



## 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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nm), or by email (1-800-530-8810 for information)

### CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

**NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa** conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 80 percent of the fifth cutting complete and 41 percent of the sixth cutting completed. **Cotton** conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 91 percent setting bolls and 56 percent bolls opening. **Corn** conditions were mostly good with 99 percent dough, 77 percent dent and 46 percent mature. Irrigated sorghum conditions were mostly good with 99 percent coloring and 11 percent mature. **Dry sorghum** conditions ranged from poor to good with 83 percent coloring and 13 percent mature. Irrigated winter wheat was 97 percent planted and 71 percent emerged. **Dry winter** wheat was 100 percent planted and 88 percent emerged. **Peanut** conditions were mostly fair with 98 percent pegging. **Chile** conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 8 percent light pod set, 52 percent average pod set, 40 percent heavy pod set, 91 percent of the green chile harvested, and 18 percent of the red chile was harvested.

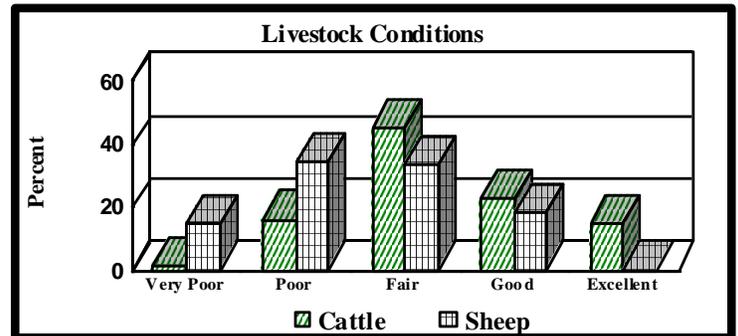
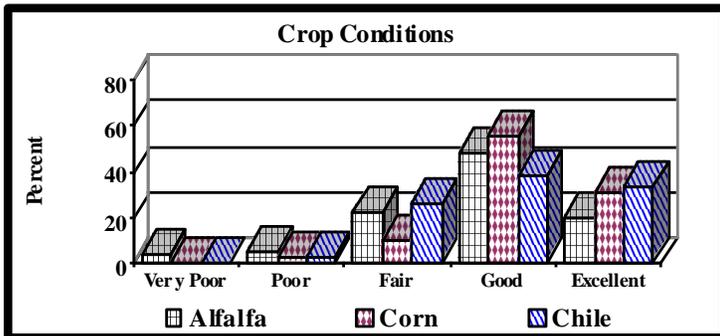
**Pecan** conditions ranged from fair to excellent with 7 percent light nut set, 52 percent average nut set and 41 percent heavy nut set. **Cattle** conditions ranged from poor to excellent. **Sheep** conditions ranged from very poor to good. **Range and pasture** conditions ranged from very poor to good. There were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork. **Topsoil moisture** was 20 percent very short, 39 percent short, 40 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Wind damage was 6 percent light and 1 percent adequate. Hail damage was 1 percent light affecting 3 percent of the corn crop acreages, 3 percent of the sorghum crop acreages, 4 percent of the cotton 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 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	80	75	71	86
Alfalfa	6 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	41	13	---	35
Chile green	Harvested	91	90	88	89
Chile red	Harvested	18	14	23	15
Cotton	Set Bolls	91	89	100	100
Cotton	Open Bolls	56	39	47	60
Corn	Dent	77	72	83	97
Corn	Mature	46	39	39	70
Peanuts	Harvested	---	---	31	13
Sorghum	Mature	12	12	9	12
Sorghum	Turn/Color	89	57	70	67

#### CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	4	5	23	48	20
Chile	---	3	26	38	33
Cotton	---	5	24	40	31
Corn	---	3	10	56	31
Peanuts	---	---	67	33	---
Pecans	---	---	23	33	44
Sorghum	---	25	21	52	2
Cattle	1	16	45	23	15
Sheep	15	34	33	18	---
Range/Pasture	15	34	37	13	1



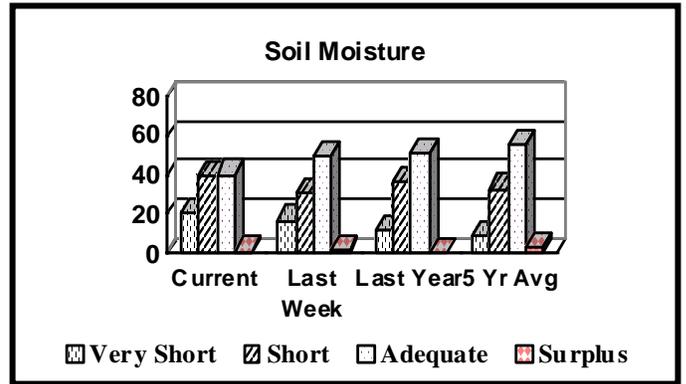
#### County Reporter Comments:

