



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



MONTHLY AG UPDATE – MARCH 31, 2009

nass-nm@nass.usda.gov

USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

Issue 2009 03 31 AG

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CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico feedlots, with capacity of 1,000 or more head, totaled 148,000 head on March 1, 2009, down 10,000 from the previous month's total of 158,000. Placements for February totaled 9,000 head. Marketing's totaled 18,000 in February an increase of 5,000 from the previous month's total of 13,000 head. Other disappearance totaled 1,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots, with capacity of 1,000 or more head, totaled 11.2 million head on March 1, 2009. The inventory was 5 percent below March 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.68 million, 3 percent below 2008. Net placements were 1.62 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE – MARCH 2009

<u>Report</u>	<u>Release Date</u>
Cattle on Feed	March 20, 2009
Milk Production	March 18, 2009
Grain Stocks	March 31, 2009
Farm & Livestock	February 13, 2009
Prospective Plantings	March 31, 2009
Agricultural Prices	March 30, 2009
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pounds were 320,000, 600-699 pounds were 385,000, 700-799 pounds were 538,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 435,000. Marketing's of fed cattle during February totaled 1.68 million, 5 percent below 2008. Other disappearance totaled 56,000 during February, 7 percent below 2008. This is the lowest other disappearance for the month of February since the series began in 1996.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketing's, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance ^{2/}		
	03/1/08	02/1/09	03/1/09	DURING								
				02/08	01/08	02/09	02/08	01/09	02/09	02/08	01/09	02/09
AZ	377	349	342	36	27	26	30	35	32	2	1	1
CA	545	480	460	60	51	36	63	59	54	7	2	2
CO	1,050	1,020	1,040	155	200	190	190	170	165	5	10	5
ID	235	215	215	39	37	38	38	41	37	1	1	1
IA	560	520	520	62	81	62	69	59	61	3	2	1
KS	2,410	2,260	2,290	390	435	420	400	430	375	10	15	15
NE	2,490	2,400	2,330	350	400	310	360	360	370	10	10	10
NM	160	158	148	15	9	9	14	13	18	1	2	1
OK	350	330	330	45	54	51	48	57	49	2	2	2
SD	235	225	225	47	43	43	40	35	39	2	3	4
TX	2,920	2,810	2,820	440	440	430	440	405	410	10	15	10
WA	151	151	153	30	30	28	30	35	25	2	1	1
Oth Sts	370	370	355	54	51	35	54	38	47	5	3	3
US	11,853	11,288	11,228	1,723	1,858	1,678	1,776	1,737	1,682	60	67	56

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 2.5 PERCENT

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in New Mexico during February totaled 626 million pounds compared to 607 million pounds during the same time period in 2008. Milk per cow for the month averaged 1,880 pounds. Number of milk cows on farms was 333,000 head compared to 334,000 head in January 2009.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 13.7 billion pounds, down 2.5 percent from February 2008. January revised production at 14.9 billion pounds, was up 1.1 percent from January 2008. The January revision represented an increase of 52 million pounds or 0.4 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Please see the special note. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,608 pounds for February, 48 pounds below

February 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.49 million head, 31,000 head more than February 2008, but 16,000 head less than January 2009.

SPECIAL NOTE

NASS added Utah to the monthly estimating program and removed Kentucky beginning with this report. Historic estimates have been created for Utah for 2008 and January 2009 for comparison purposes. The inclusion of Utah and exclusion of Kentucky accounted for 43 of the 52 million pound revision to the 23-State milk production total for January 2009. The remaining 9 million pounds was a result of the normal revision process.

Milk Cows and Production: January 2009 ^{1/} and February 2008 - 2009

State	Milk Cows ^{2/}			Milk per Cow ^{3/}			Milk Production ^{3/}		
	02/08	01/09	02/09	02/08	01/09	02/09	02/08	01/09	02/09
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	185	189	189	1,960	1,980	1,870	363	374	353
CO	126	129	128	1,800	1,940	1,780	227	250	228
NM	340	334	333	1,785	2,015	1,880	607	673	626
TX	404	430	430	1,635	1,780	1,650	661	765	710
23 STS	8,457	8,504	8,488	1,656	1,753	1,608	14,007	14,907	13,650

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

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

NEW MEXICO: **Corn** growers intend to plant 130,000 acres of corn for all purposes in 2009, down 7 percent from 2008. **Sorghum** growers intend to plant 120,000 acres. **Winter wheat** planted acreage is 440,000 acres, an increase of 2 percent from 2008. **Peanut** intended plantings are 7,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2008. **Upland cotton** growers intend to plant 33,000 acres, down 11 percent from 2008. **Pima cotton** growers intend to plant 2,500 acres, down 7 percent from 2008. **All hay** area to be harvested this year is 330,000 acres, down 3 percent from 2008.

