



Weekly Ag Update

USDA/NASS
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Crop Weather Prospective Plantings Agricultural Prices

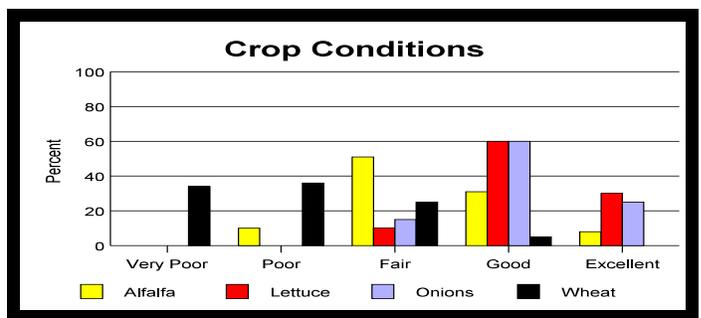
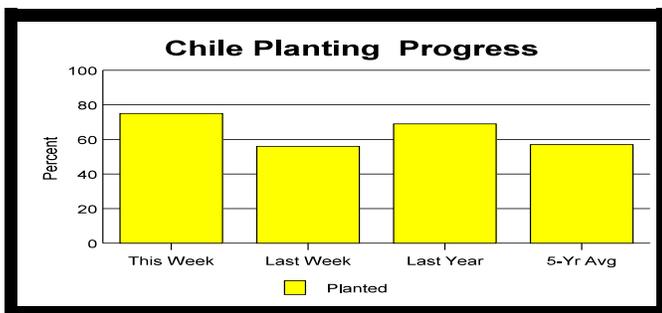
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CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 2, 2006

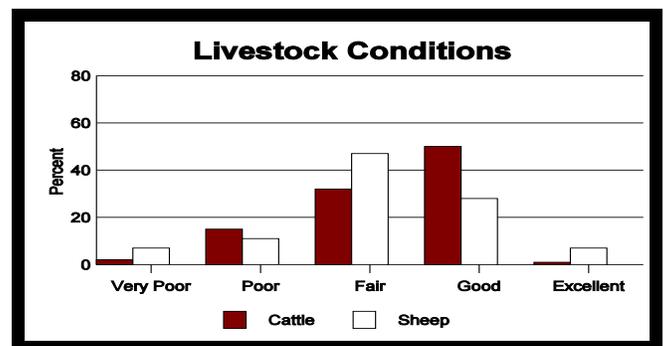
NEW MEXICO: There were 6.7 days suitable for field work. Farmers spent the week irrigating with limited water, fertilizing, pre-irrigating cotton, tilling fields, and fighting off alfalfa weevil and pea aphids. Topsoil moisture was 55% very short, 36% short and 9% adequate. The wind combined with the dry conditions continued to increase the risk of wild fires throughout the state. One fire in Union county destroyed over 20,000 acres. Wind damage was 27% light, 12% moderate and 1% severe. Freeze damage was 18% light and there were reports of hail damage as well. Alfalfa was reported in mostly fair to good condition. Total wheat was 34% very poor, 36% poor, 25% fair and 5% good. Only 4% of wheat pasture was being grazed compared to 13% last week and 35% last year. Lettuce and onions were in fair to excellent condition. Chile was 75% planted and cotton growers were waiting for soil temperatures to rise before planting. Ranchers were supplementing feed. There were reports of hay stocks running short and trouble with loco weed. Cattle were listed as 2% very poor, 15% poor, 32% fair, 50% good and 1% excellent. Sheep were 7% very poor, 11% poor, 47% fair, 28% good, and 7% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were 23% very poor, 31% poor, 33% fair, and 13% good.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Planted	75	56	69	57
WHEAT	Grazed	4	13	35	N/A

