



Weekly Ag Update

USDA/NASS
New Mexico Field Office

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Weather Summary Agricultural Prices Hogs & Pigs Monthly Ag. Newsletter

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

WEATHER SUMMARY

Year 2005 ended with very warm, dry weather. Temperatures averaged about 9 degrees above normal for the state, and afternoon readings reached as high as the 60s and 70s in the lower elevations. Very strong wind on New Year's Day fanned grass fires over the east. Precipitation was light and confined to the far north as a couple of winter storms moved across Colorado. Greatest precipitation totals were at Chama (.21") and Red River (.18").

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - December 26, 2005 - January 1, 2006

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	12/26 01/01	01/01 01/01	Normal Jan	01/01 01/01	Normal Jan-Jan
Farmington	37.8	59	19	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.59	0.59
Gallup	35.1	58	12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.80
Capulin	37.6	66	6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.40
Chama	32.1	52	9	0.21	0.18	0.18	1.77	1.77
Johnson Ranch	34.3	58	7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.67
Las Vegas	42.8	66	19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.60
Los Alamos	37.1	55	20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.86
Raton	39.9	69	15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.47
Red River	31.5	49	9	0.18	0.05	0.05	1.07	1.07
Santa Fe	36.7	57	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.63
Clayton	46.6	74	19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.24
Clovis	49.7	72	27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.39
Roy	44.9	70	21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.34
Tucumcari	49.1	76	22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.28
Grants	35.6	61	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.49
Quemado	35.7	60	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.83	0.83
Albuquerque	44.0	63	28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.44
Carrizozo	43.9	64	22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.60
Socorro	44.0	65	21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.39
Gran Quivera	43.9	58	21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.70
Moriarty	39.0	59	21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.43
Ruidoso	42.2	61	19	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.12	1.12
Carlsbad	55.2	76	30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.35
Roswell	48.5	76	22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.43
Tatum	48.2	72	21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.39
Alamogordo	52.4	65	39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.67
Animas	51.9	71	29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.68
Deming	48.9	69	27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.56
Las Cruces	50.0	71	31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.46
T or C	50.5	68	33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.46

(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 December averaged \$123.00 per ton, \$2.00 below the November price of \$125.00. All Hay prices also decreased by \$2.00 from the November price of \$123.00 to \$121.00 per ton. Cow prices increased from previous month by \$1.30 to \$47.30 per hundredweight. The national average was \$46.60. Steer and Heifer prices declined from November by \$1.00, averaging \$111.00 per hundredweight in December. New Mexico steer and heifer prices were \$11.90 above the national average of \$99.10. Calf prices remained steady at \$128.00 per hundredweight but were \$7.00 below the national average of \$135.00. Milk prices dropped from \$14.20 per hundredweight in November to \$13.70 per hundredweight. The national milk price averaged \$14.70 for December.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, November 2005 and December 2004-05

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		Dec. 2004 ^{2/}	Nov. 2005 ^{2/}	Dec. 2005 ^{1/}	Dec.
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	-	-	-	2.94
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	-	-	-	.489
Potatoes	Cwt.	-	-	-	6.60
Hay, all baled	Ton	117.00	123.00	121.00	92.00
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	120.00	125.00	123.00	97.70
Peanuts	Lb.	-	-	-	.174
Corn	Bu.	-	-	-	1.88
Wheat, All	Bu.	-	-	-	3.47
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	45.40
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	107.00
Cows	Cwt.	52.00	46.00	47.30	46.60
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	105.00	112.00	111.00	99.10
Calves	Cwt.	124.00	128.00	128.00	135.00
Milk	Cwt.	16.20	14.20	13.70	14.70

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

NATIONAL HOG REPORT

NEW MEXICO: Hog inventory for 2005 dropped by 500 head to 2,000 total inventory. Hogs kept for breeding in 2005 were 200 compared to 300 the previous year. The market hog inventory decreased from 2,200 head in 2004 to 1,800 head in 2005. Pigs per litter increased with the 2005 average at 8.5 compared to the 2005 national average of 9.01

UNITED STATES: U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2005 was 61.2 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2004, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2005. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.2 million head, was up slightly from last year but down 1 percent from last quarter.

Hogs & Pigs: December 1, Inventory, Sows Farrowing, and Pig Crop, New Mexico and U.S., 2004-2005

	NEW MEXICO		UNITED STATES	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	-----1,000 Head-----			
December 1 Inventory				
All hogs and pigs	2.5	2.0	60,975	61,197
Kept for breeding	0.3	0.2	5,969	6,011
Market	2.2	1.8	55,005	55,186
Market hogs and pigs by				
Under 60 pounds	0.5	0.5	19,980	19,955
60-119 pounds	0.6	0.5	13,439	13,552
120-170 pounds	0.6	0.5	11,186	11,266
180 pounds and over	0.5	0.3	10,401	10,414
Sows Farrowing				
Dec-Nov ^{1/}	0.40	0.40	11,498	11,504
	-----Number-----			
Pigs Per Litter				
Dec-Nov ^{1/}	7.50	8.50	8.94	9.01

^{1/} December preceding year.

NASS - MONTHLY AG NEWSLETTER "The Fact Finders for U.S. Agriculture" - January 2006

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.