UNITED STATES: **Corn** growers intend to plant 85.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2009, down 1 percent from last year as lower corn prices and unstable input costs are discouraging some

growers from planting corn. **All wheat** planted area is estimated at 58.6 million acres, down 7 percent from 2008. **All cotton** plantings for 2009 are expected to total 8.81 million acres, 7 percent below last year and the lowest since 1983. **Upland** area is expected to total 8.67 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. **American-Pima** cotton growers intend to plant 143,500 acres, down 18 percent from 2008.

Peanut growers intend to plant 1.12 million acres of peanuts in 2009, down 27 percent from the previous year. The 2009 **sorghum** area intended to be planted for all purposes is estimated at 6.96 million acres, down 16 percent from 2008. **Hay** producers intend to harvest 60.3 million acres of all hay in 2009, up slightly from 2008.

Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 2007-2009

	New Mexico				United States			
	2007	2008	2009 ^{1/}	2009/2008	2007	2008	2009 ^{1/}	2009/2008
	-----1,000 Acres-----				Percent			
Corn	135	140	130	93	93,527	85,982	84,986	99
Sorghum	105	130	120	92	7,712	8,284	6,960	84
All Wheat	490	430	440	102	60,460	63,147	58,638	93
Winter	490	430	440	102	45,012	46,281	42,889	93
Soybeans	---	---	---	---	64,741	75,718	76,024	100
Peanuts	10.0	8.0	7.0	88	1,230.0	1,534.0	1,124.0	73
All Cotton	47.7	39.7	35.5	89	10,827.2	9,470.0	8,811.5	93
Upland	43.0	37.0	33.0	89	10,535.0	9,296.0	8,668.0	93
A-P	4.7	2.7	2.5	93	292.2	174.0	143.5	82
All Hay ^{2/}	350	340	330	97	61,006	60,062	60,297	100

^{1/} Intended plantings in 2009 as indicated by reports from farmers; ^{2/} Intended area harvested in 2008 as indicated by reports farmers.

GRAIN STOCKS

Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2009 totaled 6.96 billion bushels, up 1 percent from March 1, 2008. Of the total stocks, 4.09 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 8 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.87 billion bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2008 - February 2009 indicated disappearance is 3.12 billion bushels, compared with 3.42 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions on March 1, 2009 totaled 209 million bushels, up 12 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 32.2 million bushels, are up 23 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks,

at 177 million bushels, are up 11 percent from a year earlier. The December 2008 - February 2009 indicated disappearance from all positions is 103 million bushels, down 2 percent from the same period last year.

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2009 totaled 1.04 billion bushels, up 46 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 280 million bushels, up 205 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 756 million bushels, are up 23 percent from a year ago. The December 2008 - February 2009 indicated disappearance is 386 million bushels, down 9 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Date	2008			2009		
	On Farms	Off Farms ^{1/}	Total All Positions	On Farms	Off Farms ^{1/}	Total All Positions
-----1,000 Bushels-----						
CORN						
Mar 1	3,780,000	3,078,722	6,858,722	4,085,000	2,873,397	6,958,397
June 1	1,970,900	2,057,117	4,028,017			
Sep 1	499,950	1,124,200	1,624,150			
Dec 1	6,482,000	3,595,564	10,077,564			
SORGHUM						
Mar 1	26,100	159,808	185,908	32,200	176,593	208,793
June 1	7,000	94,019	101,019			
Sep 1	3,550	49,200	52,750			
Dec 1	54,400	257,646	312,046			
ALL WHEAT						
Mar 1	91,990	617,280	709,270	280,200	756,372	1,036,572
June 1	25,635	280,183	305,818			
Sep 1	635,700	1,222,423	1,858,123			
Dec 1	454,000	968,374	1,422,374			

^{1/} Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

FARMS, LAND IN FARMS, AND LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

NEW MEXICO: Number of farms and ranches in 2008 is estimated at 20,600, a decline of 200 farms from 2007. The reduction in farms is in the smaller sales classes. The **land in farms and ranches** is estimated at 43 million acres, down 0.5 percent from 2007.

Cattle and calves are raised on 9,500 of the farms and ranches or 46 percent of all operations. There are 2,900 operations raising **sheep and lambs** and 2,300 operations raising **goats**.

