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 SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Late-summer moisture continued across much of the State during the week, and while soil moisture levels continued to show improvement, not all locations benefitted from the increased precipitation, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. Comments from portions of the southwest indicated that the recent rainfall was too little, too late following a summer of hot, dry conditions that left range and pasture grasses in many locations beyond recovery, and with cooler temperatures approaching, most livestock in the area will be without adequate feedstuffs for overwintering. Statewide, measureable rainfall was recorded at 42 of 46 reporting weather stations, with Farmington, Gallup, Otis, and Torreon in the northwest being the only dry locations during the week. Topsoil moisture levels continued to improve, with conditions now rated 42 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 41 percent last week, 46 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. The largest rainfall accumulation was reported at Gila Hot Spring where 1.87 inches fell. Additionally, Clayton, Cloudcroft, Los Alamos, Pedernal, Picacho, and Redrock recorded over 1 inch or more. Average temperatures varied from 3 degrees below to 7 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 75 degrees at Eagle Nest to 97 degrees at Animas and Redrock. Overnight temperatures dipped below freezing for the first time since early-June, varying from 30 degrees at Otis to 62 degrees at Santa Teresa. In Union County, producers were busy seeding wheat, preparing for corn and sorghum harvest, and planning to move cattle from summer pastures. Comments from the county also indicated that corn in southern locations was maturing more rapidly than in the north. Pecan nut set was reported as 24 percent light, 56 percent moderate, and 20 percent heavy. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 32 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Stock water supplies were reported as 6 percent very short, 22 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
4th cutting harvested	92	75	94	98
5th cutting harvested	54	44	52	64
6th cutting harvested	2	NA	4	9
Chile				
Green harvested	80	62	84	76
Corn				
Dough	85	77	87	91
Dented	50	33	48	60
Mature	4	NA	7	17
Harvested for silage	44	40	58	52
Cotton				
Setting bolls	95	93	98	91
Bolls opening	57	54	38	30
Sorghum				
Headed	93	81	95	83
Coloring	44	37	30	26
Mature	10	6	1	--
Winter wheat				
Planted	16	6	6	18

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	6.4	3.7	6.7	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	8	8	15	33
Short	50	51	39	31
Adequate	37	36	45	32
Surplus	5	5	1	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	8	8	11	NA
Short	30	32	34	NA
Adequate	60	58	54	NA
Surplus	2	2	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	--	--	1	5
Poor	4	4	3	7
Fair	42	42	21	24
Good	45	45	45	54
Excellent	9	9	30	10
Corn				
Very poor	2	2	--	3
Poor	3	3	--	7
Fair	31	31	11	23
Good	46	46	51	39
Excellent	18	18	38	28
Cotton				
Very poor	3	3	--	4
Poor	25	25	--	14
Fair	32	32	23	33
Good	33	33	67	28
Excellent	7	7	10	21
Pasture and range				
Very poor	2	2	4	28
Poor	22	22	6	23
Fair	46	46	32	26
Good	26	26	47	18
Excellent	4	4	11	5
Peanut				
Very poor	--	--	--	5
Poor	3	4	--	20
Fair	69	73	68	64
Good	28	23	29	10
Excellent	--	--	3	1
Pecan				
Very poor	--	--	--	0
Poor	--	--	--	1
Fair	9	9	13	19
Good	53	53	77	56
Excellent	38	38	10	24
Sorghum				
Very poor	--	--	--	21
Poor	2	2	1	9
Fair	75	75	10	24
Good	22	22	85	41
Excellent	1	1	4	5
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	2	2	1	NA
Poor	4	4	2	NA
Fair	36	37	24	NA
Good	53	52	65	NA
Excellent	5	5	8	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	12	12	15	NA
Poor	12	12	15	NA
Fair	16	17	15	NA
Good	54	53	52	NA
Excellent	6	6	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/2016/NM_Weather_09112016.pdf