



WEEKLY AG UPDATE

USDA/NASS
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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Issue 57-15

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE – APRIL 9, 2007

Crop Weather Cotton Outlook Onions

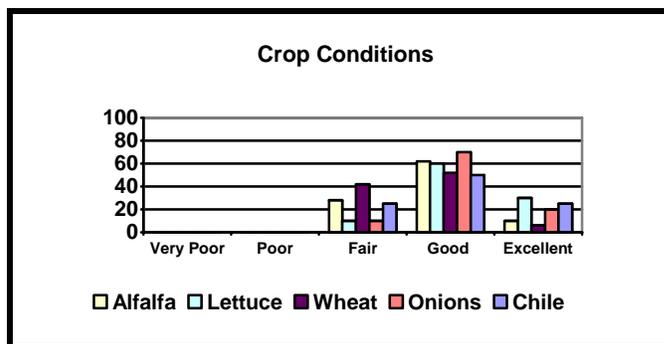
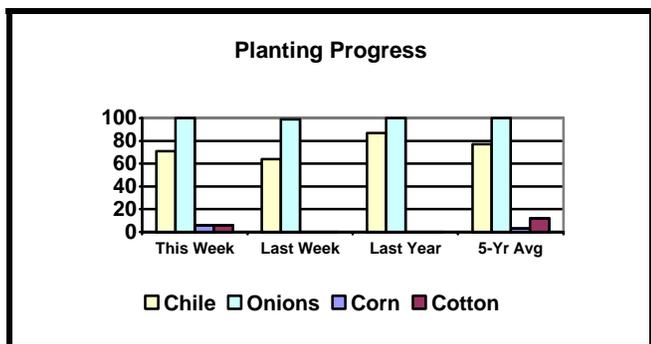
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CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 2007

NEW MEXICO: There were 5.6 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 11% very short, 22% short, 66% adequate and 1% surplus. Wind damage was 9% light, 3% moderate and 1% severe. Freeze damage was reported as 20% light, 6% moderate and 4% severe. Farmers spent the week irrigating and preparing their fields for planting. Alfalfa was reported as 28% fair, 62% good and 10% excellent with 4% of the first cutting complete. Irrigated winter wheat was reported as 30% fair, 54% good and 16% excellent with 16% grazed and 5% headed. Dry winter wheat was reported as, 50% fair and 50% good with 25% grazed. Total winter wheat was reported as 42% fair, 52% good and 6% excellent with 21% grazed and 2% headed. Lettuce was reported as 10% fair, 60% good and 30% excellent. Chile was reported as 25% fair, 50% good and 25% excellent with 71% planted. Cotton was reported as 6% planted. Corn was reported as 6% planted. Onion conditions were reported as 10% fair, 70% good and 20% excellent with 100% planted. Cattle conditions were reported at 1% very poor, 4% poor, 12% fair, 68% good and 15% excellent. Sheep conditions were reported as 5% very poor, 11% poor, 12% fair, 71% good and 1% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were reported as 4% very poor, 12% poor, 41% fair, 41% good, and 2% excellent. Ranchers were calving, branding, working cattle and supplemental feeding.

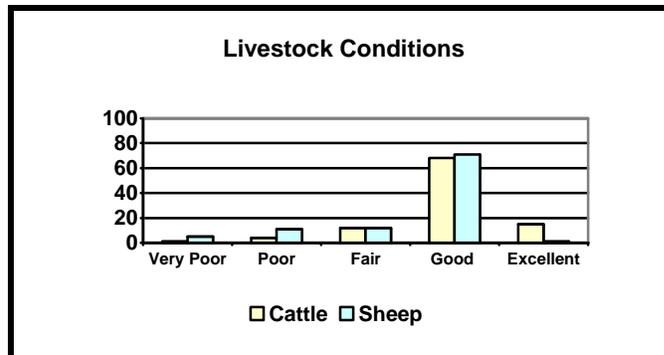
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Planted	71	64	87	77
CORN	Planted	6	0	0	3
COTTON	Planted	6	0	0	12
ONIONS	Planted	100	99	100	100
WHEAT	Grazed	21	25	3	0
WHEAT	Headed	2	0	0	0