UNITED STATES: The **number of farms** in the United States in 2008 is estimated at 2.2 million, 0.2 percent fewer than in 2007. **Total land in farms**, at 919.9

million acres, decreased 1.56 million acres, or 0.2 percent, from 2007. The **average farm size** was 418 acres, unchanged from the previous year.

The decline in the number of farms and land in farms reflects a continuing consolidation in farming operations and diversion of agricultural land to nonagricultural uses.

Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these "sales classes" by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, and \$500,000.

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS,

State	Number of Farms		Land in Farms		Average Farm Size	
	2007 ^{1/}	2008	2007 ^{1/}	2008	2007 ^{1/}	2008
	-----Number-----		-----1,000 Acres-----		-----Acres-----	
AZ	15,600	15,600	26,100	26,100	1,673	1,673
CO	36,900	36,500	31,400	31,300	851	858
NM	21,000	20,600	43,200	43,000	2,057	2,087
TX	247,500	247,500	130,400	130,400	527	527
US	2,204,950	2,200,000	921,460	919,900	418	418

^{1/} Revised.

Number of Farms: Economic Sales Class by State, Region, United States 2007-2008

State	Economic Sales Class					
	2007 ^{1/}	2008	2007 ^{1/}	2008	2007 ^{1/}	2008
	\$1,000-\$9,999		\$10,000-\$99,999		\$100,000-\$249,999	
	-----Number-----					
AZ	12,000	12,000				
CO	21,000	20,600	10,600	10,400	2,500	2,600
NM	14,100	13,800	5,100	5,000	800	800
TX	163,800	163,800	65,100	65,100	7,600	7,500
US	1,228,560	1,222,000	608,670	604,500	150,300	149,000
State	\$250,000-\$499,999		\$500,000 & Over		Total	
	-----Number-----					
AZ					15,600	15,600
CO	1,300	1,200	1,500	1,700	36,900	36,500
NM	400	400	600	600	21,000	20,600
TX	4,500	4,500	6,500	6,600	247,500	247,500
US	97,230	98,500	120,190	126,000	2,204,950	2,200,000

^{1/} Revised.

FARMS, LAND IN FARMS, AND LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS

Number of Operations by State, United States 2007 ^{1/}

State	Cattle and Calves	Beef Cows ^{2/}	Milk Cows ^{2/}
	-----Number-----		
AZ	7,700	5,300	180
CO	14,700	11,600	450
NM	9,500	8,200	270
TX	152,000	132,000	1,300
US	965,510	766,350	69,995

^{1/} Revised. ^{2/} Included in operations with cattle.

Cattle and Calves: Number of Operations by Size Group, Selected States and United State, 2007 ^{1/}

State	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500-999 Head	1000+ Head
	-----Number-----				
AZ	6,700	350	440	90	120
CO	9,700	1,700	2,400	560	340
NM	6,900	880	1,200	235	285
TX	113,000	17,900	17,700	2,000	1,400
US	646,100	137,560	151,850	19,190	10,810

^{1/} Revised.

Cattle and Calves: Percent of Inventory by Size Group, Selected States and United State, 2007 ^{1/}

State	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500-999 Head	1000+ Head
	-----Percent-----				
AZ	6.4	2.3	8.3	6.0	77.0
CO	5.0	4.0	19.0	13.0	59.0
NM	6.0	4.0	17.0	11.0	62.0
TX	13.5	9.0	26.0	22.0	42.0
US	11.5	9.8	31.4	13.4	33.9

^{1/} Revised.

Beef Cows: Percent of Inventory by Size Group, Selected States and United States, 2007 ^{1/}

State	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500+ Head
	-----Percent-----			
AZ	21.0	9.0	31.0	39.0
CO	17.0	12.0	47.0	24.0
NM	16.0	10.0	35.0	39.0
TX	31.0	17.0	36.0	16.0
US	28.7	17.2	38.0	16.1

^{1/} Revised.

