

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather Prospective Plantings Agricultural Prices Received
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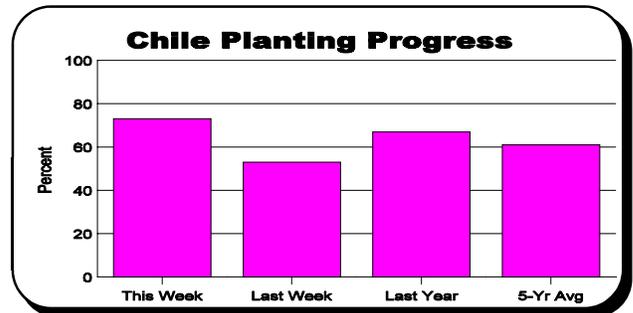
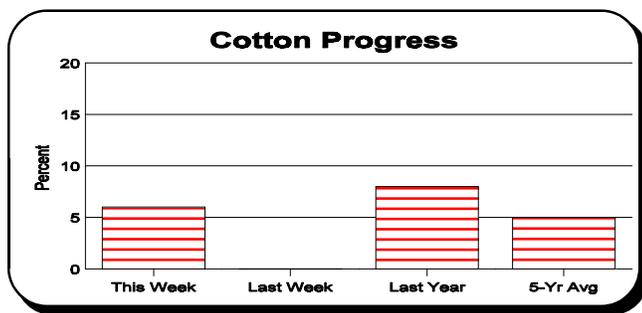
CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 4, 2004

NEW MEXICO: There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Farmers spent the week irrigating and planting chile and cotton. There was 3% light wind damage. Alfalfa conditions were 1% poor, 62% fair, 25% good, and 12% excellent. Winter wheat conditions were listed as 13% very poor, 27% poor, 42% fair, and 18% good. Percent of wheat being grazed dropped to 24% from 42% as ranchers are pulling cattle off the fields. Cotton planting has begun and farmers are 6% complete. Lettuce conditions were mostly good to excellent. Chile was reported at 73% planted and in mostly good condition. Onions were reported in mostly good condition. Ranchers spent the week mending fences, supplementing feed, and moving cattle off alfalfa and wheat pasture. Cattle conditions were 27% poor, 38% fair, 34% good, and 1% excellent. Sheep conditions were 3% very poor, 36% poor, 40% fair, and 21% good. Range and pasture conditions were 30% very poor, 41% poor, 25% fair, 2% good, and 2% excellent.

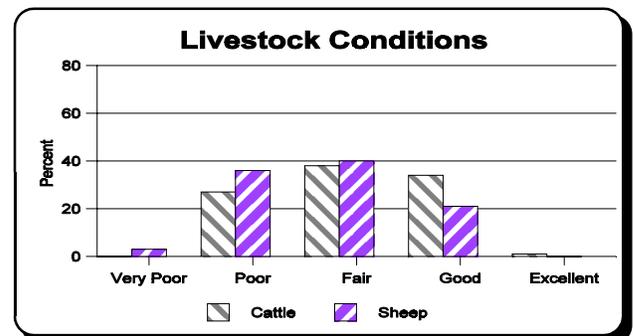
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
COTTON	Planted	6	0	8	5
CHILE	Planted	73	53	67	61
WHEAT (All)	Grazed	24	42	1/	1/

^{1/} Not available

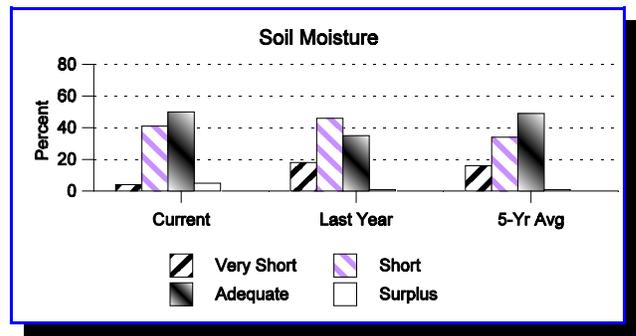


	CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES				
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	--	1	62	25	12
Lettuce	--	--	11	49	40
Onions	--	--	10	68	22
Wheat (All)	13	27	42	18	--
Cattle	--	27	38	34	1
Sheep	3	36	40	21	--
Range/Pasture	30	41	25	2	2