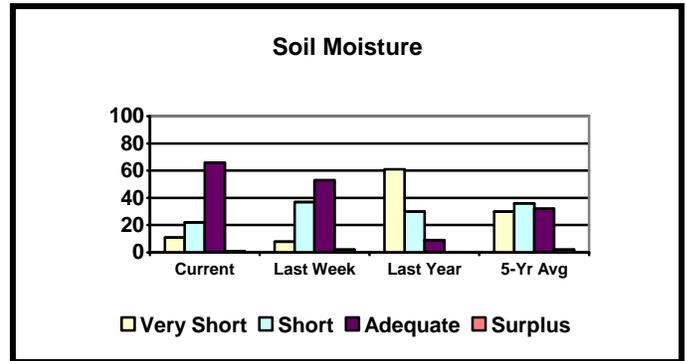
CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	0	0	28	62	10
Chile	0	0	25	50	25
Lettuce	0	0	10	60	30
Onions	0	0	10	70	20
Wheat (All)	0	0	42	52	6
Cattle	1	4	12	68	15
Sheep	5	11	12	71	1
Range/Pasture	4	12	41	41	2



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	44	26	29	1
Northeast	0	26	73	1
Southwest	0	25	75	0
Southeast	0	12	86	2
State Current	11	22	66	1
State-Last Week	8	37	53	2
State-Last Year	61	30	9	0
State-5-Yr Avg.	30	36	32	2



WEATHER SUMMARY

A big contrast in weather across the state during the week as cold air settled over the eastern counties with subfreezing temperatures and lengthy periods of overcast skies, for and light steady snow or rain. The contrast was highlighted with temperatures 8 degrees above normal for the week at Farmington and 12 to 13 degrees below normal in the east.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - APRIL 2 - 8, 2007

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	04/02 04/08	04/02 04/08	Normal Apr	01/01 04/08	Normal Jan-Apr
Farmington	56.3	74	37	0.00	0.00	2.70	0.51	2.48
Gallup	54.1	76	30	0.00	0.00	1.66	0.64	3.23
Capulin	45.7	70	23	0.00	0.00	2.45	1.01	2.86
Chama	43.4	66	25	0.45	0.45	5.35	1.27	6.61
Johnson Ranch	48.2	71	25	0.00	0.00	1.72	0.49	2.47
Las Vegas	43.4	70	21	0.05	0.05	2.27	0.83	2.54
Los Alamos	46.9	69	22	0.02	0.02	2.86	1.00	3.88
Raton	40.7	74	21	0.11	0.11	1.06	1.06	2.90
Red River	39.1	59	23	0.23	0.23	5.20	1.68	5.75
Santa Fe	49.4	77	27	0.00	0.00	1.96	0.81	2.87
Clayton	39.6	79	22	0.16	0.16	1.50	0.94	2.04
Clovis	44.4	81	23	0.20	0.20	4.81	0.81	2.30
Roy	40.0	76	20	0.00	0.00	1.26	0.82	2.14
Tucumcari	46.9	83	26	0.01	0.01	2.10	0.87	2.00
Grants	50.9	74	27	0.00	0.00	1.33	0.45	1.95
Quemado	49.3	76	21	0.00	0.00	1.43	0.60	2.95
Albuquerque	56.3	80	34	0.07	0.07	1.60	0.52	1.96
Carrizozo	48.6	74	23	0.00	0.00	2.04	0.36	2.10
Socorro	57.8	82	33	0.00	0.00	1.35	0.36	1.41
Gran Quivira	51.6	73	26	0.05	0.05	2.29	0.64	2.88
Moriarty	45.2	74	23	0.10	0.10	2.90	0.66	2.10
Ruidoso	46.4	69	26	0.00	0.00	5.66	0.63	4.24
Carlsbad	51.1	88	30	0.09	0.09	4.80	0.49	1.49
Roswell	50.6	86	28	0.07	0.07	2.82	0.65	1.99
Tatum	45.5	82	24	0.04	0.04	4.06	0.64	2.05
Alamogordo	61.9	81	28	0.00	0.00	2.21	0.26	1.93
Animas	63.7	87	42	0.00	0.00	1.97	0.20	1.86
Deming	61.1	87	33	0.00	0.00	1.38	0.18	1.54
Las Cruces	63.6	85	38	0.00	0.00	1.74	0.21	1.26
T or C	60.9	83	37	0.00	0.00	1.26	0.22	1.40

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

COTTON OUTLOOK
USDA, ERS, March 12, 2007

Introduction: Cotton is the single most important textile fiber in the world, accounting for about 40 percent of all fibers produced. On average, the United States produces 20 percent of the global cotton production, and is the leading supplier in the international market. However, the U.S. cotton sector has faced a number of challenges as it shifts from a domestic-oriented market to one focused largely on the global marketplace. Domestic mill demand has declined significantly from only a decade ago as competition from imported textile and apparel products has risen dramatically. Meanwhile, export demand has increased rapidly with the recent expansion of global textile production.