Milk Cows: Percent of Inventory by Size Group, Selected States and United States, 2007 ^{1/ 2/}

State	1-29 Head	30-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-199 Head	200-499 Head	500+ Head
	-----Percent-----					
AZ	0.1			0.3	1.3	98.3
CO	1.0	0.6	0.8	2.3	9.8	85.5
NM	0.1			0.2	0.7	99.0
TX	0.5	0.2	1.1	5.2	11.0	82.0
US	2.0	5.2	14.0	13.0	13.9	51.9

^{1/} Revised. ^{2/} Missing data combined with other size groups to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Livestock Operations: Number of Operations with Hog, Sheep, Goats by State, and United States, 2007 ^{1/}

State	Hogs	Sheep	Angora Goats	Milk Goats	Meat & Other Goats	All Goats
	-----Number-----					
AZ	380	5,000	1,500	270	1,700	3,400
CO	1,200	1,600	180	780	2,200	2,700
NM	400	2,900	740	250	1,500	2,300
TX	4,500	8,700	780	2,100	24,800	26,400
US	75,450	83,130	7,190	27,400	123,200	144,510

^{1/} Revised.



2007 Census of Agriculture

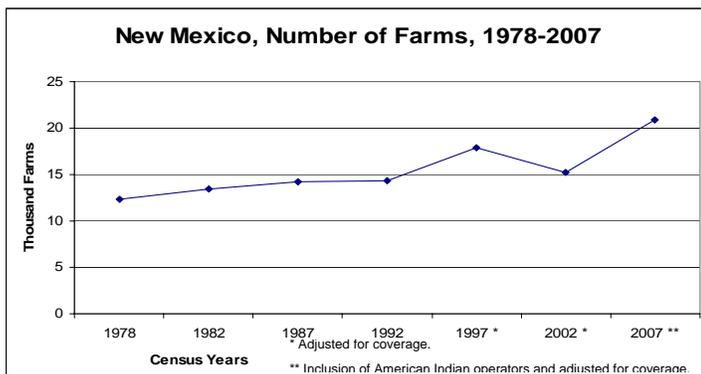
History of the Census of Agriculture, Number of Farms, and Land in Farms

History: The 2007 Census of Agriculture presents a snapshot of the current economic health, industry structure, and operator demographics for America's farms and ranches. The Census of Agriculture began in 1850 and was conducted by the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, through the 1992 Census. Responsibility for the Census of Agriculture was transferred to USDA in 1997.

Historically, Native American populations were not included in the censuses. The American Indian populations and farms were represented by an estimate of the households and farms from the tribal leaders and federal government agencies servicing the tribes. The production agriculture data was included in the crop and livestock tables, but each tribe was represented as a single farm in the demographic data. The estimated number of farm operators on the reservations was in a special table in the Appendix.

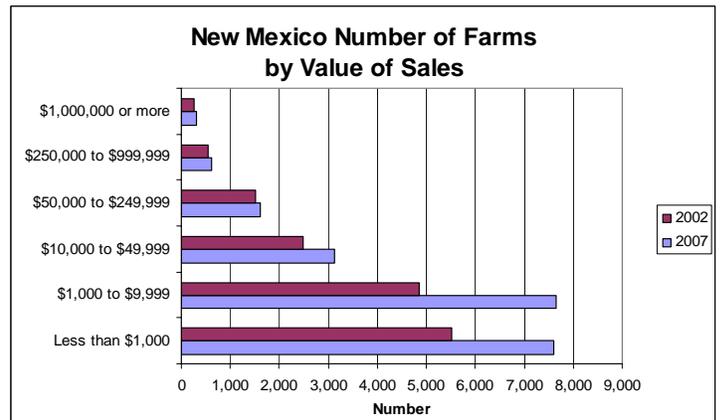
The Bureau of the Census included Native Americans in the 2000 Population Census, by individual household, for the first time. For the 2007 Census of Agriculture, the American Indian farm operators reported individually for the first time. Some of the changes from the 2002 Census reflect this change in procedures.

Number of Farms: The number of farms and ranches in New Mexico has trended upward over the last 30 years. This is a reflection of Americans' choice to live in rural areas and the "country lifestyle." The following chart shows these changes.



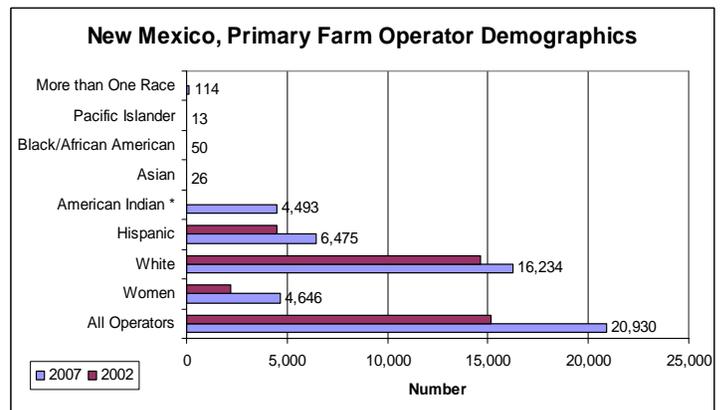
With the 1997 Census, NASS began adjusting the data for coverage, in addition to the non-response adjustment utilized historically. This provided data users a more complete picture of the industry and rural America. A farm is defined as any agricultural operation that generates \$1,000 in sales