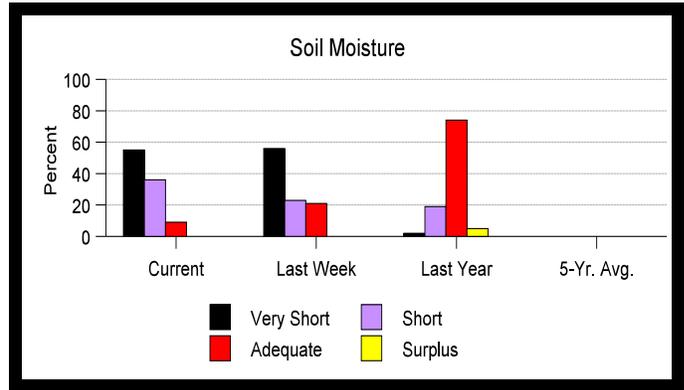


	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	---	10	51	31	8
Lettuce	---	---	10	60	30
Onions	---	---	15	60	25
Wheat (All)	34	36	25	5	---
Cattle	2	15	32	50	1
Sheep	7	11	47	28	7
Range/Pasture	23	31	33	13	--



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	35	43	22	---
Northeast	79	18	3	---
Southwest	50	30	20	---
Southeast	39	61	---	---
State Current	55	36	9	---
State-Last Week	56	23	21	---
State-Last Year	2	19	74	5
State-5-Yr Avg.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



WEATHER SUMMARY

A couple of minor storm systems brushed New Mexico during the week, mainly the northern half and also the eastern border counties with Texas. Red River, the wettest location in the state during March, continued to catch the brunt of the storms, with 1.27 inches of moisture. Chama and Farmington also measured over half an inch of moisture. Temperatures for the week were within a few degrees of normal just about everywhere.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - MARCH 27- APRIL 2, 2006

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/27 04/02	03/01 04/02	Normal Apr	01/01 04/02	Normal Jan-Apr
Farmington	47.9	65	26	0.57	0.54	0.51	1.65	2.48
Gallup	46.2	64	25	0.37	0.11	0.64	1.39	3.23
Capulin	44.4	67	16	0.00	0.00	1.01	0.71	2.86
Chama	39.1	57	16	0.58	0.32	1.27	2.67	6.61
Johnson Ranch	43.6	62	22	0.09	0.09	0.49	0.22	2.47
Las Vegas	46.5	66	26	0.00	0.00	0.83	0.12	2.54
Los Alamos	43.6	62	28	0.09	0.00	1.00	0.87	3.88
Raton	46.6	69	20	0.00	0.00	1.06	0.40	2.90
Red River	36.3	55	15	1.27	0.55	1.68	5.17	5.75
Santa Fe	45.6	62	22	0.06	0.02	0.81	0.46	2.87
Clayton	52.4	72	26	0.00	0.00	0.94	0.45	2.04
Clovis	56.5	77	38	0.23	0.00	0.81	1.48	2.30
Roy	49.1	69	29	0.00	0.00	0.82	0.11	2.14
Tucumcari	57.6	79	35	0.00	0.00	0.87	0.25	2.00
Grants	46.2	66	26	0.23	0.00	0.45	0.78	1.95
Quemado	45.7	68	18	0.05	0.00	0.60	1.11	2.95
Albuquerque	53.1	70	37	0.00	0.00	0.52	0.18	1.96
Carrizozo	52.8	79	20	0.00	0.00	0.36	0.45	2.10
Socorro	56.1	77	33	0.00	0.00	0.36	0.03	1.41
Gran Quivera	48.8	69	29	0.00	0.00	0.64	0.17	2.88
Moriarty	47.4	71	27	0.01	0.00	0.66	0.17	2.10
Ruidoso	47.1	71	28	0.01	0.00	0.63	1.11	4.24
Carlsbad	65.9	85	49	0.01	0.00	0.49	1.86	1.49
Roswell	60.0	81	39	0.00	0.00	0.65	0.05	1.99
Tatum	58.1	78	39	0.31	0.00	0.64	1.41	2.05
Alamogordo	60.6	77	44	0.07	0.00	0.26	0.40	1.93
Animas	59.6	79	41	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.38	1.86
Deming	60.0	82	35	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.58	1.54
Las Cruces	60.7	79	41	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.18	1.26
T or C	59.0	76	39	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.08	1.40

