



# WEEKLY AG UPDATE

nass-nm@nass.usda.gov

USDA/NASS - NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

Issue 57-48

**INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE – NOVEMBER 26, 2007**

Crop Weather    Cattle on Feed    Farm Labor

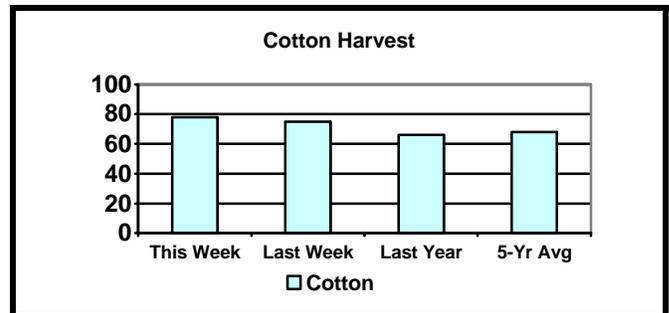
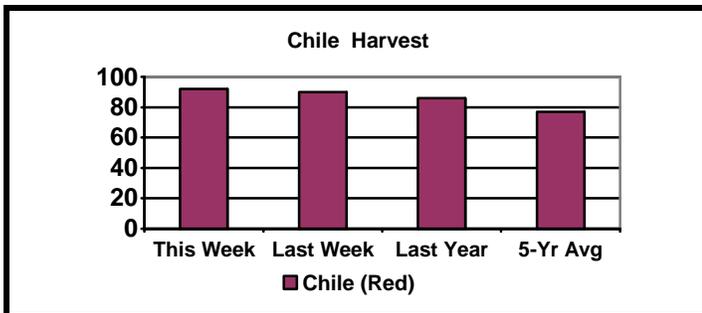
Available on the Internet: [www.nass.usda.gov/nm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nm) , or by email (1-800-530-8810 for information)

**CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 2007**

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil moisture 24% very short, 32% short, 44% adequate. Wind damage 10% light. Freeze damage 15% light, 13% moderate. Alfalfa condition 1% poor, 4% fair, 70% good, 25% excellent, with 7<sup>th</sup> cutting 100% complete. Cotton 78% harvested. Irrigated winter wheat condition 20% fair, 60% good, 20% excellent. Dry winter wheat condition 69% poor, 31% fair. Total winter wheat condition 41% poor, 27% fair, 24% good, 8% excellent. Red Chile 92% harvested. Onions condition 100% excellent. Pecan condition 7% very poor, 36% fair, 39% good, 18% excellent. Cattle condition 1% very poor, 10% poor, 20% fair, 35% good, 34% excellent. Sheep condition 7% very poor, 12% poor, 15% fair, 40% good, 26% excellent. Range and pasture condition 6% very poor, 25% poor, 35% fair, 29% good, 5% excellent. Farmers continued the winter harvest. Ranchers spent the week culling and marketing cattle.

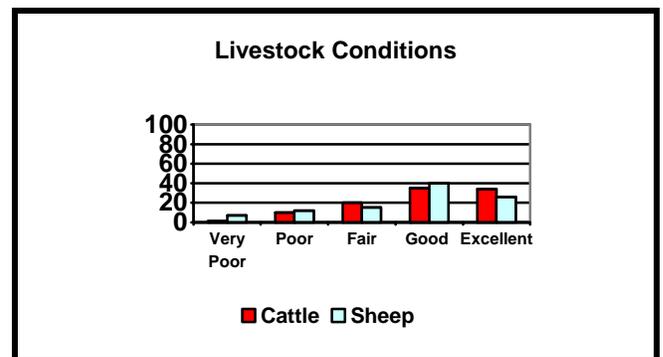
**CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS**

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE (Red)	Harvest	92	90	86	77
COTTON	Harvest	78	75	66	68



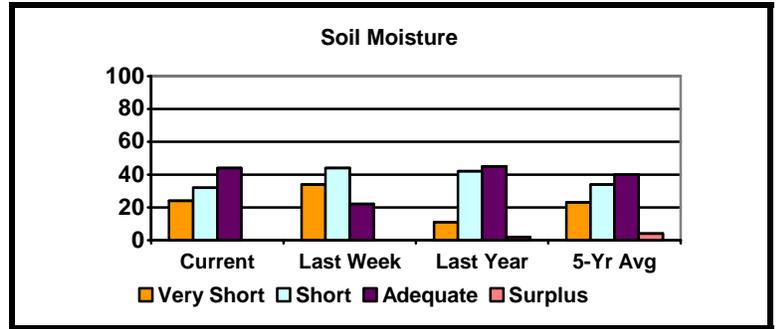
**CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES**

