

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 22, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: A damaging storm system brought rainfall and 0.5 to 1.0 inch hail to portions of the southeast during the week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. Comments from counties in the area indicated that crops in Dona Ana County – more so the northwestern part of the county – seemed to take the brunt of the damage, with reports showing that unharvested spring lettuce was destroyed. Additionally, producers felt that some onion fields could be unharvestable depending on the extent of damage, and that noticeable damage was seen in apple and pecan orchards, as well as cabbage, chile, and some cotton fields. Following the week's storm, chile condition was reported as 57 percent good to excellent, compared with 66 percent last week and 91 percent last year. A similar drop in condition was evident in the onion crop. In Union County, cool temperatures continued to limit the amount of corn acreage that had been planted, while producers with wheat have cut and baled approximately 20 percent of the fields in the county. Reports from Curry County suggest that rainfall in recent weeks has improved not only grazing prospects for livestock operations, but also conditions for planting corn, cotton, and sorghum. Statewide, the largest precipitation accumulation, 1.28 inches, was recorded at NMSU, with weekly totals also exceeding one inch at Bitter Lakes, El Morro, and Las Vegas. Animas was the only weather station that did not report any moisture during the week. The largest year-to-date precipitation deficit had grown to -3.00 inches at Chama, while the largest surplus, 0.97 inch, was reported at Ocate. Average temperatures were cooler than normal across much of the state during the week, varying from 10 degrees below to 4 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 74 degrees at Chama to 95 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows varied from 29 degrees at Eagle Nest and Grants to 49 degrees at Artesia. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 9 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 7 percent light and 2 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 38 percent light and 9 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 8 percent very short, 17 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	60	51	62	73
Chile				
Planted.....	95	87	NA	NA
Emerged.....	60	55	94	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	54	44	78	69
Emerged.....	20	8	29	30
Cotton				
Planted.....	54	47	63	74
Emerged.....	40	30	52	NA
Onions				
Harvested.....	2	NA	7	3
Peanuts				
Planted.....	15	7	26	29
Sorghum				
Planted.....	16	10	41	21
Spring lettuce				
Harvested.....	59	30	71	NA
Winter wheat				
Headed.....	93	84	91	79
Ewes lambled.....	98	93	94	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	60	63	25	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	54	48	30	NA

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.....	5.2	6.4	4.8	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	10	10	52
Short.....	52	60	30	26
Adequate.....	35	30	58	22
Surplus.....	3	--	2	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	9	9	10	NA
Short.....	34	36	24	NA
Adequate.....	56	55	66	NA
Surplus.....	1	--	--	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	2	2	1	6
Fair.....	49	50	24	33
Good	38	37	47	45
Excellent	11	11	28	14
Chile				
Very poor	5	6	--	NA
Poor.....	17	19	--	NA
Fair.....	21	9	9	NA
Good	35	38	62	NA
Excellent	22	28	29	NA
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	--	--	2	21
Good	50	39	20	40
Excellent	50	61	78	39
Pasture and range				
Very poor	2	2	7	40
Poor.....	17	17	11	31
Fair.....	48	48	34	19
Good	29	30	36	8
Excellent	4	3	12	2
Pecans				
Very poor	--	NA	--	--
Poor.....	--	NA	--	1
Fair.....	16	NA	14	26
Good	54	NA	76	54
Excellent	30	NA	10	19
Spring lettuce				
Very poor	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Fair.....	--	--	NA	NA
Good	60	64	NA	NA
Excellent	40	36	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor	3	3	1	47
Poor.....	20	19	8	11
Fair.....	35	36	47	25
Good	40	40	24	9
Excellent	2	2	20	8
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	NA
Poor.....	3	3	3	NA
Fair.....	36	37	30	NA
Good	53	53	60	NA
Excellent	6	5	6	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	13	13	17	NA
Poor.....	12	12	19	NA
Fair.....	18	18	14	NA
Good	55	55	49	NA
Excellent	2	2	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

New Mexico’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/New Mexico/Publications/Crop Progress & Condition/2016/NM Weather 05222016.pdf>