



# Weekly Ag Update

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## INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE - JUNE 19, 2006

Crop Weather      Milk Production      Livestock Outlook

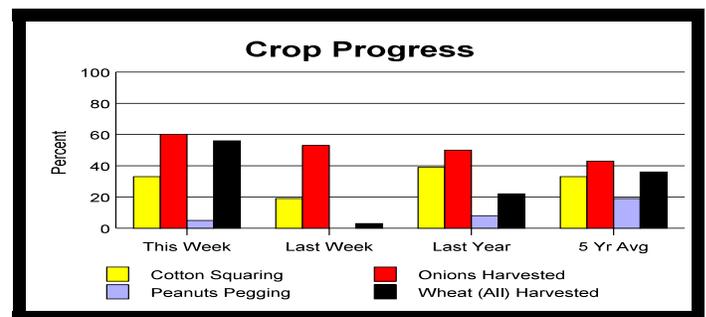
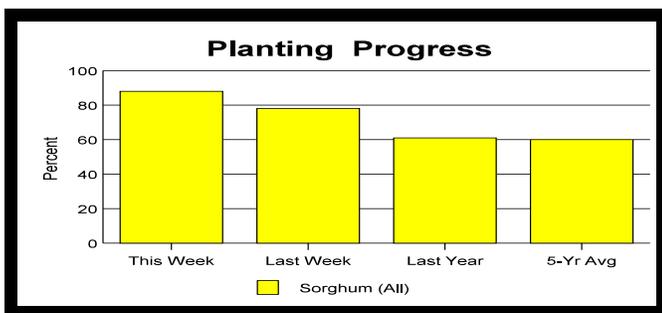
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## CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 18, 2006

**NEW MEXICO:** There were 6.9 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 49% very short, 40% short, and 11% adequate. Wind damage was 23% light, 17% moderate, and 7% severe. Farmers spent the week irrigating and harvesting. Alfalfa was reported as 1% very poor, 1% poor, 30% fair, 63% good and 5% excellent with 90% of the second cutting complete and 22% of the third cutting complete. Irrigated sorghum was reported as mostly good condition and 83% planted. Dry sorghum was reported as very poor to poor condition and 90% planted. Total sorghum planted is 88%, condition reported as 33% very poor, 33% poor, 1% fair, and 33% good. Irrigated winter wheat condition was reported as poor to good with 14% harvested. Dryland wheat condition was reported as very poor to poor with 78% harvested. Total wheat was reported as 59% very poor, 15% poor, 9% fair and 17% good and 56% harvested. Peanuts were reported as fair to excellent and 5% pegged. Pecan conditions were fair to excellent. Cotton was reported as 18% fair, 64% good and 18% excellent with 33% squaring. Chile condition was in fair to excellent condition. Onions were in fair to excellent condition with 60% harvested. Corn condition was in mostly fair to good condition. Fires in the northwest have caused poor air quality, although no reports as of yet on damages. Cattle conditions were reported at 3% very poor, 16% poor, 53% fair, 14% good and 14% excellent. Sheep were 14% very poor, 46% poor, 35% fair, and 5% good. Ranges and pastures are needing moisture with conditions reported as 39% very poor, 38% poor, 18% fair, and 5% good. Farmers and ranchers report no rain and ranchers are decreasing their cattle numbers. Ranchers continue to supplement feed and haul water with reports of difficulty obtaining hay. Cattle conditions are up because of supplemental feeding.

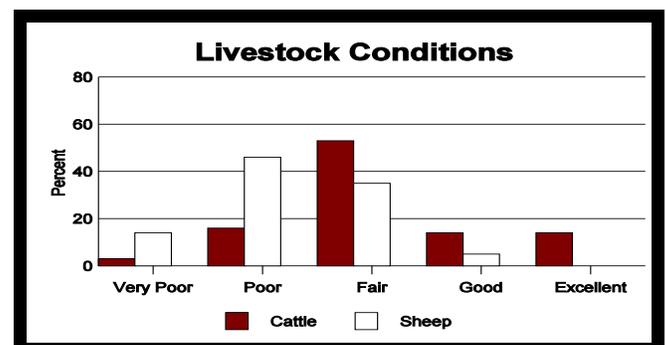
### CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
<b>COTTON</b>	Squaring	33	19	39	33
<b>ONIONS</b>	Harvested	60	53	50	43
<b>PEANUTS</b>	Pegging	5	N/A	8	19
<b>SORGHUM (ALL)</b>	Planted	88	78	61	60
<b>WHEAT (ALL)</b>	Harvested	56	3	22	36



