



WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER

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USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Crop Weather

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

CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 23, 2009

NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa conditions were mostly good with 74 percent of the fourth cutting complete and 36 percent of the fifth cutting completed. Cotton conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 76 percent setting bolls and 14 percent bolls opening. Corn conditions were mostly good with 99 percent silked, 68 percent dough and 23 percent dent. Irrigated sorghum conditions were mostly good with 87 percent headed and 11% coloring. Dry sorghum conditions ranged from poor to good with 69 percent headed and 5 percent coloring. Peanut conditions were mostly fair with 80 percent pegging. Chile conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 8 percent light pod set, 54 percent average pod set, 38 percent heavy pod set and 70 percent of the green chile harvested. Onion conditions were mostly excellent with 98 percent harvested.

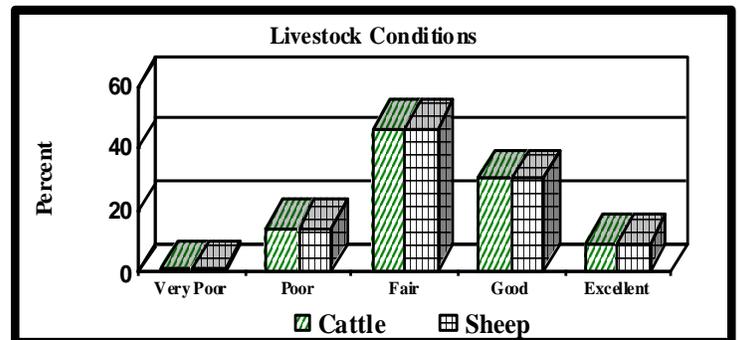
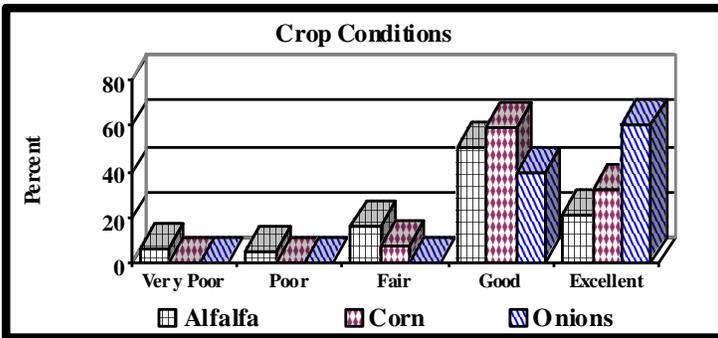
Pecan conditions were mostly good to excellent with 14 percent light nut set, 54 percent average nut set and 32 percent heavy nut set. Cattle conditions were mostly fair to good. Sheep conditions were mostly fair to poor. Range and pasture conditions were mostly fair to poor. There were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture was 27 percent very short, 45 percent short and 28 percent adequate. Wind damage was 13 percent light and 1 percent moderate, affecting 1 percent of the total sorghum crop and 1 percent of the total cotton crop. Hail damage was 10 percent light and 1 percent moderate, affecting 5 percent of the total cotton crop, 4 percent of the total corn crop, 3% of the total sorghum crop, and 2% of the total peanut crop.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
Alfalfa	4 th Cutting	74	61	76	81
Alfalfa	5 th Cutting	36	23	17	29
Chile green	Harvested	70	42	55	40
Cotton	Set Bolls	76	70	89	94
Cotton	Open Bolls	14	10	3	9
Corn	Dough	68	34	72	80
Corn	Dent	23	11	26	38
Onions	Harvested	98	97	100	100
Peanuts	Pegging	80	68	89	97
Sorghum	Headed	75	33	73	57

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	7	5	16	51	21
Chile	---	---	29	35	36
Cotton	---	10	29	37	24
Corn	---	1	8	59	32
Onions	---	---	---	40	60
Peanuts	---	---	65	35	---
Pecans	---	1	19	45	35
Sorghum	6	24	12	56	2
Cattle	1	14	46	30	9
Sheep	18	32	34	16	--
Range/Pasture	9	34	39	16	2



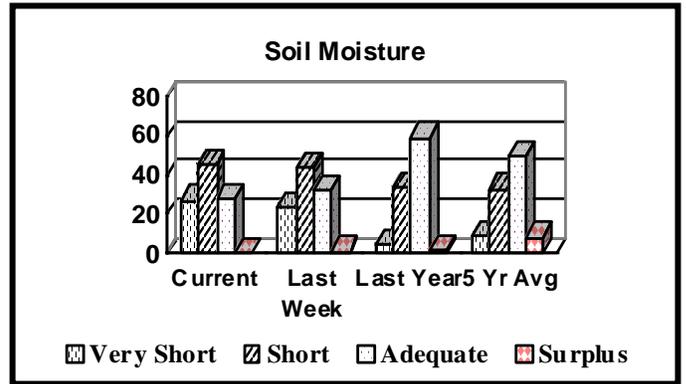
County Reporter Comments:

Santa Fe has close to 50% precipitation YTD. Forage growth slowing down with colder nights. Isolated rain showers were received late in the week. **Guadalupe** pasture conditions are poor due to the hot temperatures and no rain for quite some time. Some ranchers were hauling water in some areas. Farmers were picking produce and harvesting their crops, irrigating and controlling insects. **Quay** received some rainfall at the end of last week and beginning of this week; scattered and spotty. Some places look good and have received average rainfall. Most places have received minimal to no rain. Irrigated alfalfa looks good. Those fields and crops that depend on reservoir water are lost due to no allocations this year.