**Rio Arriba** had precipitation on 9/22 - 9/24. **De Baca** had excellent grass going into the fall due to the good rains received in August and September. **Guadalupe** had excellent rangeland conditions due to the very good rains received in September. **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. **Torrance** fall weather continues combined with cool nights and warm days. **Catron/Socorro** rains kept most farmers out of the field for the

most part. Hay activity stopped to allow fields to dry out. Chile harvest was slow, also waiting for muddy fields to dry up. Reports of chile production are at normal but the size of the chile is smaller, might be due to the late, cool spring or the hot dry August. Ranchers, with no grass for the winter are busy gathering and shipping cattle, much earlier than normal, also reports of heavy culling and even having to sell herds due to no grass. Range conditions will remain in poor condition now due to cool nighttime temps. **Lea** farmers and ranchers were planting wheat and working cattle. Things are decent. Cool weather is causing slow growth in grass lands. **Otero** pistachio harvest is approximately 90% complete.

### SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	19	39	37	5
Northeast	15	41	44	---
Southwest	40	18	42	---
Southeast	10	52	37	1
State Current	20	39	40	1
State-Last Week	17	31	50	2
State-Last Year	12	37	51	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	9	33	55	3



### WEATHER SUMMARY

An unseasonably cold upper low pressure system and associated surface front moved into the state Monday morning and raced south during the day bringing gusty north winds and colder air. The average temperatures during the week were well below

normal for this time of the year. Some areas saw a few strong thunderstorms in the northeast plains and some high elevation snow showers over the northern mountains. The temperatures return back to normal by the weekend.

### NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS – SEPTEMBER 21 - 27, 2009

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Week	Month	Accum.	Normal	Normal
				21 Sept 27 Sept	01 Sept 27 Sept	01 Jan 27 Sept	Sept	Jan-Sept
<b>Northwest</b>								
Albuquerque	61.9	87	45	0.00	1.43	4.98	1.00	7.06
Chama	46.9	80	23	0.24	3.11	14.08	2.23	16.13
Farmington	58.1	88	34	0.00	0.11	3.30	0.97	6.33
Gallup	55.0	85	30	0.00	2.60	7.13	1.31	9.67
Grants	55.3	85	26	0.02	0.66	8.09	1.56	8.51
Johnson Ranch	52.2	82	27	0.00	1.16	3.26	1.33	9.05
Los Alamos	43.5	55	32	0.00	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	53.2	82	29	0.06	2.07	8.55	1.51	11.54
<b>Northeast</b>								
Capulin	48.0	88	25	0.31	0.75	12.44	2.22	15.30
Clayton	59.1	94	37	0.08	0.74	9.86	1.77	13.38
Clovis	61.5	93	39	0.22	0.43	6.31	2.16	14.90
Las Vegas	52.6	84	30	0.13	1.89	9.75	2.40	16.27
Moriarty	50.9	84	29	0.08	1.89	7.29	1.61	10.67
Raton	52.4	89	30	0.12	2.46	9.55	1.61	14.64
Roy	53.7	86	33	0.15	1.20	7.25	1.90	13.74
Tucumcari	61.8	95	35	0.01	0.42	7.87	1.47	12.45
<b>Southwest</b>								
Animas	66.7	88	49	0.00	0.70	3.89	1.68	8.76
Deming	67.9	94	47	0.00	1.35	5.88	1.63	8.11
Gran Quivira	58.4	83	33	0.00	2.17	9.71	1.95	12.74
Quemado	52.0	75	29	0.32	4.43	8.53	1.73	11.41
Socorro	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.53	7.37
T or C	65.3	88	44	0.01	1.21	5.88	1.08	7.67
<b>Southeast</b>								
Alamogordo	65.5	90	41	0.01	1.74	10.62	1.99	9.91
Carlsbad	67.6	97	44	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	68.1	92	50	0.24	2.15	5.16	1.36	7.28
Roswell	60.3	89	38	0.18	1.40	7.13	1.87	10.64
Ruidoso	52.1	77	31	0.00	2.57	15.62	2.50	17.53
Tatum	61.8	92	36	0.29	0.56	12.20	2.36	13.53

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