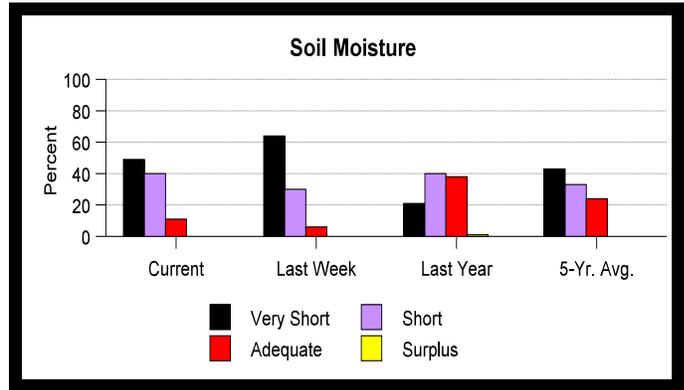
### CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	1	1	30	63	5
Chile	---	---	5	90	5
Corn	---	---	6	84	10
Cotton	---	---	18	64	18
Pecans	---	---	8	75	17
Peanuts	---	---	15	75	10
Sorghum (All)	33	33	1	33	---
Wheat (All)	59	15	9	17	---
Cattle	3	16	53	14	14
Sheep	14	46	35	5	---
Range/Pasture	39	38	18	5	---



**SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES**

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	39	42	19	---
Northeast	68	27	5	---
Southwest	50	50	---	---
Southeast	20	55	25	---
State Current	49	40	11	---
State-Last Week	64	30	6	---
State-Last Year	21	40	38	1
State-5-Yr Avg.	43	33	24	---



**WEATHER SUMMARY**

It was another dry week for all but a few spots in the far northeast. Only Capulin received more than 0.05 inches of rainfall from scattered thunderstorms late in the week. Temperatures started the week well above normal and also finished that way Sunday. In between, colder air behind an upper level trough provided a one day respite from the heat on Friday for most of the state.

**NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - JUNE 12 - 18, 2006**

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	06/12 06/18	06/01 06/18	Normal June	01/01 06/18	Normal Jan-Jun
Farmington	72.4	96	48	0.00	0.28	0.22	2.02	3.37
Gallup	66.9	92	38	0.00	0.20	0.45	1.76	4.19
Capulin	66.0	90	41	0.67	1.40	2.11	3.50	7.27
Chama	59.4	86	34	0.00	0.25	1.12	3.97	8.84
Johnson Ranch	67.8	94	41	0.00	0.94	0.68	1.40	3.77
Las Vegas	70.8	94	43	0.00	0.13	2.04	1.74	6.40
Los Alamos	69.6	89	47	0.00	0.23	1.36	1.79	6.41
Raton	71.1	95	46	0.00	0.49	1.99	1.60	7.16
Red River	58.7	81	31	0.05	0.85	1.40	7.93	8.92
Santa Fe	72.2	95	48	0.00	0.14	1.17	1.17	5.26
Clayton	78.2	101	55	0.01	0.11	2.27	1.98	6.30
Clovis	81.5	102	56	0.00	0.58	2.84	3.35	7.01
Roy	74.6	97	53	0.00	0.06	2.08	1.72	6.06
Tucumcari	83.4	106	53	0.00	0.95	1.78	3.01	5.27
Grants	69.4	94	40	0.00	0.17	0.55	1.07	3.03
Quemado	67.3	92	38	0.00	0.39	0.74	1.54	4.19
Albuquerque	79.5	97	57	0.00	0.11	0.59	0.42	3.05
Carrizozo	76.2	98	48	0.00	0.33	0.78	1.03	3.50
Socorro	74.3	98	49	0.00	0.50	0.57	0.73	2.50
Gran Quivera	75.9	95	53	0.00	0.08	1.01	0.45	4.71
Moriarty	72.6	96	43	0.00	0.13	0.92	0.92	3.99
Ruidoso	67.9	90	42	0.00	0.59	1.86	2.12	6.97
Carlsbad	86.4	109	62	0.00	0.00	1.30	2.27	3.95
Roswell	82.1	106	58	0.00	0.10	1.52	1.00	4.75
Tatum	80.4	104	58	0.00	0.22	2.03	2.54	6.17
Alamogordo	86.1	103	70	0.00	0.35	0.90	0.84	3.28
Animas	75.4	102	49	0.00	0.30	0.44	0.68	2.48
Deming	81.6	106	57	0.00	0.22	0.55	0.80	2.28
Las Cruces	82.6	103	62	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.58	2.27
T or C	82.4	102	65	0.00	0.10	0.69	0.41	2.58

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

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

## MILK PRODUCTION

**NEW MEXICO:** Milk production in the State during May totaled 705 million pounds, a 7.5% increase over the previous month's total of 656 million pounds. Production per cow averaged 1,980 pounds during May compared to 1,875 pounds per cow the previous month. The number of milk cows on farms increased by 6,000 head to 356,000 head.

**UNITED STATES:** Milk production in the 23 major States during May totaled 14.7 billion pounds, up 2.8 percent from May 2005. April revised production, at 14.2 billion pounds, was up 3.7 percent from April 2005. The April revision represented a decrease of 2 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,782 pounds for May, 22 pounds above May 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.26 million head, 128,000 head more than May 2005, and 19,000 head more than April 2006.