Producers continue to move/ship cattle to other pastures due to dry conditions and scattered showers. Warm season grasses have had minimal growth due to little rainfall followed by triple digit heat and wind. **Doña Ana** conditions were good with some scattered thunderstorms in the area bringing wind and little hail. **Lea** needs some more moisture. **Otero** pistachio growers have started harvesting which will continue until late September. The grape harvest is 70% completed. Due to the late frost we had, the yield is low this year.

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	23	65	12	---
Northeast	29	42	29	---
Southwest	54	23	23	---
Southeast	9	51	39	1
State Current	27	45	28	---
State-Last Week	23	44	32	1
State-Last Year	5	34	59	2
State-5-Yr Avg.	9	33	50	8



WEATHER SUMMARY

A cold front moved through New Mexico early in the week, bringing showers and thunderstorms to the eastern plains and south-central mountains. Some of the storms produced severe weather across the eastern plains on Monday and Tuesday. Drier conditions returned to the state during midweek but by the weekend upper level high pressure over West Texas allowed increased moisture to filter into the western two-thirds of New Mexico from the south

bringing increased shower and thunderstorm activity. The northeast, central, and south-central portions of the state received the most rainfall during the week with 0.94 in. reported at Clayton, 0.18 at Capulin, 0.48 at Ruidoso, and 0.46 at the Albuquerque airport. New record low temperatures for the date were set on Monday, August 17th. Eagle Nest reported a low of 31 degrees which broke the previous record low of 32 last set in 1987.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS – AUGUST 17 - 23, 2009

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Week	Month	Accum.	Normal	Normal
				17 Aug 23 Aug	01 Aug 23 Aug	01 Jan- 23 Aug	Aug	Jan-Aug
Northwest								
Albuquerque	77.9	94	62	0.46	0.77	3.41	1.64	6.06
Chama	61.6	87	35	0.00	0.42	10.42	2.82	13.90
Farmington	72.6	93	47	0.00	0.27	3.17	1.05	5.36
Gallup	68.3	94	41	0.00	0.11	4.53	2.26	8.36
Grants	68.1	91	39	0.03	0.86	7.19	2.16	6.95
Johnson Ranch	66.5	90	40	0.00	0.00	2.10	2.29	7.72
Los Alamos	70.0	89	52	0.00	0.32	6.97	3.52	13.18
Red River	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.10	15.03
Santa Fe	69.6	90	47	0.09	0.47	5.87	2.39	10.03
Northeast								
Capulin	68.5	93	47	0.18	0.61	10.55	2.56	13.08
Clayton	73.2	96	55	0.94	1.09	8.91	2.61	11.61
Clovis	76.4	97	57	0.00	1.92	5.26	3.17	12.74
Las Vegas	68.4	90	46	0.00	0.20	7.62	4.27	13.87
Moriarty	67.5	89	43	0.00	0.80	4.98	2.69	9.06
Raton	71.5	95	48	0.08	0.59	5.84	3.21	13.03
Roy	72.5	93	48	0.00	0.17	5.65	2.81	11.84
Tucumcari	77.7	99	56	0.14	0.49	6.67	2.41	10.98
Southwest								
Animas	79.9	97	61	0.00	0.38	2.84	2.34	7.08
Deming	81.4	101	60	0.19	0.31	4.32	2.05	6.48
Gran Quivira	72.9	92	49	0.02	0.19	7.16	3.27	10.79
Quemado	67.6	91	41	0.00	0.11	3.03	3.12	9.68
Socorro	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.90	5.84
T or C	80.7	97	64	0.05	0.34	4.44	2.15	6.59
Southeast								
Alamogordo	79.6	98	59	0.00	2.14	8.74	2.41	7.92
Carlsbad	82.7	103	65	0.00	0.00	6.79	2.25	7.99
Carrizozo	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.51	3.35	2.69	8.24
Las Cruces	81.9	100	65	0.08	0.69	2.72	2.29	5.92
Roswell	78.2	100	60	0.00	0.41	5.66	2.03	8.77
Ruidoso	68.1	86	47	0.48	1.88	12.70	4.04	15.03
Tatum	78.8	98	61	0.00	0.00	11.57	2.48	11.17

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