



USDA/NASS
New Mexico Field Office

Weekly Ag Update

nass-nm@nass.usda.gov

1-800-530-8810

Issue 55-46

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE - NOVEMBER 7, 2005

Crop Weather Agricultural Prices Monthly NASS Newsletter

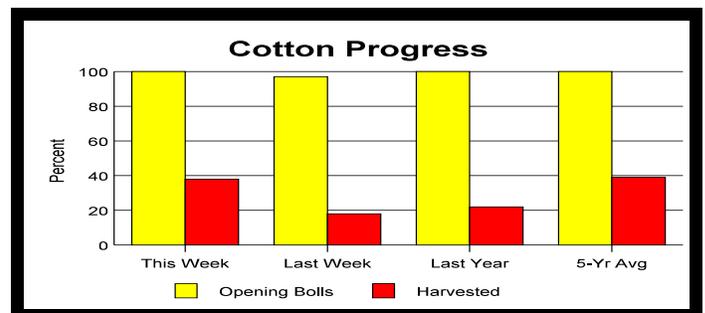
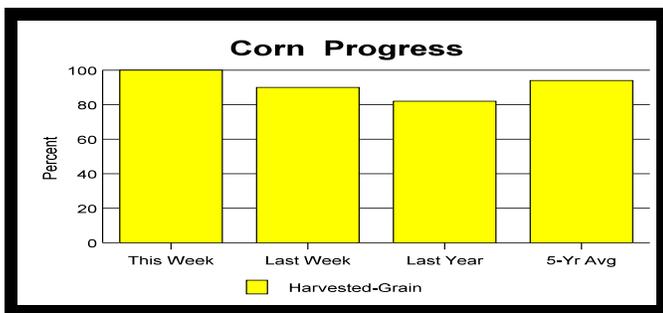
Available on the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/nm , or by e-mail (1-800-530-8810 for information)

CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 6, 2005

NEW MEXICO: There were 7 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 18% very short, 28% short and 54% adequate. Wind damage was 4% light and 1% moderate. Freeze damage was 26% light 1% moderate and 1% severe. Farmers are finishing up harvesting as the weather gets colder. Alfalfa was in mostly fair to excellent condition, with 97% of the 6th cutting complete, and 58% of the 7th cutting complete. Cotton was in fair to excellent condition, with 100% of bolls opening and 38% harvested. Corn for grain was 100% harvested. Sorghum was in mostly fair to good condition, with 85% mature and 19% harvested for grain. Wheat was in mostly fair to good condition. Peanuts were 81% harvested. Lettuce was fair to excellent with 65% harvested. Red chile was in mostly fair to excellent condition with 58% harvested. Fall onions were in good to excellent condition. Pecans were in fair to excellent condition. Ranchers continue marketing their calves and preparing for the winter months. Cattle conditions were 1% poor, 25% fair, 46% good, and 28% excellent. Sheep were listed as 5% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 16% good, and 27% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were reported as 7% very poor, 15% poor, 34% fair, 29% good and 15% excellent.

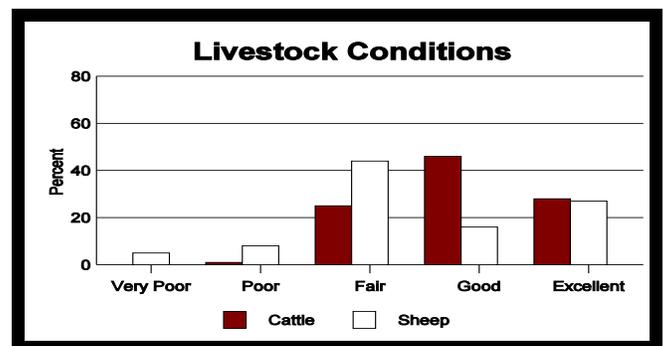
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Harvested-Red	58	55	49	52
CORN	Harvested-Grain	100	90	82	94
COTTON	Opening Bolls	100	97	100	100
COTTON	Harvested	38	18	22	39
LETTUCE	Harvested	65	50	71	69
PEANUTS	Harvested	81	61	66	71
SORGHUM	Mature	85	70	62	88
SORGHUM	Harvested	19	15	18	39



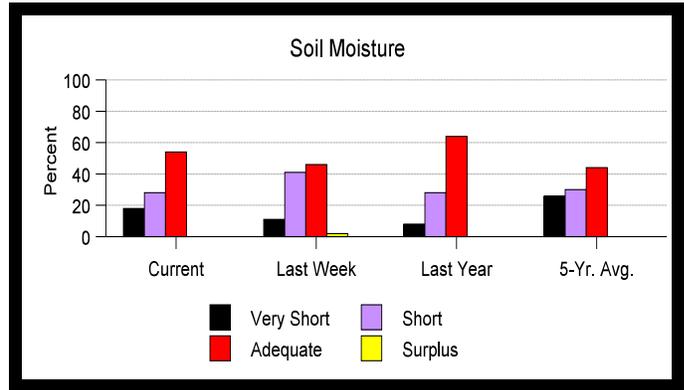
CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	--	17	24	42	17
Chile	--	14	22	43	21
Cotton	--	--	26	45	29
Lettuce	--	--	20	20	60
Onions	--	--	--	33	67
Pecan	--	--	30	23	47
Sorghum (All)	--	12	26	61	1
Wheat (All)	19	16	44	15	6
Cattle	--	1	25	46	28
Sheep	5	8	44	16	27
Range/Pasture	7	15	34	29	15



