

# NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2016

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** February delivered above average temperatures coupled with below average precipitation to much of the State. Reporter comments from District 10 indicated an early snow melt. Average temperatures ranged from 8 degrees above to 1 degree below normal. Daytime highs ranged from 55 degrees at Chama to 91 degrees at Roswell. Overnight lows remained below freezing at all weather stations, with several locations recording temperatures well below 0 degrees. Most notably, Eagle Nest recorded a low of -27 degrees. A relatively strong El Nino provided beneficial moisture to many locations from January into early-February, but comments indicated that precipitation accumulation had decreased in recent weeks, leading to irrigation in some wheat fields and increased concern about fire danger in native pastures that currently have ample feedstuffs available. Monthly precipitation totals were below normal for most locations. Reporter comments from Curry County indicated that winter wheat was starting to show new growth following warm temperatures toward month's end. Ranchers in the area were marketing some of their wheat-fed cattle. Elsewhere, approximately 80 percent of the winter wheat in Union County was being grazed, and 20 percent of the irrigation circles used for corn have been disked as producers prepare for the upcoming season. Feed and concentrate supplies were reported as 5 percent very short, 18 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 7 percent very short, 7 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 26 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 3 percent very short, 23 percent short, and 74 percent adequate.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cows calved .....	15	7	4	NA
Ewes lambled .....	12	4	4	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves .....	83	67	90	NA
Sheep and lambs .....	77	78	91	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

### DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short .....	30	5	6	NA
Short .....	20	23	6	NA
Adequate .....	48	70	85	NA
Surplus .....	2	2	3	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	5	5	11	NA
Short .....	15	14	6	NA
Adequate .....	80	81	83	NA
Surplus .....	--	--	--	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.....	20	30	5	NA
Good .....	30	60	80	NA
Excellent .....	50	10	15	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	2	2	2	NA
Poor.....	3	3	2	NA
Fair.....	29	30	40	NA
Good .....	57	52	54	NA
Excellent .....	9	13	2	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	15	23	25	NA
Poor.....	19	19	17	NA
Fair.....	15	4	5	NA
Good .....	51	53	53	NA
Excellent .....	--	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\\_02282016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/NM_Weather_02282016.pdf)