

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 23, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: A week of active storms delivered beneficial moisture to portions of the State during the week, with some reports indicating up to four days of rainfall, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High wind speeds resulted from some of the storms. Comments from several counties indicated the need for large amounts of additional moisture to help reverse the effects of the long-term drought. In Union County, producers had cut and windrowed their first alfalfa hay crop; baling had not yet begun. Overall, planting progress remained behind normal for most crops. Reports from Colfax County noted that rangeland grasses showed signs of green up, although evidence of new growth was limited. Statewide, 62 percent of the State's pastures and rangelands were reported in very poor or poor condition, compared with 38 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. Comments from Grant and Luna Counties indicated that ranchers were still hauling water and supplemental feed to their livestock. Herd reductions or complete liquidation were ongoing in the area. During the past week, converted moisture totals – accounting for any precipitation received as snow – ranged from approximately 6 inches in a few isolated locations of northern and eastern New Mexico to merely a trace across many southwestern counties. Several pockets of the State remained dry. According to the United States Drought Monitor for May 18, some improvement was noted following larger precipitation totals during the past couple of weeks. A small area of abnormal dryness was introduced in eastern portions of Quay and Union Counties. Moderate drought (D1) was present across 2.8 percent of the State, while severe drought (D2) increased to cover 19.4 percent of New Mexico's lands. Extreme drought (D3) covered an area equal to 29.7 percent of the State, while exceptional drought (D4) was entrenched across 47.8 percent, down 4.3 percentage points from last week. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 82 percent short to very short, compared with 78 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 66 percent. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent light. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 6 percent light, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 10 percent light, 6 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 41 percent very short, 32 percent short, 26 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 10 percent very short, 36 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 43 percent very short, 25 percent short, and 32 percent adequate, compared with 10 percent very short, 36 percent short, and 54 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 st cutting harvested	65	55	68	63
2 nd cutting harvested	3	1	20	NA
Chile				
Planted	88	85	98	NA
Emerged	67	56	77	75
Corn				
Planted	67	55	68	65
Emerged	36	23	40	32
Cotton				
Planted	46	36	65	70
Emerged	29	22	35	41
Onions				
Planted	98	95	NA	NA
Emerged	88	80	94	93
Peanuts				
Planted	13	5	47	33
Winter wheat				
Headed	77	66	93	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	97	93	96	98
Receiving supplemental feed	90	90	78	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	95	92	NA	NA
Receiving supplemental feed	90	92	60	NA

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	6.0	6.6	6.8	6.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	52	51	39	27
Short	30	38	39	39
Adequate	17	10	22	32
Surplus	1	1	--	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	57	60	39	24
Short	32	34	40	39
Adequate	10	5	21	36
Surplus	1	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	6	10	6	5
Poor	11	3	5	2
Fair.....	30	35	26	28
Good.....	45	42	50	58
Excellent	8	10	13	7
Chile				
Very poor	2	2	--	1
Poor	8	8	--	7
Fair.....	20	18	46	33
Good.....	44	45	43	44
Excellent	26	27	11	15
Onions				
Very poor	--	--	--	--
Poor	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	2	--	11	11
Good.....	30	27	57	47
Excellent	68	73	32	42
Pasture and range				
Very poor	22	22	6	8
Poor	40	43	32	28
Fair.....	25	28	46	41
Good.....	11	7	16	19
Excellent	2	--	--	4
Winter wheat				
Very poor	34	36	--	4
Poor	20	19	16	22
Fair.....	22	17	61	37
Good.....	5	13	18	31
Excellent	19	15	5	6
Cattle and calves				
Very poor	7	10	2	2
Poor	13	12	6	7
Fair.....	36	44	33	40
Good.....	27	19	51	45
Excellent	17	15	8	6
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor	20	14	4	8
Poor	12	8	13	8
Fair.....	30	28	36	35
Good.....	36	41	46	48
Excellent	2	9	1	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero