



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 SEPTEMBER 20, 2009

NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa conditions were mostly good with 75 percent of the fifth cutting complete and 13 percent of the sixth cutting completed. **Cotton** conditions were mostly fair to good with 89 percent setting bolls and 39 percent bolls opening. **Corn** conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 97 percent dough, 72 percent dent and 39 percent mature. Irrigated sorghum conditions were mostly good with 77 percent coloring and 8% mature. **Dry sorghum** conditions ranged from poor to good with 57 percent coloring and 12% mature. Irrigated winter wheat was 96 percent planted. Dry winter wheat was 89 percent planted. **Peanut** conditions were mostly fair with 95 percent pegging. **Chile** conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 8 percent light pod set, 60 percent average pod set, 32 percent heavy pod set, 90 percent of the green chile harvested, and 14 percent of the red chile harvested.

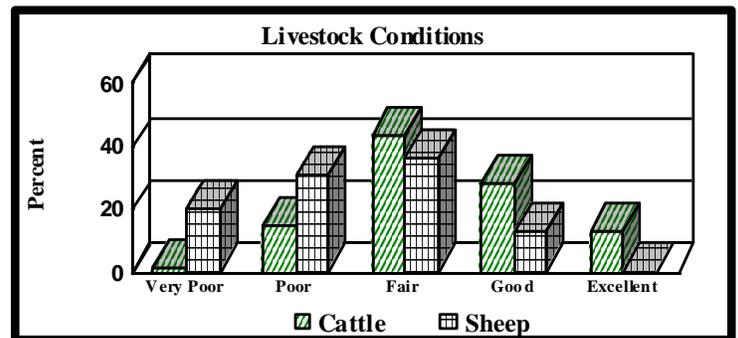
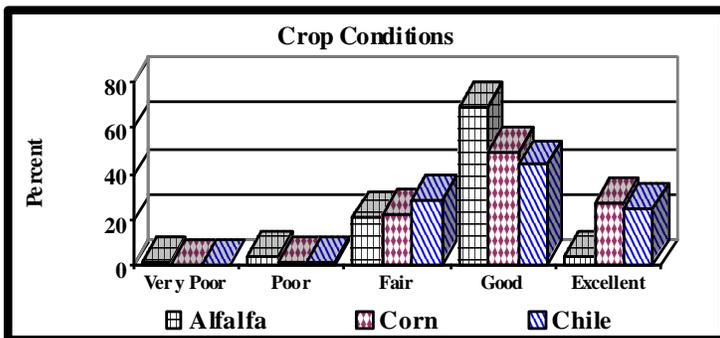
Pecan conditions were mostly good with 14 percent light nut set, 63 percent average nut set and 23 percent heavy nut set. **Cattle** conditions were mostly fair to good. **Sheep** conditions ranged from very poor to fair. **Range and pasture** conditions were mostly fair to poor. There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork. **Topsoil moisture** was 17 percent very short, 31 percent short, 50 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Wind damage was 6 percent light and 1 percent adequate affecting 2 percent of the sorghum crop acreages. Hail damage was 2 percent light affecting 5 percent of the corn crop acreages, 6 percent of the sorghum crop acreages, 3 percent of the winter wheat crop acreages, and 1 percent of the peanut crop acreages.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
Alfalfa	5 th Cutting	75	73	60	77
Alfalfa	6 th Cutting	13	---	---	25
Chile green	Harvested	90	81	82	84
Chile red	Harvested	14	13	16	8
Cotton	Set Bolls	89	85	100	100
Cotton	Open Bolls	39	29	42	51
Corn	Dent	72	64	79	93
Corn	Mature	39	25	34	56
Peanuts	Harvested	---	---	24	7
Sorghum	Mature	12	---	5	7
Sorghum	Turn/Color	57	24	66	58

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	2	4	21	69	4
Chile	---	2	29	44	25
Cotton	---	5	41	40	14
Corn	---	2	22	49	27
Peanuts	---	---	87	13	---
Pecans	---	---	21	53	26
Sorghum	3	24	36	36	1
Cattle	1	15	43	28	13
Sheep	20	31	36	13	---
Range/Pasture	13	32	41	14	--



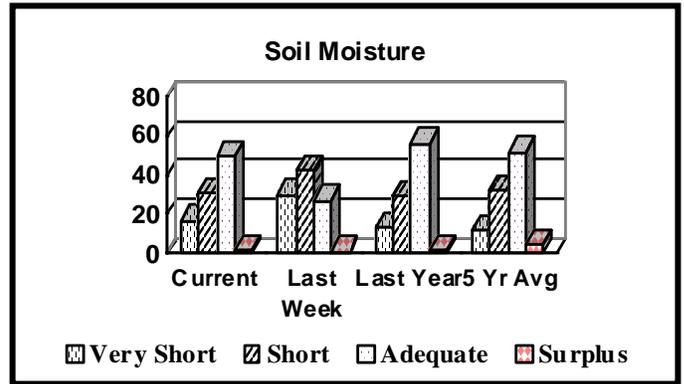
County Reporter Comments:

Rio Arriba/Taos have had a good amount of precipitation from 9/16 through 9/18. **Santa Fe** has received some significant rainfall since last reporting. Hopefully, they will still make for some grass growth before grasses go dormant. Colder temps might soon end forage harvest, expect lower production, yield numbers this year. **De Baca** ranchers were racing calves. Some dirt tanks filled with late rain. South and west still dry. **Guadalupe** pasture conditions have gotten a pretty good boost this week. We received rains early in the week. Some areas in the county received a total of 2 inches. The clouds have been around pretty much all week so the temperatures have cooled down some. Farmers are completing their winter wheat plantings and fall seeding. Garden and crops are being harvested, seems like a decent year. **Quay** had some rainfall this week ranging from .2 to .5 inches. Some fill in reservoir and crops beginning to go into dormancy due to cooler

temperatures. This week was the final cuttings on alfalfa. Most dry land wheat has been planted with sufficient soil moisture, with rainfall most will hold off and begin planting in a few days. About 90% of wheat has been planted. **Luna/Grant** showers helped around the crop land areas, however, pasture conditions for cattle is poor. Ranchers were supplemental feeding and have been for several months. This has resulted in the selling of some cattle herds. **Catron/Socorro** much needed rains were received last week. This slowed farming, it is too late to grow grass, however, it is much appreciated by the ranchers. Many ranches are busy gathering and shipping cattle early due to the lack of grass. **Lea** livestock were in good shape. **Otero** pistachio harvest is approximately 80% complete. Fairly heavy rains around the county kept growers out of the field for about three days and caught several alfalfa growers with hay down in the field and the remainder delaying cutting.

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	12	34	48	6
Northeast	13	40	47	---
Southwest	54	13	33	---
Southeast	3	26	68	3
State Current	17	31	50	2
State-Last Week	30	42	27	1
State-Last Year	13	29	56	2
State-5-Yr Avg.	12	32	52	4



WEATHER SUMMARY

A weak upper level low pressure brought moisture over the state leading into heavy showers and thunderstorms. The system moved slowly leading to flash flood watch on Thursday for Southern and Western NM. There were cloudy skies over much

of the state bringing temperatures below normal in central New Mexico and to the South East. By the weekend, we had clear skies. Also, Albuquerque broke a 24 hour rainfall record on Wednesday with .66 inches total.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS – SEPTEMBER 14 - 20, 2009

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Week	Month	Accum.	Normal	Normal
				14 Sept 20 Sept	01 Sept 20 Sept	01 Jan 20 Sept	Sept	Jan-Sept
Northwest								
Albuquerque	66.1	84	53	1.25	1.43	4.98	1.00	7.06
Chama	53.6	73	33	0.89	2.87	13.84	2.23	16.13
Farmington	65.9	82	49	0.03	0.11	3.30	0.97	6.33
Gallup	61.1	82	42	0.36	2.60	7.13	1.31	9.67
Grants	59.3	80	40	0.37	0.64	8.07	1.56	8.51
Johnson Ranch	58.7	76	40	0.60	1.16	3.26	1.33	9.05
Los Alamos	56.9	73	41	0.71	1.09	8.19	2.12	15.30
Red River	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.66	16.69
Santa Fe	59.1	82	42	1.52	2.01	8.49	1.51	11.54
Northeast								
Capulin	58.4	81	36	0.04	0.44	12.13	2.22	15.30
Clayton	65.4	87	49	0.01	0.66	9.78	1.77	13.38
Clovis	66.7	85	51	0.15	0.21	6.09	2.16	14.90
Las Vegas	57.9	78	39	0.49	1.76	9.62	2.40	16.27
Moriarty	58.4	81	45	0.65	1.81	7.21	1.61	10.67
Raton	62.9	84	42	0.14	2.34	9.43	1.61	14.64
Roy	62.0	84	46	0.90	1.05	7.10	1.90	13.74
Tucumcari	67.2	89	48	0.11	0.41	7.86	1.47	12.45
Southwest								
Animas	70.6	89	54	0.38	0.70	3.89	1.68	8.76
Deming	71.8	93	51	0.74	1.35	5.88	1.63	8.11
Gran Quivira	61.2	82	46	1.49	2.17	9.71	1.95	12.74
Quemado	55.8	75	42	0.57	4.11	8.21	1.73	11.41
Socorro	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.53	7.37
T or C	68.3	87	54	0.64	1.20	5.87	1.08	7.67
Southeast								
Alamogordo	70.3	91	55	1.05	1.73	10.61	1.99	9.91
Carlsbad	72.1	93	56	0.00	0.08	6.94	2.75	10.74
Carrizozo	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.28	3.67	1.88	10.12
Las Cruces	72.6	92	57	1.33	1.91	4.92	1.36	7.28
Roswell	65.8	92	53	0.03	1.22	6.95	1.87	10.64
Ruidoso	57.9	79	44	1.28	2.57	15.62	2.50	17.53
Tatum	66.3	87	52	0.22	0.27	11.91	2.36	13.53

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