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	---	1	4	70	25
Onions	---	---	---	---	100
Pecans	7	---	36	39	18
Wheat (All)	---	41	27	24	8
Cattle	1	10	20	35	34
Sheep	7	12	15	40	26
Range/Pasture	6	25	35	29	5



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	25	61	14	---
Northeast	35	21	44	---
Southwest	38	12	50	---
Southeast	5	37	58	---
State Current	24	32	44	---
State-Last Week	34	44	22	---
State-Last Year	11	42	45	2
State-5-Yr Avg.	23	34	40	3



WEATHER SUMMARY

Most of New Mexico received the first snowfall for the year around the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month. This precipitation occurred as a low moved south across Arizona and into Mexico. The most snowfall was recorded in Chama at just over a foot deep. Along with the snow, temperatures dipped significantly because of the low pressure system. This decrease in temperatures finally gave Albuquerque its first freeze of the year, setting a new record for the latest first freeze date in the year. The only data missing this week was from Gran Quivira on the 22nd of the month.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - NOVEMBER 19 - 25, 2007

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	11/19 11/25	11/01 11/25	01/01 11/25	Normal Nov	Normal Jan-Nov
Farmington	36.9	71	12	0.13	0.13	7.35	0.94	8.12
Gallup	33.9	71	4	0.04	0.05	11.21	0.95	11.91
Capulin	29.1	74	2	0.13	0.13	18.61	0.67	16.94
Chama	29.0	65	2	0.78	0.78	22.10	1.72	19.81
Johnson Ranch	33.9	70	9	0.00	0.00	10.75	0.69	10.85
Las Vegas	32.1	76	5	0.22	0.22	16.04	0.58	18.36
Los Alamos	32.9	64	10	0.38	0.38	16.39	1.02	17.64
Raton	33.7	77	8	0.24	0.25	11.84	0.61	16.22
Red River	27.9	62	-6	0.69	0.69	25.81	1.18	19.33
Santa Fe	36.9	69	13	0.18	0.18	11.25	0.63	13.21
Clayton	38.4	80	18	0.03	0.03	12.69	0.52	14.80
Clovis	39.9	80	23	0.24	0.26	15.82	0.73	16.97
Roy	34.4	76	10	0.15	0.15	13.85	0.50	15.29
Tucumcari	40.9	84	17	0.31	0.31	12.17	0.51	13.90
Grants	35.4	73	7	0.07	0.07	9.00	0.58	10.14
Quemado	36.7	69	3	0.05	0.24	10.53	0.45	13.04
Albuquerque	42.6	73	22	0.11	0.11	8.93	0.43	8.38
Carrizozo	39.2	77	19	0.00	0.00	9.82	0.76	12.07
Socorro	43.0	75	17	0.05	0.05	10.37	0.47	8.95
Gran Quivira	40.4	69	12	0.21	0.21	14.10	0.91	14.92
Moriarty	33.4	73	1	0.52	0.52	9.96	0.40	12.17
Ruidoso	37.5	68	9	0.40	0.40	20.94	0.88	19.72
Carlsbad	43.9	84	29	0.22	0.22	16.50	0.59	12.38
Roswell	40.1	84	28	0.77	0.77	14.20	0.55	12.38
Tatum	38.9	82	25	0.24	0.24	22.94	0.55	15.57
Alamogordo	49.6	78	30	0.39	0.39	7.09	0.71	11.92
Animas	50.4	78	27	0.42	0.42	9.54	0.71	10.62
Deming	48.6	78	26	0.12	0.12	6.50	0.64	9.73
Las Cruces	48.1	80	30	0.23	0.25	9.58	0.53	8.72
T or C	46.5	78	20	0.12	0.12	7.76	0.60	9.22

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

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

## CATTLE ON FEED

**NEW MEXICO:** Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 134,000 on November 1, 2007 compared to 133,000 on October 1, 2007. Placements increased from 17,000 in September 2007 to 22,000 head in October. Marketings were up by 6,000 head to 19,000. Other disappearance totaled 2,000 head during the month of October.