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	13	35	52	--
Northeast	26	30	44	--
Southwest	27	33	40	--
Southeast	5	20	75	--
State Current	18	28	54	--
State-Last Week	11	41	46	2
State-Last Year	8	28	64	--
State-5-Yr Avg.	26	30	44	--



WEATHER SUMMARY

New Mexico experienced a warm, dry week. The only measurable precipitation was .05 inches at Roy on the 31st. Temperatures for the week averaged 8 degrees above normal for the state. Afternoon temperatures hit the low and mid 80s mid-week at many locations in the east and south.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 6, 2005

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	10/31 11/06	11/01 11/06	Normal Nov.	01/01 11/06	Normal Jan-Nov
Farmington	48.6	71	26	0.00	0.00	0.94	8.52	8.12
Gallup	46.2	69	19	0.00	0.00	0.95	11.15	11.91
Capulin	47.6	71	22	0.05	0.00	0.67	17.44	16.94
Chama	39.9	64	20	0.00	0.00	1.72	25.21	19.81
Johnson Ranch	41.9	69	18	0.00	0.00	0.69	9.76	10.85
Las Vegas	49.8	74	24	0.00	0.00	0.58	18.99	18.36
Los Alamos	46.6	62	30	0.00	0.00	1.02	21.10	17.64
Raton	48.7	72	24	0.00	0.00	0.61	20.04	16.22
Red River	39.7	59	19	0.00	0.00	1.18	24.15	19.33
Santa Fe	47.9	66	23	0.00	0.00	0.63	14.04	13.21
Clayton	55.4	83	30	0.00	0.00	0.52	17.03	14.80
Clovis	57.9	78	33	0.00	0.00	0.73	17.42	16.97
Roy	50.6	76	29	0.00	0.00	0.50	18.83	15.29
Tucumcari	58.3	83	30	0.00	0.00	0.51	20.73	13.90
Grants	48.1	74	21	0.00	0.00	0.58	8.60	10.14
Quemado	45.3	72	17	0.00	0.00	0.45	12.50	13.04
Albuquerque	53.6	70	37	0.00	0.00	0.43	11.32	8.38
Carrizozo	51.1	72	28	0.00	0.00	0.76	14.71	12.07
Socorro	50.1	76	27	0.00	0.00	0.47	8.29	8.95
Gran Quivera	51.5	68	32	0.00	0.00	0.91	18.69	14.92
Moriarty	47.2	71	24	0.00	0.00	0.40	11.53	12.17
Ruidoso	48.9	70	26	0.00	0.00	0.88	20.47	19.72
Carlsbad	60.5	86	34	0.00	0.00	0.59	8.90	12.38
Roswell	54.9	81	31	0.00	0.00	0.55	11.42	12.38
Tatum	55.9	83	28	0.00	0.00	0.55	12.03	15.57
Alamogordo	61.4	76	43	0.00	0.00	0.71	12.22	11.92
Animas	60.2	82	41	0.00	0.00	0.71	10.80	10.62
Deming	57.1	81	34	0.00	0.00	0.64	8.09	9.73
Las Cruces	58.6	79	39	0.00	0.00	0.53	10.86	8.72
T or C	57.8	77	36	0.00	0.00	0.60	9.10	9.22

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

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

AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa hay prices for October averaged \$127.00 per ton, \$2.00 below the September price of \$129.00. All Hay also decreased by \$2.00 from the September price of \$127.00 per ton to \$125.00 per ton. Cow prices in the state declined to \$47.00 per hundred-weight, a drop of \$6.30. Steer and heifer prices remained stable at \$111.00 per hundredweight and remained \$15.00 above the national average of \$96.00. Calf prices also remained stable at \$130.00 per hundredweight, but were \$2.00 below the national average of \$132.00. Milk cow replacement in the state averaged \$1,830 per head compared to the national average of \$1,870 per head.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, September 2004 and October 2004-05

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S.
		Oct. 2004 ^{2/}	Sept. 2005 ^{2/}	Oct. 2005 ^{1/}	Oct. ^{1/}
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	-	-	-	2.98
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	-	-	-	.469
Potatoes	Cwt.	-	-	-	5.62
Hay, all baled	Ton	117.00	127.00	125.00	97.70
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	120.00	129.00	127.00	106.00
Peanuts	Lb.	-	-	-	.176
Corn	Bu.	-	-	-	1.74
Wheat, all	Bu.	-	-	-	3.54
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	43.30
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	110.00
Cows	Cwt.	52.60	53.30	47.00	47.70
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	111.00	111.00	111.00	96.00
Calves	Cwt.	125.00	130.00	130.00	132.00
Milk Cow Replacement ^{4/}	Head	1,670.00	--	1,830	1,870.00
Milk	Milk	14.50	14.70	14.90	15.40

^{1/} Mid-month ^{2/} Entire month ^{3/} September - entire month ^{4/} Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July, and October.