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

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

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

NEW MEXICO: Corn growers intend to plant 125,000 acres of corn for all purposes in 2006, down 11 percent from 2005. Sorghum acres remain unchanged at 120,000 acres to be planted. Winter wheat planted acreage is expected to be 10,000 acres less than last year at 440,000 acres. Peanut intended plantings were unchanged at 19,000 acres. Upland cotton growers intend to plant 55,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from last year. Pima cotton growers plan to plant 11,000 acres this year, down 500 acres from 2005. All hay to be harvested this year is down 20,000 acres to 310,000 acres.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 78.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2006, down 5 percent from 2005 and 4 percent below 2004. If realized, this will be the lowest corn acreage since 2001 when 75.7 million acres were planted for all purposes. All wheat planted area is expected to total 57.1 million acres, down slightly from 2005. All cotton plantings for 2006 are expected to total 14.6 million acres, 3 percent above last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 14.3 million, also up 3 percent. American-Pima cotton growers intend to increase their plantings 24 percent from 2005, to a record high 334,000 acres. Peanut producers intend to plant 1.39 million acres of peanuts in 2006, down 16 percent from last year. The 2006 sorghum area intended to be planted for all purposes is estimated at 6.48 million acres, up fractionally from 2005. Hay producers expect to harvest 61.5 million acres of all hay in 2006, down fractionally from 2005.

Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 2005-2006

	New Mexico				United States			
	2004	2005	2006 ^{1/}	2006/2005	2004	2005	2006 ^{1/}	2006/2005
	-----1,000 Acres-----				-----1,000 Acres-----			
	--Percent--				--Percent--			
Corn	125	140	125	89	80,929	81,759	78,019	95
Sorghum	140	120	120	100	7,486	6,454	6,483	100
Oats	---	---	---	---	4,085	4,246	4,324	102
Barley	---	---	---	---	4,527	3,875	3,667	95
All Wheat	490	450	440	98	59,674	57,229	57,128	100
Winter	490	450	440	98	43,350	40,433	41,404	102
Other Spring	---	---	---	---	13,763	14,036	13,899	99
Soybeans	---	---	---	---	75,208	72,142	76,895	107
Peanuts	17.0	19.0	19.0	90	1,430.0	1,657.0	1,391.0	84
All Cotton	78.6	67.5	66.0	98	13,658.6	14,195.4	14,634.0	103
Upland	68.0	56.0	55.0	98	13,409.0	13,925.0	14,300.0	103
A-P	10.6	11.5	11.0	96	249.6	270.4	334.0	124
All Hay ^{2/}	330	330	310	94	61,966	61,649	61,478	100

^{1/} Intended plantings in 2006 as indicated by reports from farmers. ^{2/} Intended area harvested in 2006 as indicated by reports from farmers.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

Alfalfa hay prices for March averaged \$124.00 per ton, \$1.00 below the February price. All hay prices averaged \$122.00 per ton, also \$1.00 below the previous month's price. Cow prices increased from the February price by \$1.00 to \$49.50 per hundredweight. Steer and heifer prices dropped to \$102.00 per hundredweight but remained \$7.90 above the national average of \$94.10. Calf prices for the month dropped by \$6.00 to \$129.00 per hundredweight with the national average coming in at \$138.00 per hundredweight. Milk prices for the month dropped \$0.20 to \$12.40 with the national average at \$12.80 per hundredweight.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2006 and March 2005-06

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		Mar 2005 ^{2/}	Feb 2006 ^{2/}	Mar 2006 ^{1/}	Mar
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	—	—	—	3.29
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	—	—	—	.496
Potatoes	Cwt.	—	—	—	8.31
Hay, all baled	Ton	121.00	123.00	122.00	97.10
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	124.00	125.00	124.00	100.00
Peanuts	Lb.	—	—	—	.175
Corn	Bu.	—	—	—	2.01
Wheat, all	Bu.	—	—	—	3.71
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	—	—	—	46.00
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	—	—	—	96.80
Cows	Cwt.	55.60	48.50	49.50	49.90
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	107.00	109.00	102.00	94.10
Calves	Cwt.	133.00	135.00	129.00	138.00
Milk	Cwt.	14.60	12.60	12.40	12.80

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