U.S. cotton production reached consecutive records during the 2004 and 2005 seasons, with rising global cotton demand providing a home for much of the increased output. However, the growing use of better crop production technologies overseas may narrow the gap between foreign production and mill use, constraining growth in foreign import demand and U.S. cotton exports. Meanwhile, debate over trade policy and the sustainability of current farm programs are a source of uncertainty for U.S. agricultural commodities in general and the cotton sector in particular.

The U.S. cotton sector has experienced dramatic changes in supply and demand over the past decade. While technology has boosted cotton productivity in the United States, demand prospects have shifted from a domestic market sourced mainly with U.S. cotton to an export-oriented market where U.S. raw cotton helps supply a growing consumer demand for cotton products around the globe (appendix table 2).

Cotton is produced across 17 Southern States—from Virginia to California—but is increasingly concentrated. Major area concentrations occur on the Texas Plains; in the Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana Delta; California's San Joaquin Valley; central Arizona; and southern Georgia (fig. 5). In 2002, the latest year for which census data were available, the number of farms harvesting cotton had declined 26 percent from 1997, while the area per farm had expanded 22 percent. The predominant type of cotton grown in the United States is American upland—which accounts for about 97 percent of U.S. production—with the balance commonly referred to as American Pima or extra-long staple (ELS). ELS cotton is produced chiefly in California, with small amounts grown in southwest Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Demand for U.S. Cotton Shifting: U.S. cotton demand has reached new heights during the past several seasons and become more dependent upon the strength of economic conditions around the world. During the 1990s, cotton mill use in the United States accounted for 60 percent of the total demand for U.S. cotton, while exports accounted for the remainder (fig. 6). Cotton exports have become more important—accounting for about 70 percent of U.S. cotton demand over the last several seasons—as restructuring in the U.S. textile industry continues to unfold. U.S. cotton mill use peaked in 1997/98 at a record 11.3 million bales, but has since been cut by more than half as lower trade barriers and lower labor costs outside the United States boosted apparel imports.

The United States remains the leading cotton exporter to the world, accounting for 40 percent of global cotton trade over the last 5 years. The expansion of global cotton mill use—particularly in China—has altered world cotton trade in general and U.S. cotton exports specifically. China has reemerged as the leading importer of U.S. cotton over the last several years as their cotton mill use has outpaced cotton production. During the 2003-05 seasons, China, Turkey, and Mexico were the leading importers of U.S. cotton, with shipments to China far exceeding any other country.

Despite the dramatic gains posted in U.S. export volumes and global trade shares over the past 5 years, total demand (mill use plus exports) for U.S. cotton as a share of world mill use has remained stable (fig. 6). The increase in U.S. exports has been offset by a decline in U.S. mill use, resulting in U.S. cotton's share of global use equaling about 20 percent over the last 5 years. This share is projected to decline in 2006/07 as foreign countries draw down stocks to fill rising demand.

This report, part of a series of ERS background reports on various commodities, surveys the cotton environment leading up to the congressional debate over the 2007 farm bill. The report analyzes the competition between crops for domestic farmland, and the international supply and demand for cotton products. Also covered are domestic and trade policy, farm program costs, and operating and financial characteristics of U.S. farms producing cotton.

READ THE ENTIRE REPORT AT www.ers.usda.gov

Onions

NEW MEXICO: Planted onion acreage for 2007 is 6,500 acres, 500 acres above the 6,000 acres planted in 2006. Nationally, 166,800 were planted, a decrease of 8,480 acres from the 2006 crop.

Onions: Area Planted by Season, State, and United States, 2005 – 2007

Season and State	2005	2006	2007
	-----Acres-----		
Spring Onions ^{1/}	40,700	40,800	34,000
Summer Onions Non-Storage			
CA ^{2/}	9,700	9,800	9,400
NV	2,400	2,600	2,700
NM	6,500	6,000	6,500
TX	1,000	1,000	800
WA	1,400	1,500	1,500
Total Non-Storage	21,000	20,900	20,900
Summer Storage	111,320	113,580	111,900
Total Summer	132,320	134,480	132,800
U.S. Total Onions	173,020	175,280	166,800

^{1/} Primarily fresh market. ^{2/} Primarily dehydrated and other processing.