NASS MONTHLY AG NEWSLETTER September 2005

The following estimates, forecasts, and projections are mainly taken from recent publications of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Economic Research Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board of the USDA.

Wheat. All wheat production is forecast at 2.17 billion bushels, up slightly from 2004. The World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) projected 2005/06 ending stocks are down 10 million bushels from last month due to higher food use that was partially offset by larger imports. The projected price range for 2005/06 is \$3.00 to \$3.40 per bushel compared with \$3.40 for the 2004 crop.

Corn. The September forecast for 2005 corn production is 10.6 billion bushels, up 3% from the August forecast but 10% below 2004. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 143.2 bushels per acre, up

4.0 bushels from August but 17.2 bushels below the record high last year. If realized, this would be the second largest crop on record. WAOB projected U.S. ending stocks for 2005/06 are up 179 million bushels from last month because of the higher production forecast and increased beginning stocks due to a reduction in 2004/05 exports. The projected 2005/06 price range for corn is \$1.70 to \$2.10 per bushel compared with \$2.06 for the 2004 crop.

Cotton. The September U.S. cotton production is forecast at 22.3 million 480-pound bales, up 5% from last month but

4% below last year's record production. Yield is expected to average 782 pounds per acre, up 34 pounds from last month but down 73 pounds from 2003. If realized, both yield and production would be the second highest on record. WAOB projected domestic mill use is unchanged from last month while exports are slightly higher, at 15.3 million bales, reflecting larger supplies and increased demand by China. Ending stocks for 2005/06, at 7.00 million bales, are unchanged from last month but up 22% from the previous year.

Other Crops. Grain Sorghum is forecast at 398 million bushels, up 5% from last month but down 13% from 2004. The **peanut crop**, forecast at a record high 5.01 billion pounds, is down 3% from last month but up 18% from last year.

Cattle. Mid-September **prices** for choice steers (Nebraska direct, 1100-1300 pounds) averaged \$87 per cwt, up \$9 from mid-August. Feeder steer prices (Oklahoma City, medium-large frame, 750-800 pounds) were roughly \$112 per cwt, down \$2 from a month ago.

Other. August **milk production** was up 4.6% from the previous year. Production per cow increased 4.0%, while the number of cows increased 0.6% from a year earlier. The **cheddar cheese price** (U.S. 40 pound blocks, wholesale) remained unchanged the first two weeks of September. Total **cheese** production reported for the month of July 2005 was 4.0% above the previous year. **Butter** production during this same time period was 2.3% above last year. Production of **nonfat dry milk for human food** was down 11.1% from July 2004. US table **egg**

production during August 2005 totaled 6.46 billion, up slightly from August 2004. Wholesale market **egg prices** for the third quarter of 2005 (Grade A large, New York) are expected to average 64-65 cents per dozen, compared with 66.2 cents a year ago. Fourth quarter 2005 egg prices are expected to average 68-72 cents per dozen, compared to 68.0 cents a year earlier. **Broiler-Type** chicks hatched during August 2005 totaled 812 million, up slightly from last year. Weekly Broiler-Type Placements in 19 selected states for the week ending September 17, 2005, were 173 million, down slightly from a year ago. Cumulative placements for the 19 selected states for the period January 2, 2005 - September 17, 2005 totaled 6.50 billion, up 1% from the 6.41 million chicks placed for the same period a year ago. The wholesale 12-city average price for whole **broilers** for the third quarter of 2005 is expected to be 72-73 cents, compared with 75.7 cents from a year earlier. Fourth quarter 2005 broiler prices are expected to average 71-75 cents per pound, compared with the 68.3 cents for a year earlier. **Turkey** Poults Placements in August 2005, at 23.6 million, were down slightly from August 2004. Cumulative placements for the 2005 marketing year are 273 million poults, down 3% from a year ago. Prices (8-16 lb. hens, Eastern Region) for the third quarter of 2005 are expected to be 76-77 cents compared with 73.1 cents for the third quarter last year. Turkey prices for the fourth quarter of 2005 are expected to average 77-81 cents per pound, compared with the 77.1 cents average for the fourth quarter of 2004. **Supplies in refrigerated warehouses** at the end of August 2005 compared with a year earlier were: total chicken, down 5%; turkey, down 13%; pork, up 9%; bellies, up 45%; beef, down 7%; frozen orange juice, down 23%; butter, down 7% and American cheese, down 1%.