

**INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE**

Crop Weather    Milk Production    Cattle on Feed

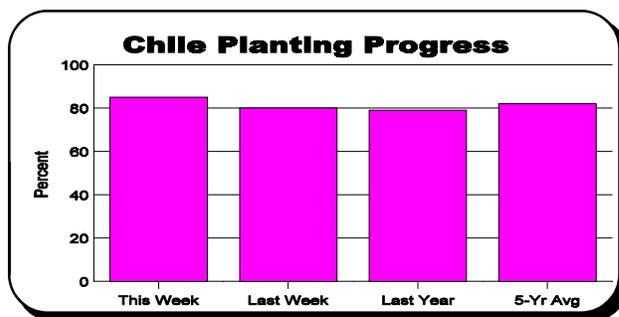
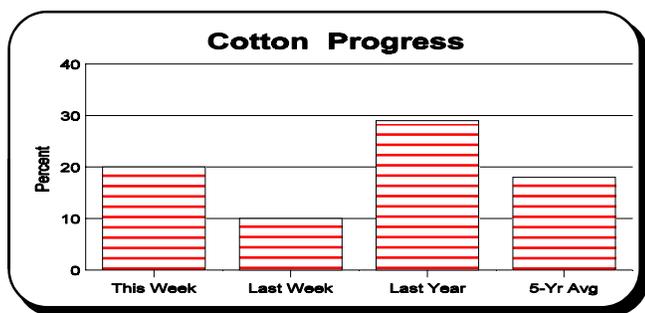
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**CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 2004**

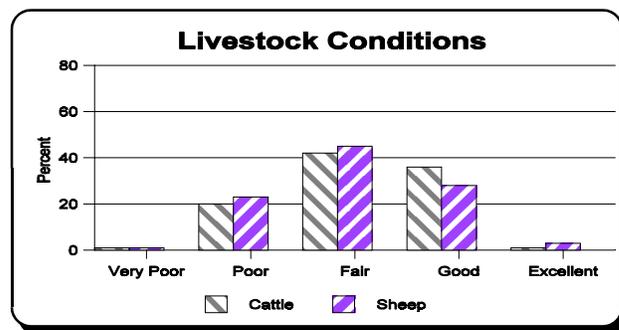
**NEW MEXICO:** There were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Recent rains have been good for crops and pastures but have put a hold on planting. Alfalfa weevils continue to be a problem while some farmers are having to replant chile because the fields were too wet to knock the caps off. There was 24% light wind damage and 4% moderate damage reported in several counties along with flood damage where borders and concrete ditches washed out and debris settled on several fields. Alfalfa conditions were 54% fair, 39% good, and 7% excellent, with 10% of the first cutting complete. Cotton was reported at 20% planted and corn was 18% planted, both slightly ahead of their five year averages. Winter wheat conditions were listed as 10% very poor, 11% poor, 35% fair, 41% good, and 3% excellent with 8% reported to be headed. Lettuce remains in mostly good to excellent condition and onions improved slightly listing in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile conditions were 20% fair, 67% good, and 13% excellent and progress getting closer to completion at 85% planted. Ranchers spent the week with spring gathering, branding, and supplemental feeding. Cattle conditions were 1% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 36% good, and 1% excellent. Sheep conditions were 1% very poor, 23% poor, 45% fair, 28% good, and 3% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were 27% very poor, 37% poor, 31% fair, 3% good, and 2% excellent.

**CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS**

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
<b>CORN</b>	Planted	18	3	17	16
<b>COTTON</b>	Planted	20	10	29	18
<b>CHILE</b>	Planted	85	80	79	82
<b>WHEAT (ALL)</b>	Headed	8	3	9	6

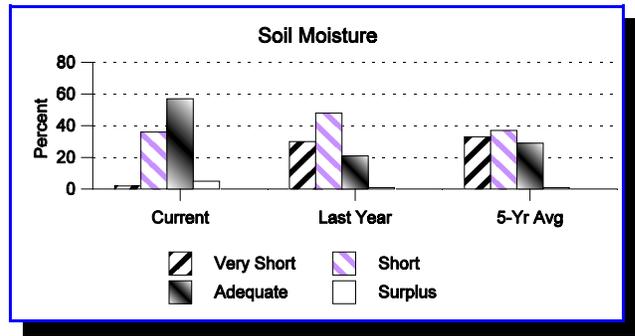


	CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES				
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	--	--	54	39	7
Chile	--	--	20	67	13
Lettuce	--	--	10	60	30
Onions	--	--	10	61	29
Wheat (All)	10	11	35	41	3
Cattle	1	20	42	36	1
Sheep	1	23	45	28	3
Range/Pasture	27	37	31	3	2



**SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES**

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	4	14	69	13
Northeast	-	46	54	--
Southwest	-	30	60	10
Southeast	4	45	51	--
State	2	36	57	5
State-Last Year	30	48	21	1
State-5-Yr Avg.	33	37	29	1



**WEATHER SUMMARY**

After two weeks of relatively wet, cool weather, precipitation was spotty and light this past week. Chama (.14") and Red River (.10") were the only spots that managed to measure as much as a tenth of an inch. Temperatures for the week averaged near normal to slightly above normal, although the week began with early morning freezes at many locations. Afternoon readings reached the 80's at lower elevation stations during mid to late week. Precipitation totals for the year have been updated to reflect final March reports.

**NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS APRIL 12 - 18, 2004**

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	04/12 04/18	04/01 04/18	Normal Apr	01/01 04/18	Normal Jan-Apr
Carlsbad	61.8	87	34	0.00	3.94	0.49	6.49	1.49
Tatum	56.8	84	32	0.02	4.11	0.64	7.92	2.05
Roswell	61.1	86	32	T	3.11	0.65	5.12	1.99
Clayton	55.4	81	25	T	3.14	0.94	4.41	2.04
Clovis	58.3	84	28	0.00	3.34	0.81	6.71	2.30
Tucumcari	57.6	82	28	0.02	3.23	0.87	4.93	2.00
Chama	40.6	65	12	0.14	1.71	1.27	7.03	6.61
Johnson Ranch	48.4	73	24	0.00	5.46	0.49	7.40	2.47
Capulin	48.0	71	22	0.05	1.25	1.01	2.49	2.86
Las Vegas	50.4	72	26	0.02	1.52	0.89	2.25	2.16
Los Alamos	48.1	65	22	0.04	2.81	1.00	6.29	3.88
Raton	50.1	76	26	0.15	2.61	1.06	3.58	2.90
Santa Fe	49.6	72	24	0.00	1.87	0.81	3.13	2.87
Red River	40.1	60	20	0.10	3.13	1.68	6.86	5.75
Farmington	54.7	78	33	0.00	2.02	0.51	3.26	2.48
Gallup	47.8	73	23	0.00	1.10	0.64	2.37	3.23
Grants	51.2	76	27	0.00	1.74	0.45	2.64	1.95
Silver City	52.4	73	28	0.00	0.91	0.53	5.15	3.90
Quemado	48.4	74	21	0.15	0.75	0.60	2.22	2.95
Albuquerque	58.4	78	33	T	3.00	0.52	4.94	1.96
Carrizozo	51.9	77	24	0.00	1.55	0.36	3.17	2.10
Gran Quivera	53.5	74	23	0.00	1.38	0.64	4.22	2.88
Moriarty	51.3	78	20	0.00	1.28	0.66	3.74	2.10
Ruidoso	49.6	70	17	0.00	2.70	0.63	5.65	4.24
Socorro	58.9	82	30	0.01	2.77	0.36	4.06	1.41
Alamogordo	63.1	82	32	T	1.83	0.26	3.63	1.93
Animas	60.8	82	33	0.00	1.66	0.20	5.10	1.86
Deming	61.4	82	37	0.01	2.01	0.18	4.04	1.54
T or C	61.2	82	32	0.02	1.36	0.22	2.30	1.40
Las Cruces	62.4	84	37	0.06	1.97	0.21	3.48	1.26

(T) Trace (-) No Report (\*) Correction  
 All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

## MILK PRODUCTION

**NEW MEXICO:** Wet conditions in March, as well as a cold front that moved through the state, have impacted milk production. Milk Production in the state totaled 577 million pounds, slightly below production one year ago of 578 million pounds. Milk per cow totaled 1,765 pounds and number of milk cows on farms averaged 327 head.