**Milk Cows and Production: April 2006 <sup>1/</sup> and May 2005-2006**

State	Milk Cows <sup>2/</sup>			Milk per Cow <sup>3/</sup>			Milk Production <sup>3/</sup>		
	5/05	4/06	5/06	5/05	4/06	5/06	5/05	4/06	5/06
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	163	172	173	2,085	2,145	2,145	340	369	371
CA	1,751	1,785	1,785	1,880	1,855	1,890	3,292	3,311	3,374
CO	104	108	109	1,950	1,910	2,000	203	206	218
FL	138	133	133	1,580	1,590	1,600	218	211	213
ID	445	478	485	1,930	1,850	1,930	859	884	936
IL	104	103	103	1,660	1,650	1,690	173	170	174
IN	157	165	166	1,800	1,715	1,750	283	283	291
IA	193	200	200	1,845	1,765	1,790	356	353	358
KS	112	112	113	1,815	1,810	1,870	203	203	211
KY	107	99	99	1,195	1,230	1,260	128	122	125
MI	312	317	319	1,915	1,855	1,910	597	588	609
MN	455	450	450	1,610	1,575	1,635	733	709	736
MO	119	116	116	1,490	1,500	1,470	177	174	171
<b>NM</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>1,880</b>	<b>1,875</b>	<b>1,980</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>705</b>
NY	646	649	648	1,665	1,590	1,660	1,076	1,032	1,076
OH	270	273	273	1,595	1,530	1,600	431	418	437
OR	121	121	121	1,660	1,490	1,550	201	180	188
PA	565	557	556	1,675	1,650	1,700	946	919	945
TX	320	328	330	1,830	1,935	1,970	586	635	650
VT	144	143	142	1,650	1,560	1,630	238	223	231
VA	105	103	103	1,535	1,540	1,545	161	159	159
WA	243	237	237	2,025	1,950	2,025	492	462	480
WI	1,234	1,241	1,242	1,630	1,580	1,655	2,011	1,961	2,056
<b>23 STS</b>	<b>8,131</b>	<b>8,240</b>	<b>8,259</b>	<b>1,760</b>	<b>1,727</b>	<b>1,782</b>	<b>14,311</b>	<b>14,228</b>	<b>14,714</b>

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## LIVESTOCK OUTLOOK

June 15, 2006 - Economic Research Service, USDA

**Pasture and Range Conditions Increasingly a Concern:** Except for a few good rains in the eastern Plains and Corn Belt, the United States, especially the Southwest, remains extremely dry. The corn crop is mostly (95 percent) in fair to excellent condition for this time of year and is slightly better than last year at the same time. While May 1st hay stocks are the lowest in the last 3 years, hay use over the December 1, 2005-to-May 1, 2006, period was actually lower than the previous two winters. This was largely due to a fairly mild, open winter.

Feeder cattle prices have improved a couple of dollars per hundred pounds over the last few weeks because of the improved summer pasture prospects brought about by recent rains over the eastern portion of the Southern High Plains and because of the low supplies of feeder cattle outside feedlots. Mexico announced that it will now accept certain bone-in products. Cow prices continue at \$50 to \$54 per cwt, although slaughter continued above a year earlier.

Cattle-on-feed inventories on May 1, 2006, were the largest inventories for the series, which began in 1996. Placements were down 2 percent from April 2005, but 2 percent above April 2004. April 2006 marketings, the lowest since 1996 when the current series began, were below levels for both 2005 and 2004. Reports of cattle feeders losing over \$150 per head have surfaced. Commercial cattle slaughter was 2 percent higher than April 2005 slaughter, and average federally inspected dressed weights were 18 pounds heavier than April 2005 weights. Heifers made up 30.7 percent of the January-April 2006 federally inspected slaughter mix, down from 2005's 31.7 percent, which supports the notion that greater numbers of replacement heifers are being retained.

Beef production was 5 percent above April 2005 production. The premium for Choice beef over Select beef is now above \$20 per hundred pounds, cutout value. Retail prices for April 2006 moved up slightly from March 2006 and have been above \$4 per pound since November 2005. The April 2006 spread between fed cattle prices and retail prices widened seasonally and is the widest it has been since August 2005. At the same time, the byproduct allowance has declined to its lowest level in several years. Cold storage stocks are down from a month earlier, but up from a year ago (2005).

Beef production is expected to rise over 7 percent above a year ago this spring quarter and to be near 6 percent larger this summer. Fed prices are expected to average \$80-\$81 this spring, down from the first quarter average of \$89.24 per cwt, a record for first quarters. Year-to-year production increases will moderate in the fourth quarter as the large fall/winter placements are marketed. Prices are expected to rise from the upper \$70s this summer to the low- to mid-\$80s this fall. Year-to-year production increases will moderate in 2007, and prices are expected to average near the mid-\$80s. Further progress on opening export markets would add support to prices, although export growth back to 2003 levels is expected to be slow and face competition.