

# NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE**  
 PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004  
 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Longino Bustillos  
 (800) 530-8810

## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Above average temperatures continued across the State during February, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. Specifically, average temperatures varied from 3 to 10 degrees above normal. Daytime highs ranged from 53 degrees at Eagle Nest to 89 degrees at Artesia, Bitter Lakes, and Roswell. Overnight lows varied from 1 degree at Eagle Nest to 30 degrees at NMSU and Truth or Consequences. While precipitation was recorded at all reporting weather stations, accumulations in most locations were below average for the month. The largest precipitation total was reported at Gila Hot Spring, where 1.40 inches of moisture fell during February. Chama, at 1.22 inches, was the only other location to accumulate at least an inch of precipitation. Comments from Union County indicated that soil moisture levels are very low entering the dry, windy season, leaving fire danger extremely high. Some farmers in the county were tilling their field ahead of planting season. Conversely, wet fields in Dona Ana County prevented vegetable growers from planting spring lettuce during the past couple of weeks. Elsewhere, some ranchers had already shipped their cattle that were grazing wheat due to the lack of quality grazing. Winter wheat condition was reported as 29 percent good to excellent, compared with 80 percent last year. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 3 percent very short, 17 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 12 percent very short, 26 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus.

**Note:** The next monthly report will be released for March on Monday, March 27, 2017. The first weekly report will be released on April 3, 2017.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Pecans				
Harvested.....	95	55	NA	NA
Cows calved .....	10	3	15	NA
Ewes lambd .....	10	1	12	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	82	84	83	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	75	76	77	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	5	30	NA
Short.....	46	48	20	NA
Adequate .....	40	45	48	NA
Surplus .....	--	2	2	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	12	8	5	NA
Short.....	33	37	15	NA
Adequate .....	53	54	80	NA
Surplus .....	2	1	--	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

## CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor.....	4	1	--	NA
Poor.....	18	54	--	NA
Fair.....	49	37	20	NA
Good.....	26	5	30	NA
Excellent.....	3	3	50	NA
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor.....	1	--	2	NA
Poor.....	4	3	3	NA
Fair.....	42	51	29	NA
Good.....	47	39	57	NA
Excellent.....	6	7	9	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor.....	3	4	15	NA
Poor.....	8	8	19	NA
Fair.....	37	33	15	NA
Good.....	49	54	51	NA
Excellent.....	3	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/2017/NM\\_Weather\\_02262017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/NM_Weather_02262017.pdf)