**UNITED STATES:** Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled 12.8 billion pounds, down 1.8 percent from March 2003. February revised production, at 11.8 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from February 2003. However, adjusting for leap year, February milk production was down 2.1 percent on a per day basis from last year. The February revision represented a decrease of 35 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,656 pounds for March, 10 pounds below March 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.71 million head, 96,000 head less than March 2003, and 2,000 head less than February 2004.

**Milk Cows and Production: February 2004 <sup>1/</sup> and March 2003-2004**

State	Milk Cows <sup>2/</sup>			Milk per Cow <sup>3/</sup>			Milk Production <sup>3/</sup>		
	3/03	2/04	3/04	3/03	2/04	3/04	3/03	2/04	3/04
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	155	155	155	2,085	1,955	2,095	323	303	325
CA	1,681	1,705	1,708	1,850	1,670	1,810	3,110	2,847	3,091
FL	145	139	139	1,435	1,410	1,540	208	196	214
ID	395	412	413	1,850	1,660	1,810	731	684	748
IL	113	108	108	1,670	1,520	1,650	189	164	178
IN	147	145	145	1,720	1,590	1,730	253	231	251
IA	203	194	194	1,640	1,510	1,630	333	293	316
KY	120	111	109	1,135	1,035	1,175	136	115	128
MI	302	299	298	1,800	1,670	1,790	544	499	533
MN	480	465	465	1,540	1,415	1,510	739	658	702
MO	131	124	123	1,340	1,185	1,345	176	147	165
<b>NM</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>1,660</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>577</b>
NY	680	660	660	1,540	1,400	1,510	1,047	924	997
OH	260	259	260	1,500	1,370	1,520	390	355	395
PA	585	564	564	1,600	1,425	1,570	936	804	885
TX	320	317	317	1,610	1,585	1,735	515	502	550
VT	151	145	144	1,535	1,435	1,540	232	208	222
VA	116	103	101	1,360	1,330	1,450	158	137	146
WA	248	240	240	1,950	1,790	1,925	484	430	462
WI	1,263	1,245	1,244	1,530	1,405	1,520	1,932	1,749	1,891
<b>20 ST</b>	<b>7,810</b>	<b>7,716</b>	<b>7,714</b>	<b>1,666</b>	<b>1,528</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>13,014</b>	<b>11,787</b>	<b>12,776</b>

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**CATTLE ON FEED**

**NEW MEXICO:** Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 105,000 head on April 1, 2004. This compares to the previous month's total of 112,000 head and remains steady with the total cattle on feed of one year ago of 105,000. Placements remain steady at 16,000 head. Marketings in March increased from the February total by 1,000 head to 21,000 head. Other disappearance totaled 2,000 head.

**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 10.75 million head on April 1, 2004. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 8 percent below 2002. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, 9 percent above 2003 and 8 percent above 2002. Other disappearance totaled 67,000 during March, 8 percent above 2003 and 3 percent below 2002.

**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>		
	4/1/03	3/1/04	4/1/04	DURING								
				3/03	2/04	3/04	3/03	2/04	3/04	3/03	2/04	3/04
	-----1,000 Head-----											
AZ	278	295	293	31	27	33	29	25	32	3	3	3
CA	475	500	495	62	56	70	58	52	71	4	4	4
CO	970	1,020	970	160	155	150	175	165	190	5	10	10
ID	280	265	255	58	43	39	57	52	46	1	1	3
IA	375	405	415	56	61	69	60	40	56	1	1	3
KS	2,320	2,390	2,360	510	390	460	410	405	470	20	15	20
NE	2,190	2,270	2,210	320	350	295	310	345	350	10	15	5
<b>NM</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
OK	340	335	330	94	47	74	71	59	77	3	3	2
SD	210	210	205	39	43	33	43	32	36	1	1	2
TX	2,670	2,690	2,640	600	350	490	480	420	530	10	10	10
WA	180	175	170	31	24	29	30	32	33	1	2	1
Oth Sts	320	310	300	55	48	46	58	45	54	2	3	2
<b>US</b>	<b>10,713</b>	<b>10,977</b>	<b>10,748</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>1,803</b>	<b>1,692</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>67</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.