**UNITED STATES:** Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on November 1, 2007. The inventory was 2 percent below November 1, 2006 but 3 percent above November 1, 2005. Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.72 million, 12 percent above 2006 but 3 percent below 2005. Net placements were 2.67 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 855,000, 600-699 pounds were 745,000, 700-799 pounds were 556,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 560,000. Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.88 million, 6 percent above 2006 and 8 percent above 2005. Other disappearance totaled 47,000 during October, 42 percent below 2006 and 19 percent below 2005.

**Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots <sup>1/</sup>**

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance <sup>2/</sup>		
	11/1/06	10/1/07	11/1/07	-----DURING-----								
				10/06	9/07	10/07	10/06	9/07	10/07	10/06	9/07	10/07
AZ	342	350	360	34	28	39	27	24	27	1	2	2
CA	530	540	545	71	60	67	62	47	60	4	3	2
CO	1,130	940	1,030	215	*260	260	135	*165	165	10	5	5
ID	285	210	235	71	48	69	50	41	43	1	2	1
IA	490	510	550	109	100	120	78	79	79	1	1	1
KS	2,550	2,310	2,420	520	540	530	395	355	410	25	15	10
NE	2,440	2,140	2,400	560	540	620	330	320	350	10	10	10
<b>NM</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
OK	360	325	335	65	72	74	58	56	63	2	1	1
SD	190	180	205	64	43	71	43	37	45	1	1	1
TX	2,990	2,840	3,000	590	590	700	510	480	530	20	10	10
WA	181	154	166	34	36	42	23	29	29	1	1	1
Oth Sts	340	335	380	83	86	102	41	55	56	2	1	1
<b>US</b>	<b>11,969</b>	<b>10,967</b>	<b>11,760</b>	<b>2,430</b>	<b>*2,420</b>	<b>2,716</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>*1,701</b>	<b>1,876</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>47</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. <sup>2/</sup> Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

**QUARTERLY FARM LABOR**

**NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA:** There were 22,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona during the week of October 7-13, 2007, up 4.8 percent from a year ago. Average hours worked by all hired workers increased to 46.1 hours a week compared to 45.1 hours last year. Wage rates for field workers were up from the previous year at \$8.26 an hour, an increase of 70 cents. Livestock worker wages were up to \$9.91, compared to \$8.86 an hour in October 2006. Overall, average wage rates for all hired agricultural workers increased to \$9.21 an hour.

**UNITED STATES:** There were 1,122,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 7-13, 2007, up 3 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 806,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 316,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.33 per hour during the October 2007 reference week, up 37 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.62 per hour, up 36 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$9.98 per hour compared with \$9.42 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.72 per hour, was up 42 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 42.1 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up fractionally from a year ago.

**Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,  
 Selected Regions and U.S., October 2006-2007**

	Mountain II <sup>2/</sup>		Mountain III <sup>3/</sup>		Southern Plains <sup>4/</sup>		United States <sup>5/</sup>	
	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 7-13 2007	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 7-13 2007	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 7-13 2007	Oct 8-14 2006	Oct 7-13 2007
<b>Workers on Farms</b>	-----Thousands-----							
All Hired Workers	19	13	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	49	69	*800	806
<b>Hours Worked</b>	-----Hours Per Week-----							
All Hired Workers	38.7	43.7	<b>45.1</b>	<b>46.1</b>	39.7	39.0	*41.9	42.1
<b>Wages By Work Type</b>	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Field	8.86	9.80	<b>7.56</b>	<b>8.26</b>	8.14	8.59	*9.26	9.62
Livestock	9.32	10.69	<b>8.86</b>	<b>9.91</b>	10.09	10.46	*9.42	9.98
Field & Livestock	9.05	10.05	<b>8.05</b>	<b>8.85</b>	9.02	9.45	*9.30	9.72
All Workers	9.80	10.66	<b>8.50</b>	<b>9.21</b>	9.60	10.05	*9.96	10.33

\* Revised. <sup>1/</sup> Excludes agricultural service workers. <sup>2/</sup> Mountain Region II consist of CO, NV & UT. <sup>3/</sup> Mountain Region III consist of AZ & NM. <sup>4/</sup> Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. <sup>5/</sup> Excludes AK.