

# 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  
 April 5, 2016

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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 3, 2016

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** On average, temperatures were cooler than normal during the week, and dry weather lingered over much of the State. The largest precipitation accumulation, 0.80 inch, was recorded at Bitter Lakes, and totals for the week tapered off from there. Largely, it was a dry week for most of New Mexico. In Curry County, reporter comments indicated that dryland wheat continued to deteriorate under extremely dry conditions, while the irrigated crop was already being watered. Additionally, cattle were being pulled from wheat fields and marketed. Average temperatures ranged from 8 degrees below to 2 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 58 degrees at Eagle Nest and El Vado Dam to 88 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows varied from -3 degrees at Eagle Nest to 34 degrees at Truth or Consequences. While native pastures showed some signs of spring green up, reports showed that significant moisture was needed soon to further forage growth. As such, supplemental feeding, especially for nursing cows, continued virtually statewide in order to keep cattle in decent condition. Heavy supplemental feeding was ongoing in Union County to help detour animals from grazing on the abundance of loco weed. Wheat pastures in Union County were reportedly approximately 75 percent stocked with cattle, and some animals were observed grazing corn stubble. Feed and concentrate supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 14 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 6 percent very short, 22 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Chile planted .....	34	24	57	54
Cotton planted .....	4	NA	4	4
Onions				
Planted .....	76	54	94	89
Emerged .....	33	NA	24	NA
Cows calved .....	36	20	26	NA
Ewes lambd .....	24	18	20	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves .....	80	81	86	NA
Sheep and lambs .....	53	42	78	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 .....	6.0	NA	4.8	5.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	11	9	5	48
Short .....	70	74	55	28
Adequate .....	19	17	40	24
Surplus .....	--	--	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	10	8	7	NA
Short .....	37	36	25	NA
Adequate .....	53	56	68	NA
Surplus .....	--	--	--	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)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	4
Poor.....	2	2	1	3
Fair.....	56	58	16	36
Good.....	26	24	46	44
Excellent.....	16	16	37	13
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor.....	3	NA	8	40
Poor.....	13	NA	9	25
Fair.....	49	NA	37	21
Good.....	31	NA	34	11
Excellent.....	4	NA	12	3
<b>Spring lettuce</b>				
Very poor.....	--	NA	--	NA
Poor.....	--	NA	--	NA
Fair.....	--	NA	--	NA
Good.....	100	NA	100	NA
Excellent.....	--	NA	--	NA
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	3	4	--	33
Poor.....	16	17	--	16
Fair.....	44	46	40	27
Good.....	35	33	50	16
Excellent.....	2	--	10	8
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	2	2	1	NA
Poor.....	4	4	2	NA
Fair.....	42	46	40	NA
Good.....	47	45	55	NA
Excellent.....	5	3	2	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	24	27	19	NA
Poor.....	18	20	17	NA
Fair.....	12	11	13	NA
Good.....	45	41	51	NA
Excellent.....	1	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\\_04032016.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2016/NM_Weather_04032016.pdf)