or has the potential to generate \$1,000 in sales. The 2007 Census counted 20,930 farms, an increase of 5,760 farms from 2002. The change reflects the inclusion of agricultural operators on American Indian reservations for the first time in history and the outreach efforts to all minority operators, which were believed to be undercounted.



The chart above presents a comparison, between 2002 and 2007, of the number of farms by sales category. The two categories with the largest number of farms are in the smallest sales categories, reflecting the lifestyle, retirement, and cultural aspects of these operations. Many of the American Indian operators met the definition of these small sales categories.

A quick look at the demographics of the primary operators of the farms and ranches shows the large increases in American Indian and Hispanic operators. The number of women operators more than doubled from 2002, reflecting the American Indian cultures.

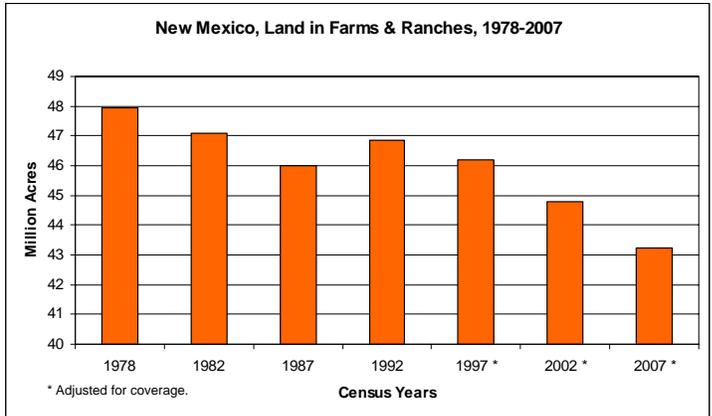


NASS had a stronger outreach program for all minority groups for the 2007 Census. In New Mexico, this effort is reflected most obviously by the increase in Hispanic operators.

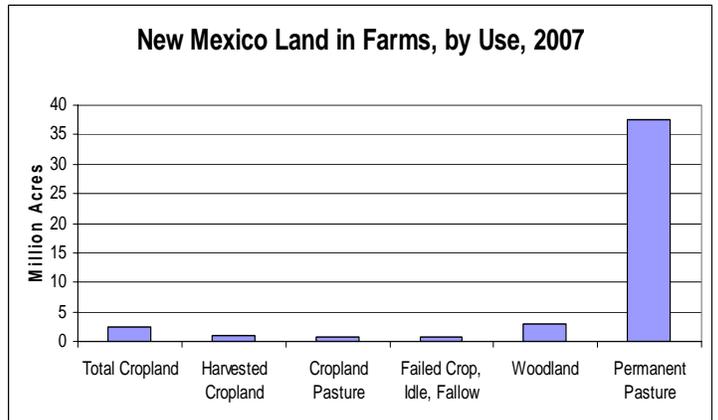
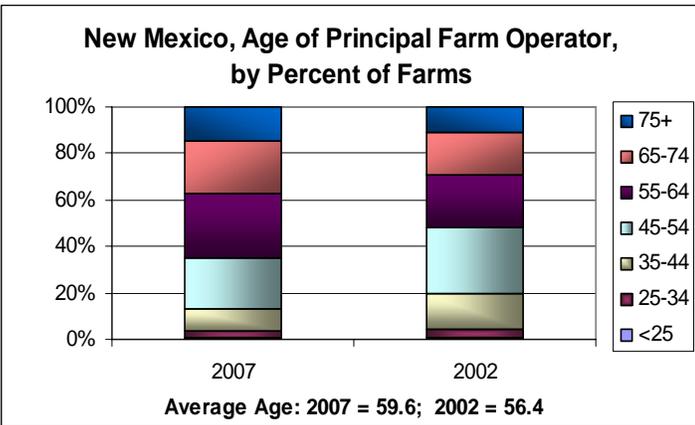
American farm and ranch operators continue to age as can be seen in the following chart and table. The operators' average age increased by 3.2 years during the five year period to 59.6 years.

