

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



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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF DECEMBER 2015

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Winter storm Goliath dumped tremendous amounts of snow on parts of New Mexico toward month's end, leaving cattle, goat, and sheep ranchers struggling to not only find animals, but also to assess what the total death loss may be. Producers have been unable to deliver supplemental feed and water to their surviving livestock, while blowing winds left some dairy producers digging through snow drifts searching for their cattle. Preliminary estimates from those within the NMSU Extension system suggest milking cow losses at 5 percent, and young or replacement stock at possibly 10 percent. In addition to death losses, many dairies were forced to dump 1 to 2 days' worth of milk because snow-covered roads prohibited truck access to the farms. Statewide, monthly temperatures hovered near-normal. Daytime highs ranged from 52 degrees at Chama and Red River to 82 degrees in Carlsbad. Overnight lows fell well below 0 degrees at several weather stations. Most notably, Chama, Eagle Nest, and Moriarty all recorded a low of -9 degrees at some point during December. Monthly precipitation totals varied drastically, and ranged from 0.09 inch in Carlsbad to 1.42 inches at Red River. Across the State, only four weather stations – Alamogordo, Artesia, Santa Fe, and Truth or Consequences – had year-to-date moisture totals that fell below normal. Conversely, Clayton and Clovis ended the year with a precipitation surplus of 16.82 and 10.43 inches, respectively. Stock water supplies were reported as 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, and 89 percent adequate. Feed and concentrate supplies were reported as 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 28 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	100	75	NA	NA
Cotton				
Harvested	100	91	NA	NA
Pecans				
Harvested	100	27	NA	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves	86	76	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	78	81	NA	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short.....	3	12	20	NA
Short	10	31	25	NA
Adequate	63	49	43	NA
Surplus	24	8	12	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	4	8	22	NA
Short	11	23	28	NA
Adequate	83	68	50	NA
Surplus	2	1	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Winter wheat				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Fair.....	21	37	17	NA
Good	59	51	74	NA
Excellent	20	12	9	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	1	1	--	NA
Poor.....	2	2	1	NA
Fair.....	23	24	16	NA
Good	56	62	74	NA
Excellent	18	11	9	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	16	15	--	NA
Poor.....	19	16	2	NA
Fair.....	14	15	67	NA
Good	49	51	31	NA
Excellent	2	3	--	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/2015/NM_Weather_01032016.pdf