Cotton. The 2003 cotton production is estimated at 18.2 million bales, up fractionally from last month and 6 percent more than last year's production. Yield is expected to average a record high 725 pounds per acre, up 60 pounds from a year ago. The World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) ending stocks for the United States are unchanged from last month. World ending stocks are raised slightly from last month's projection.

Corn. The 2003 corn production is estimated at 10.1 billion bushels, up 12% from last year. The average U.S. grain yield is estimated at 142.2 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushel below the

November forecast but up 12.2 bushels from 2002. Both production and yield estimates are the largest on record. The previous record for both was set in 1994 when production was estimated at slightly below the 10.1 billion bushels being estimated for 2003 and yield was 138.6 bushels per acre. Corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2003 totaled 7.94 billion bushels, up 4% from December 1, 2002. A market year average price between \$2.15 and \$2.45 per bushel is expected, compared to \$2.32 for the 2002 crop.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
PO BOX 1809
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Wheat. All wheat production for 2003 is estimated at 2.34 billion bushels, unchanged from the *Small Grains 2003 Summary*, but 44% above last year. Wheat stocks in all positions on December 1, 2003 totaled 1.52 billion bushels, up 15% from December 1, 2002. The market year average price is expected to average between \$3.25 and \$3.45 per bushel compared to \$3.56 for the 2002 crop.

Other Crops. Grain sorghum production is estimated at 411 million bushels, 11% above 2002. The **peanut crop** is estimated at 4.14 billion pounds, up 25% from last year. **Sugarbeet** production is estimated at 30.6 million tons, 10% above last year. Estimated production of **sugarcane** for sugar and seed totaled 34.4 million tons, down 3% from the previous year. **Cattle.** Mid-January **prices** for choice steers (Nebraska direct, 1100-1300 pounds) averaged \$82 per cwt, down \$13 from mid-December. Feeder steer prices (Oklahoma City, medium-large frame, 750-800 pounds) were roughly \$86 per cwt, down \$10 from a month ago.

Hogs. For the first two weeks of January, hog **slaughter** was running nearly 3.9% above a year ago. Cash **prices** at mid-January (Iowa-Southern Minnesota direct, 51-52% lean) averaged \$37 per cwt, up \$1 from the mid-December price. First quarter prices are expected to average \$38 per cwt.

Other Livestock. December **milk production** was down 0.3% from the previous year. Production per cow increased 0.8%, while the number of cows decreased 1.2% from a year earlier. The **cheddar cheese price** (U.S. 40 pound blocks, wholesale) was down the first two weeks of January. Total **cheese** production reported for the month of November, 2003 was 1.0% below the previous year. **Butter** production during this same time period was 15.2% below last year. Production of **nonfat dry milk for human food** was up 3.3% from November, 2002. US table **egg production** during November 2003 totaled 6.25 billion, up 1% from November 2002. Wholesale market **egg prices** for the first quarter of 2004 (Grade A large, New York) are expected to average 93-97 cents per dozen, compared with 77.2 cents a year ago. Second quarter 2004 egg prices are expected to average 82-88 cents per dozen, compared with 73.9 cents a year earlier. **Broiler-**

Type chicks hatched during November 2003 totaled 708 million, up 3% from last year. Weekly Broiler-Type Placements in 19 selected states for the week ending Jan. 17, 2004, were 166 million, up 2% from a year ago. Cumulative placements for the 19 selected states for the period December 27, 2003 - January 17, 2004 totaled 502 million, up 2% from the 490 million chicks placed for the same period a year ago. The wholesale 12-city average price for whole **broilers** for the first quarter of 2004 is expected to be 61-63 cents, compared with 60.3 cents from the first quarter of last year. Second quarter 2004 broiler prices are expected to average 62-66 cents per pound, compared with the 59.6 cents for a year earlier. **Turkey Poultry** placements in December 2003, at 23.4 million, were down 2% from last December. Cumulative placements for the 2004 marketing year are 90.6 million poults, down 4% from a year ago. Prices (8-16 lb. hens, Eastern Region) for the first quarter of 2004 are expected to be 60-62 cents compared with 61.1 cents for the first quarter last year. Turkey prices for the second quarter of 2004 are expected to average 60-64 cents per pound, compared with the 60.6 cents average for the second quarter of 2003. **Supplies in refrigerated warehouses** at the end of December 2003 compared with a year earlier were: total chicken, down 21%; turkey, up 6%; pork, unchanged; bellies, up 73%; beef, down 25%; frozen orange juice, down 3%; butter, down 37% and American cheese, unchanged.

Trade. January U.S. **trade projections** for wheat, corn, rice, soybeans, pork, broilers, and turkeys improved while 2003/2004 export prospects for beef declined, compared with last month. Cotton was unchanged from December. January projections for the volume of exports for the 2003/2004 marketing year compared to 2002/2003 are: **wheat** up 32%; **corn** up 24%; **rice** down 20%; **soybeans** down 14%; **soybean meal** down 29%; **soybean oil** down 62%; and **cotton** up 11%. January projections for the volume of meat exports in calendar 2004 compared to 2003 are: **beef** down 91%; **pork** up 3%; **broilers** up 4%; and **turkeys** up 5%. The **U.S. trade** deficit for goods and services decreased to \$38.0 billion in November, from a revised \$41.6 billion in October. The **U.S. agricultural trade** surplus was \$271 million in November, compared with \$1.340 billion in October.