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	—	5	95	—
Northeast	1	52	44	3
Southwest	—	—	100	--
Southeast	13	4	52	31
State	4	41	50	5
State-Last Year	18	46	35	1
State-5-Yr Avg.	16	34	49	1



WEATHER SUMMARY

One of the most significant precipitation events in recent years developed over New Mexico late in the week as a strong storm system parked over the Southwest U.S. Heavy rain and mountain snow fell from Friday through Sunday. Heaviest precipitation was in two areas, the Middle Rio Grande Valley from near Socorro to north of Albuquerque, and also the Southeast Plains. In those two areas, precipitation was generally two inches or more. Flash flooding was common with the heavier storms. Temperatures were well above normal early in the week, but below normal toward the end of the week. Consequently, the weekly averages were within a few degrees of normal at most places.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS MARCH 29 - APRIL 04, 2004

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/29 04/04	04/01 04/04	Normal Apr	01/01 04/04	Normal Jan-Apr
Carlsbad	59.1	81	43	2.93	2.93	0.49	5.83	1.49
Tatum	56.1	82	40	2.57	2.57	0.64	6.21	2.05
Roswell	57.8	83	38	2.06	2.06	0.65	3.73	1.99
Clayton	50.5	80	27	1.07	1.07	0.94	2.35	2.04
Clovis	55.8	81	36	1.27	1.27	0.81	4.13	2.30
Tucumcari	54.9	83	32	2.40	2.40	0.87	3.90	2.00
Chama	39.9	69	11	0.49	0.49	1.27	5.71	6.61
Johnson Ranch	42.9	74	13	4.04	4.04	0.49	5.93	2.47
Capulin	42.8	74	13	0.71	0.71	1.01	1.95	2.86
Las Vegas	43.9	72	23	0.78	0.78	0.89	1.54	2.16
Los Alamos	46.1	66	29	1.39	1.39	1.00	4.88	3.88
Raton	43.4	76	15	1.87	1.87	1.06	2.86	2.90
Santa Fe	45.6	73	22	1.12	1.12	0.81	2.38	2.87
Red River	37.5	62	13	2.07	2.07	1.68	5.85	5.75
Farmington	49.9	77	21	1.65	1.65	0.51	2.94	2.48
Gallup	46.0	73	22	0.82	0.82	0.64	2.16	3.23
Grants	44.3	77	20	1.13	1.13	0.45	2.03	1.95
Silver City	52.3	73	37	0.80	0.80	0.53	5.04	3.90
Quemado	45.3	71	17	0.34	0.34	0.60	1.91	2.95
Albuquerque	52.9	74	39	2.47	2.47	0.52	4.41	1.96
Carrizozo	53.0	74	32	0.72	0.72	0.36	2.34	2.10
Gran Quivera	47.8	72	27	0.64	0.64	0.64	2.77	2.88
Moriarty	45.4	78	16	0.47	0.47	0.66	3.03	2.10
Ruidoso	46.5	67	23	1.33	1.33	0.63	4.28	4.24
Socorro	52.5	79	26	2.24	2.24	0.36	2.74	1.41
Alamogordo	61.4	77	46	0.53	0.53	0.26	2.33	1.93
Animas	58.6	78	42	0.83	0.83	0.20	4.27	1.86
Deming	59.5	79	43	0.93	0.93	0.18	3.09	1.54
T or C	56.1	80	39	0.47	0.47	0.22	1.26	1.40
Las Cruces	61.2	79	47	0.33	0.33	0.21	1.84	1.26

