

# 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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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 21, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Southern New Mexico was still suffering from a lack of precipitation while northern New Mexico experienced rain, snow, and freezing temperatures last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistical Service, USDA. The largest moisture accumulation was reported at Clayton, where 0.58 inches fell. Depending on the county, moisture comments varied considerably. Reporter comments in Rio Arriba and Taos County stated cold and wet weather over a two day period may have damaged orchard crops and alfalfa. In Union County, reports suggested that cooler temperatures are slowing corn progress but benefitting range conditions. In Quay County, reporters noted that the first cutting of alfalfa was almost complete and rain has promoted growing conditions and in Curry County there were reports of strong winds drying up topsoil moisture. Elsewhere, comments from Grant and Luna Counties indicated that drought conditions were present due to a sufficient lack of moisture. Additionally, Lea and Eddy County comments noted a lack of moisture but planting was in full swing. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 45 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 42 percent last week, 38 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 29 percent. Average temperatures ranged from 10 degrees below to 2 degrees above average. Daytime highs ranged from 68 degrees at Chama and Cloudcroft to 100 degrees at Carlsbad. Overnight lows varied from 21 degrees at Chama to 50 degrees at Carlsbad. Wheat fields showed improvement with condition reported as 54 percent good to excellent, compared with 40 percent last week, 42 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 25 percent. Chile emergence was still ahead of last year, with 40 percent of the crop reported in good to excellent condition. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light and 2 percent moderate. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent severe, 6 percent moderate, and 14 percent light. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 1 percent very short, 14 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. Stock water supplies were reported as 7 percent very short, 26 percent short, and 67 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.....	63	52	59	65
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	10	NA	--	4
Chile				
Emerged.....	82	71	59	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	57	49	53	64
Emerged.....	21	19	18	25
Cotton				
Planted.....	78	68	53	66
Emerged.....	34	33	39	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	48	26	14	24
Emerged.....	5	NA	--	NA
Sorghum				
Planted.....	12	5	15	19
Winter wheat				
Headed.....	97	92	92	76
Harvested for grain.....	2	NA	--	--
Cows calved.....	93	89	98	NA
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	55	58	60	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	46	57	54	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	6.6	5.2	5.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	18	15	10	40
Short.....	37	43	52	31
Adequate.....	44	41	35	28
Surplus.....	1	1	3	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	16	14	9	NA
Short.....	38	47	34	NA
Adequate.....	45	39	56	NA
Surplus.....	1	--	1	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	1	2	5
Fair.....	22	28	49	36
Good .....	74	69	38	44
Excellent .....	3	2	11	14
<b>Chile</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	5	NA
Poor.....	7	3	17	NA
Fair.....	53	53	21	NA
Good .....	30	34	35	NA
Excellent .....	10	10	22	NA
<b>Onion</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	16	16	--	18
Good .....	68	69	50	38
Excellent .....	16	15	50	44
<b>Pasture and range condition</b>				
Very poor .....	7	7	2	32
Poor.....	16	15	17	26
Fair.....	43	49	48	25
Good .....	26	26	29	14
Excellent .....	8	3	4	3
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	2	3	3	34
Poor.....	12	17	20	13
Fair.....	32	40	35	28
Good .....	50	33	40	17
Excellent .....	4	7	2	8
<b>Cattle and calves</b>				
Very poor .....	1	2	2	NA
Poor.....	2	2	3	NA
Fair.....	35	44	36	NA
Good .....	55	46	53	NA
Excellent .....	7	6	6	NA
<b>Sheep and lambs</b>				
Very poor .....	9	14	13	NA
Poor.....	11	15	12	NA
Fair.....	17	16	18	NA
Good .....	62	55	55	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\\_05212017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/NM_Weather_05212017.pdf)