Census	Age Group							Average Age
	<25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	
2007	131	687	1,937	4,652	5,779	4,691	3,053	59.6
% of Farms	0.6	3.3	9.3	22.2	27.6	22.4	14.6	
2002	124	577	2,308	4,334	3,415	2,728	1,684	56.4

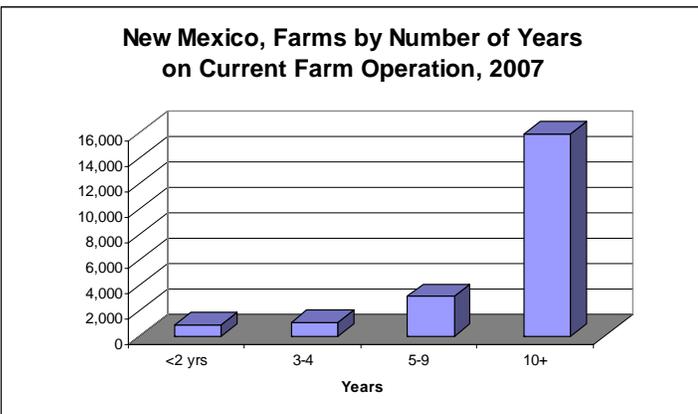
on a fee per head basis. Public land is an integral part of some ranch operations, particularly where the land ownership is a patchwork of private land and public land. The public land was not always excluded from the land-in-farm for some of these operations and impacts the land totals when comparing values between censuses.



The majority of land in farms is utilized for livestock production and is native or permanent pasture. The chart below presents the land use for New Mexico.

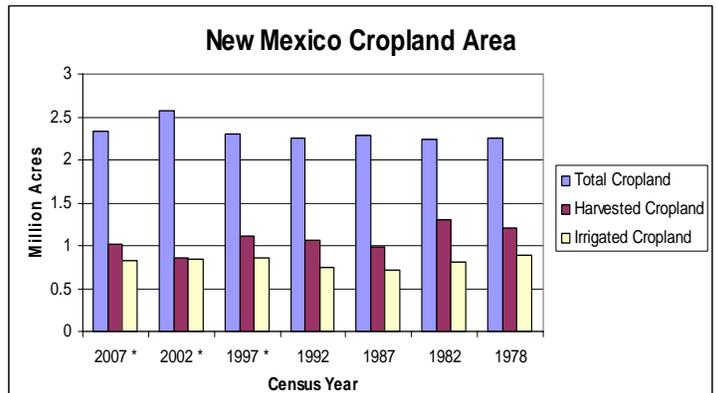


There were 1.01 million acres of cropland harvested in 2007, compared to 0.86 million in 2002. This is a reflection of the climate conditions and the higher failed crop area in 2002. The following chart looks at cropland, the area harvested, and the area irrigated over the last 30 year.



Another operator demographic is the number of year on the current operation. The chart above shows that 76 percent of operators have been on the current operation for 10 or more years.

Land in Farms: There were 42.24 million acres of land in farms and ranches in New Mexico in 2007, a decrease of 3.5 percent from 2002. Land-in-farm is equal to land owned, plus land rented, minus land rented to others. Land utilized for grazing on a fee per head basis should be excluded. Most public land (BLM, Forest Service, and State) is utilized



AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: Hay prices for the month of March remained constant with the February prices of \$191.00 per ton for all hay, and \$194.00 per ton for Alfalfa hay. Cow prices were down slightly from \$46.90 per hundredweight last month, to \$46.00 per hundredweight currently. Steer and Heifer prices also followed this

trend, dropping from \$87.00 to \$86.50. The price of calves however, went up one dollar, from \$106.00 per hundredweight in February, to \$107.00 per hundredweight in March. Milk prices decreased to \$10.70 per hundredweight, compared to \$11.00 the previous month.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2009 and March 2008- 09

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		March 2008 ^{1/}	February 2009 ^{2/}	March 2009 ^{1/}	March
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	-	-	-	5.54
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	-	-	-	.409
Potatoes	Cwt.	-	-	-	9.07
Hay, all baled	Ton	168.00	191.00	191.00	129.00
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	173.00	194.00	194.00	137.00
Peanuts	Lb.	-	-	-	.256
Corn	Bu.	-	-	-	3.96
Wheat, all	Bu.	-	-	-	5.85
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	31.90
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	100.00
Cows	Cwt.	52.40	46.90	46.00	44.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	100.00	87.00	86.50	83.50
Calves	Cwt.	119.00	106.00	107.00	104.00
Milk	Cwt.	17.70	11.00	10.70	11.50

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