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

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

PROSPECTIVE PLANTNGS

NEW MEXICO: Corn growers intend to plant 140,000 acres of corn for all purposes in 2004, an 8 percent increase from 2003. Intended planting for sorghum decreased by 7 percent to 130,000 acres compared to 140,000 in 2003. Winter wheat planted acres is estimated at 470,000 acres for 2004, 6 percent below 2003. Peanut producers intend to plant 16,000 acres, 2,000 acres less than a year ago. Upland cotton acreage is estimated to total 60,000 acres, a 7 percent increase over the previous year's planting. American-Pima cotton acreage is expected to be higher than last year at 8,000 acres. Intended area for harvest of all hay is estimated at 300,000 acres, the same level as the previous year.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2004, up fractionally from both 2002 and 2003. Expected acreage is up from last year throughout much of the Corn Belt as growers are hoping to take advantage of higher corn prices. All wheat planted area is expected to total 59.5 million acres in 2004, down 4 percent from 2003. Area planted to all cotton for 2004 is expected to total 14.4 million acres, 7 percent more than last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 14.2 million acres, also up 7 percent. American-Pima acreage intentions are estimated at 226,600 acres, an increase of 27 percent from last year. Peanut producers intend to plant 1.37 million acres of peanuts in 2004, up 2 percent from last year. The 2004 intended sorghum acreage planted for all purposes is estimated at 8.60 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. Hay producers expect to harvest 63.7 million acres of all hay in 2004, up 1 percent from last year.

Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 2002-2004

	New Mexico				United States			
	2002	2003	2004 ^{1/}	2004/2003	2002	2003	2004 ^{1/}	2004/2003
	-----1,000 Acres-----				--Percent--			
	-----1,000 Acres-----				--Percent--			
Corn	140	130	140	108	78,894	78,736	79,004	100
Sorghum	170	140	130	93	9,589	9,420	8,600	91
Oats	---	---	---	---	4,995	4,601	4,312	94
Barley	---	---	---	---	5,008	5,299	4,683	88
All Wheat	480	500	470	94	60,318	61,700	59,462	96
Winter	480	500	470	94	41,766	44,945	43,372	97
Other Spring	---	---	---	---	15,639	13,840	13,333	96
Soybeans	---	---	---	---	73,963	73,404	75,411	103
Peanuts	18.0	18.0	16.0	89	1,353.0	1,344.0	1,366.0	102
All Cotton	61.1	62.1	68.0	110	13,957.9	13,483.1	14,401.6	107
Upland	54.0	56.0	60.0	107	13,714.0	13,304.0	14,175.0	107
A-P	7.1	6.1	8.0	131	243.9	179.1	226.6	127
All Hay ^{2/}	360	300	300	100	63,942	63,342	63,731	101

^{1/} Intended plantings in 2004 as indicated by reports from farmers. ^{2/} Intended area harvested in 2004 as indicated by reports from farmers.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa hay prices in March averaged \$142.00 per ton, \$1.00 above the previous months price but \$5.00 below the average price in March 2003 of \$147.00. The U.S. average for March 2004 was \$85.90 per ton. All hay prices during March averaged \$139.00 per ton, also \$1.00 above the February 2004 price. The U.S. average price was \$81.80 per ton. Cow prices in March increased by \$1.20 to \$48.40 per hundredweight, \$1.70 higher than the U.S. average of \$46.70. Calf prices increased as well to \$110.00 per hundredweight from \$105.00 in February 2004 but were \$4.00 below the national average of \$114.00. Steer and heifer prices averaged \$93.60 per hundredweight compared to \$88.00 in February 2004 and \$76.10 one year ago. This was \$5.00 above the national average. Milk prices increased by \$0.80 to \$13.80 per hundredweight but were still \$0.90 below the national average of \$14.70.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2004 and March 2003-04

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		Mar 2003 ^{2/}	Feb 2004 ^{2/}	Mar 2004 ^{1/}	Mar
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	—	—	—	4.86
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	—	—	—	.681
Potatoes	Cwt.	—	—	—	6.30
Hay, all baled	Ton	143.00	138.00	139.00	81.80
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	147.00	141.00	142.00	85.90
Peanuts	Lb.	—	—	—	.198
Corn	Bu.	—	—	—	2.79
Wheat, all	Bu.	—	—	—	3.71
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	—	—	—	41.20
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	—	—	—	107.00
Cows	Cwt.	40.30	47.20	48.40	46.70
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	76.10	88.00	93.60	88.60
Calves	Cwt.	92.90	105.00	110.00	114.00
Milk	Cwt.	10.70	13.00	13.80	14.70

^{1/} Mid-month ^{2/} Entire month ^{3/} February - entire month