

# 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 MAY 14, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** While the northern half of the State has received beneficial precipitation in recent weeks, the southern portion continued to accumulate only trace amounts of moisture, with some areas remaining completely dry, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. The largest moisture accumulation was reported at Ocate, where 2.58 inches fell. Additionally, 6 other northern weather stations reported over an inch of rainfall during the week, with all northern stations tallying some measurable moisture. Conversely, precipitation totals in the south ranged from 0.01 to 1.09 inches, with most locations receiving less than half an inch, and Alamogordo, Deming, Quemado, NMSU, and Santa Teresa receiving no precipitation. Reporter comments varied drastically with regard to moisture. In Union County, reports suggested that pasture grasses were greening, and were providing enough nutrition for livestock that ranchers were able to lessen the amount of supplemental feed needed. Elsewhere, comments from Grant and Luna Counties indicated that native pastures were already showing signs of drought stress, and rain was desperately needed to stave off severe drought conditions. Additionally, Eddy County comments noted that stock tanks supplied by water run-off were low, and that pastures were being grazed off with no green up evident. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 42 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 45 percent last week, 30 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 27 percent. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 6 degrees above average. Daytime highs ranged from 67 degrees at Angel Fire to 94 degrees at Carlsbad and Hachita. Overnight lows varied from 29 degrees at Angel Fire to 51 degrees at Carlsbad. Alfalfa fields continued to show improvement with condition reported as 71 percent good to excellent, compared with 63 percent last week, 48 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 60 percent. Alfalfa producers in Dona Ana County had reportedly harvested 40 percent of their second cutting. Chile emergence was ahead of the average pace, with 44 percent of the crop reported in good to excellent condition. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent moderate and 7 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 3 percent moderate and 15 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 5 percent very short, 19 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 19 percent very short, 23 percent short, and 58 percent adequate.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested.....	52	46	50	56
Chile				
Emerged .....	71	64	55	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	49	35	43	56
Emerged .....	19	8	7	18
Cotton				
Planted.....	68	65	46	57
Emerged .....	33	25	29	NA
Onions				
Emerged .....	95	93	100	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	26	5	6	12
Sorghum				
Planted.....	5	2	10	13
Winter wheat				
Headed .....	92	83	82	65
Cows calved .....	89	86	94	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	58	68	63	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	57	62	48	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 .....	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	14	10	41
Short.....	43	41	60	32
Adequate .....	41	43	30	27
Surplus .....	1	2	--	--
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	10	9	NA
Short.....	47	42	36	NA
Adequate .....	39	48	55	NA
Surplus .....	--	--	--	NA

NA – not available  
 (--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	1	--	2	6
Fair.....	28	37	50	33
Good .....	69	61	37	45
Excellent .....	2	2	11	15
<b>Chile</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	6	NA
Poor.....	3	6	19	NA
Fair.....	53	39	9	NA
Good .....	34	43	38	NA
Excellent .....	10	12	28	NA
<b>Onion</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	2
Fair.....	16	16	--	14
Good .....	69	78	39	39
Excellent .....	15	6	61	45
<b>Pasture and range condition</b>				
Very poor .....	7	8	2	34
Poor.....	15	15	17	23
Fair.....	49	50	48	25
Good .....	26	25	30	15
Excellent .....	3	2	3	3
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	3	2	3	38
Poor.....	17	12	19	12
Fair.....	40	31	36	25
Good .....	33	50	40	17
Excellent .....	7	5	2	8
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor .....	2	1	2	NA
Poor.....	2	2	3	NA
Fair.....	44	46	37	NA
Good .....	46	47	53	NA
Excellent .....	6	4	5	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor .....	14	9	13	NA
Poor.....	15	14	12	NA
Fair.....	16	24	18	NA
Good .....	55	53	55	NA
Excellent .....	--	--	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\\_05142017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/NM_Weather_05142017.pdf)