 to 12 degrees below normal and ranged from the low-fifties in Coconino County to the low-eighties across southwestern regions of the State. Overnight lows ranged from 8 degrees below to 1 degree above normal and ranged from 20 to 40 degrees across northern and eastern counties, whereas counties within the Sonoran Desert experienced lows of 45 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

CROP PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Headed.....	91	76	68	70
Mature.....	57	28	5	5
Cotton				
Planted.....	16	6	11	23
Durum wheat				
Headed.....	89	75	48	54
Mature.....	53	24	2	2

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.....	6.8	6.4	7.0	7.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	11	15	1	4
Short.....	10	4	3	14
Adequate.....	70	81	95	80
Surplus.....	9	--	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	12	21	1	4
Short.....	14	8	2	11
Adequate.....	73	71	96	84
Surplus.....	1	--	1	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero

CROP, PASTURE, AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	4	7	3	12
Good.....	28	37	62	47
Excellent.....	68	56	35	40
Barley				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	2	--	7	16
Good.....	33	42	78	64
Excellent.....	65	58	15	19
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	1
Fair.....	1	--	1	5
Good.....	22	24	34	45
Excellent.....	77	76	65	49
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	16	27	10	22
Poor.....	8	8	17	20
Fair.....	41	15	33	25
Good.....	30	37	34	29
Excellent.....	5	13	6	4

NA – not available

(--)- zero