

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 MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Winter temperatures and moisture have been sporadic, not only across the State, but also throughout individual counties, creating a plethora of problems for producers depending on location, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Comments indicated that unbearably cold temperatures coupled with low body weights in mother cows following the dry summer created calving difficulties on some ranches. Additionally, hay supplies were running short in some areas due to an increased need for supplemental feeding. Generally, February's weather pattern left an abundance of precipitation in the northwestern part of the State that tapered off toward the southeastern corner where much of the area received less than 5 percent of normal moisture. The United States Drought Monitor released on February 21 categorized exceptional drought (D4) rooted across 1.5 percent of the State, a decrease of 13.5 percentage points since the last weekly Crop Progress and Condition report was released at the end of November. Severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was reportedly covering 31.3 percent of the State, with 17.8 percent and 13.5 percent categorized as D2 and D3, respectively. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse remained evident across 61.2 percent of the State following a less-than-stellar November 2018 – January 2019 precipitation total for much of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 33 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 62 percent on November 25, and 12 percent last year. Winter wheat condition was reported as 20 percent good to excellent, compared with 68 percent on November 25, and 4 percent last year. Heavy grazing pressure coupled with lacking soil moisture led to the decline of many wheat fields since fall. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 10 percent very short, 37 percent short, 52 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 4 percent very short, 22 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were reported as 12 percent very short, 28 percent short, and 60 percent adequate, compared with 19 percent very short, 39 percent short, 41 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last year.

Note: The next monthly report will be released for March on Monday, March 25, 2019. The first weekly report will be released on Monday, April 1, 2019.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved	14	NA	17	NA
Receiving supplemental feed	90	NA	91	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed	9	NA	15	NA
Receiving supplemental feed	78	NA	73	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short	40	NA	50	NA
Short	27	NA	38	NA
Adequate	32	NA	11	NA
Surplus	1	NA	1	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	29	NA	45	NA
Short	39	NA	39	NA
Adequate	32	NA	15	NA
Surplus	--	NA	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	6	NA	33	NA
Poor	41	NA	41	NA
Fair.....	33	NA	22	NA
Good	19	NA	4	NA
Excellent.....	1	NA	--	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	NA	--	NA
Poor	6	NA	4	NA
Fair.....	62	NA	47	NA
Good	25	NA	46	NA
Excellent.....	6	NA	3	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	NA	1	NA
Poor	15	NA	9	NA
Fair.....	54	NA	34	NA
Good	31	NA	51	NA
Excellent.....	--	NA	5	NA

NA – not available

(--)- zero

Notice: Please be advised, the Crop Progress report’s weather data table has been discontinued for budget reasons. Please contact the NASS Mountain Regional Field Office at (720) 787-3150 with questions.