

# 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 9, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** High winds continued to limit the benefits of the precipitation received during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Pea-sized hail was noted in portions of the southeast, although it was soft, so no crop damage had been reported. Row crop producers stayed busy planting despite depleted soil moisture levels. Those with irrigation capabilities started watering immediately after the seeds were in the ground. Ranchers were focused on branding calves, and were preparing to turn their cattle onto summer grazing lands despite poor grass prospects. Statewide, 65 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 33 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. Supplemental feeding needs remained high, as calving and lambing neared completion. During the past week, converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 3 inches in a few isolated areas of eastern New Mexico to merely a trace, with portions of many southern counties remaining dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for May 4, moderate drought or worse continued its hold on the State. Less than 1 percent of the State was categorized in moderate drought (D1). Severe drought (D2) showed a slight increase to cover 18.9 percent of the State. Extreme (D3) worsened as the benefits of moisture received was limited and was now present across 28.4 percent of New Mexico's land. Exceptional (D4) drought remained across 52.1 percent, down about one percentage point from a week ago. Exceptional drought plagued approximately 63,359 square miles of land, while extreme drought was present across roughly 34,509 square miles. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 89 percent short to very short, compared with 70 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 68 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 4 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 3 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 15 percent light, 5 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 47 percent very short, 34 percent short, and 19 percent adequate, compared with 8 percent very short, 36 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 48 percent very short, 29 percent short, and 23 percent adequate, compared with 8 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 60 percent adequate last year.

### 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 .....	40	25	44	42
Chile				
Planted .....	80	73	89	88
Emerged .....	46	38	51	57
Corn				
Planted .....	45	28	51	44
Emerged .....	14	6	19	12
Cotton				
Planted .....	29	23	43	49
Emerged .....	14	6	19	23
Onions				
Planted .....	90	85	86	94
Emerged .....	66	58	77	84
Winter wheat				
Headed .....	56	38	79	76
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved .....	91	88	85	90
Receiving supplemental feed .....	92	95	79	68
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed .....	90	88	88	92
Receiving supplemental feed .....	95	92	59	58

NA – not available

(--) – zero

### DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork .....	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	55	63	31	25
Short .....	34	31	39	43
Adequate .....	10	5	30	31
Surplus .....	1	1	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	60	66	30	22
Short .....	34	29	42	43
Adequate .....	5	4	28	35
Surplus .....	1	1	--	--

NA – not available

(--) – zero

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

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor .....	10	10	2	3
Poor .....	3	2	4	3
Fair.....	40	45	30	35
Good.....	37	34	56	52
Excellent .....	10	9	8	7
Onions				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	--
Poor .....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	--	--	23	11
Good.....	27	27	57	49
Excellent .....	73	73	20	40
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	28	31	12	11
Poor .....	37	33	21	25
Fair.....	29	31	47	41
Good.....	6	5	17	21
Excellent .....	--	--	3	2
Winter wheat				
Very poor .....	40	35	1	5
Poor .....	23	25	13	21
Fair.....	22	17	52	34
Good.....	5	13	24	31
Excellent .....	10	10	10	9
Cattle and calves				
Very poor .....	5	11	10	4
Poor .....	19	20	5	8
Fair.....	45	39	32	39
Good.....	23	23	45	43
Excellent .....	8	7	8	6
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor .....	17	21	10	11
Poor .....	4	7	8	10
Fair.....	31	28	25	29
Good.....	40	36	55	49
Excellent .....	8	8	2	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero