

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
May 8, 2017

Contact: Longino Bustillos
(800) 530-8810

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING MAY 7, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Following last week’s boost in precipitation and resulting soil moisture levels, dry weather returned to New Mexico, with trace amounts rain recorded at just 8 of the 45 reporting weather stations, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. The largest accumulation of precipitation was reported at Capulin, where just 0.09 inch fell. Despite the dry week, comments from many counties suggested that soil moisture was at a high enough level to support good pasture grass green up and growth. Crop conditions also showed improvement. Conversely, high winds in Grant and Luna Counties were quickly drying what little rain has fallen. Additionally, comments from Eddy County indicated very dry soils. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 45 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 49 percent last week, 29 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 29 percent. Alfalfa fields continued to show improvement with condition reported as 63 percent good to excellent, compared with 53 percent last week, 48 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 56 percent. Comments from Curry County indicated that the first cutting of alfalfa hay had been cut, but not yet baled. Winter wheat condition was reported as 55 percent good to excellent, compared with 52 percent last week, 42 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 26 percent. In Union County, cattle continued to graze approximately 20 percent of wheat circles. Across the State, many wheat growers were busy harvesting their crop as hay or silage. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degrees below to 7 degrees above average. Daytime highs ranged from 70 degrees at Angel Fire to 97 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows varied from 13 degrees at Ocate to 49 degrees at Truth or Consequences. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent moderate and 9 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was not reported at this point. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent moderate and 9 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 4 percent very short, 18 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 13 percent very short, 24 percent short, and 63 percent adequate.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	46	31	42	43
Chile				
Planted.....	96	87	84	92
Emerged	64	49	52	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	35	29	34	41
Emerged	8	3	2	11
Cotton				
Planted.....	65	51	42	49
Emerged	25	13	19	NA
Onions				
Emerged	93	85	NA	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	5	NA	1	6
Sorghum				
Planted.....	2	1	8	9
Winter wheat				
Headed	83	70	68	50
Cows calved	86	82	91	NA
Ewes lambled	95	93	89	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	68	70	66	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	62	70	45	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	6.7	6.3	6.6	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	13	11	37
Short.....	41	38	60	34
Adequate	43	46	29	29
Surplus	2	3	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	10	9	9	NA
Short.....	42	36	37	NA
Adequate	48	54	54	NA
Surplus	--	1	--	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	2
Poor.....	--	1	2	6
Fair.....	37	46	50	36
Good	61	52	37	43
Excellent	2	1	11	13
Chile				
Very poor	--	NA	NA	NA
Poor.....	6	NA	NA	NA
Fair.....	39	NA	NA	NA
Good	43	NA	NA	NA
Excellent	12	NA	NA	NA
Onion				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	2
Fair.....	16	16	--	15
Good	78	84	50	38
Excellent	6	--	50	45
Pasture and range condition				
Very poor	8	3	2	32
Poor.....	15	13	17	24
Fair.....	50	59	48	26
Good	25	23	30	15
Excellent	2	2	3	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	2	1	3	35
Poor.....	12	14	19	13
Fair.....	31	33	36	26
Good	50	41	40	20
Excellent	5	11	2	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	1	1	2	NA
Poor.....	2	2	3	NA
Fair.....	46	51	37	NA
Good	47	43	53	NA
Excellent	4	3	5	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	9	5	13	NA
Poor.....	14	11	11	NA
Fair.....	24	31	18	NA
Good	53	52	56	NA
Excellent	--	1	2	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_05072017.pdf