



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



MONTHLY AG UPDATE – MARCH 2010

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USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

Issue 2010 03 AG

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

CATTLE ON FEED

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 10.9 million head on March 1, 2010. The inventory was 3 percent below March 1, 2009. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.67 million, 1 percent below 2009. Net placements were 1.60 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 320,000, 600-699 pounds were 365,000, 700-799 pounds were 520,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 460,000. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.72 million, 2 percent above 2009. Other disappearance totaled 68,000 during February, 21 percent above 2009.

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE – MARCH 2010	
<u>Report</u>	<u>Release Date</u>
Cattle on Feed	March 19, 2010
Milk Production	March 18, 2010
Onion Plantings	April 1, 2010
Grain Stocks	March 31, 2010
Prospective Plantings	March 31, 2010
Farm Labor	February 18, 2010
Agricultural Prices	March 31, 2010

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance		
	03/01/09	02/01/10	03/1/10	-----DURING-----								
				02/09	01/10	02/10	02/09	01/10	02/10	02/09	01/10	02/10
AZ	342	290	286	26	28	21	32	24	24	1	1	1
CO	1,040	960	940	190	130	160	165	170	175	5	10	5
NM	148	D/	D/	9	D/	D/	18	D/	D/	1	D/	D/
TX	2,820	2,700	2,650	430	420	365	410	390	400	10	10	15
Oth.	355	403	410	35	59	57	47	57	46	3	4	4
US	1,678	*1,822	1,665	1,678	*1,822	1,665	1,682	*1,776	1,717	56	70	68

* Revised. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. 1/ Beginning in July 2009, New Mexico is included in the Other State total.

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION UP 0.1 PERCENT

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in New Mexico during February totaled 595 million pounds. Production per cow averaged 1,870 pounds for February. Number of milk cows on farms remained steady at 318,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 0.1 percent from February 2009. January revised production at 14.8 billion

pounds, was down 0.5 percent from January 2009. The January revision represented an increase of 14 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,640 pounds for February, 35 pounds above February 2009. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.32 million head, 168,000 head less than February 2009, but 3,000 head more than January 2010.

Milk Cows and Production: January 2010 ^{1/} and February 2009 - 2010

State	Milk Cows ^{2/}			Milk per Cow ^{3/}			Milk Production ^{3/}		
	02/09	01/10	02/10	02/09	01/10	02/10	02/09	01/10	02/10
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	189	169	170	1,865	2,055	1,930	352	347	328
CO	128	116	116	1,780	1,930	1,800	228	224	209
NM	333	318	318	1,880	2,015	1,870	626	641	595
TX	430	410	410	1,650	1,805	1,640	710	740	672
23 STS	8,486	8,315	8,318	1,605	1,784	1,640	13,624	14,831	13,643

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

ONIONS

NEW MEXICO: Planted onion acreage for 2010 is 5,500 acres, 300 acres above planted acreage in 2009. Nationally, there were 154,010 planted acres, a decrease of 3,400 acres.

UNITED STATES: Total planted onion area for all seasons in 2010 is forecast at 154,010 acres, down 2 percent from last year.

Spring onions are expected to be harvested from 25,900 acres in 2010, down 5 percent from 2009. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 5.12 million cwt, 7 percent below last year. Summer non-storage onion planted area, at 18,200 acres, is up 2 percent from a year ago. Total summer onion area, at 125,810 acres, is down 1 percent from the previous year.

Onions: Area Planted by Season, State, and United States, 2008-2009 and Forecasted Area 2010

Season and State	Area Planted		
	2008	2009	2010
	-----Acres-----		
Spring 1/			
AZ	1,500	1,600	
TX	11,000	10,300	10,000
Total	31,200	30,100	28,200
Summer 1/			
Non-storage			
NM	7,000	5,200	5,500
TX	800	700	600
Total	20,100	17,900	18,200
Storage			
CO	8,000	8,000	8,200
Total	109,290	109,410	107,610
Total Summer	129,390	127,310	125,810
US	160,590	157,410	154,010

1/ Primarily fresh market.

GRAIN STOCKS

UNITED STATES: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 7.69 billion bushels, up 11 percent from March 1, 2009. Of the total stocks, 4.55 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 11 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.15 billion bushels, are up 10 percent from a year ago. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance is 3.23 billion bushels, compared with 3.12 billion bushels during the same period last year. **All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 1.35 billion bushels, up 30 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 348 million bushels, up 24 percent from last March.

Off-farm stocks, at 1.00 billion bushels, are up 32 percent from a year ago. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance is 429 million bushels, up 12 percent from the same period a year earlier. **Grain sorghum** stored in all positions on March 1, 2010 totaled 175 million bushels, down 15 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 23.7 million bushels, are down 26 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 152 million bushels, are down 13 percent from a year earlier. The December 2009 - February 2010 indicated disappearance from all positions is 75.5 million bushels, down 18 percent from the same period last year.

Date	2009			2010		
	On Farms	Off Farms ^{1/}	Total All Positions	On Farms	Off Farms ^{1/}	Total All Positions
-----1,000 Bushels-----						
CORN						
Mar 1	4,085,000	2,869,145	6,954,145	4,548,000	3,145,940	7,693,940
June 1	2,205,400	2,056,027	4,261,427			
Sep 1	607,500	1,065,811	1,673,311			
Dec 1	7,425,000	3,497,460	10,922,460			
SORGHUM						
Mar 1	32,200	173,650	205,850	23,680	151,581	175,261
June 1	12,000	90,215	102,215			
Sep 1	4,400	50,312	54,712			
Dec 1	48,000	202,733	250,733			
ALL WHEAT						
Mar 1	280,400	759,664	1,040,064	348,200	1,004,133	1,352,333
June 1	140,745	515,760	656,505			
Sep 1	836,000	1,373,338	2,209,338			
Dec 1	558,800	1,222,891	1,781,691			

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

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

NEW MEXICO: Corn growers intend to plant 120,000 acres for all purposes in 2010, down 8 percent from 2009. Sorghum growers intend to plant 85,000 acres, remaining constant with 2009 plantings. Winter wheat planted acreage is 480,000 acres, an increase of 30,000 acres from 2009. Peanut intended plantings are 8,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2009. Upland cotton growers intend to plant 35,000 acres, an increase of 15 percent from 2009. Pima cotton growers intend to plant 4,000 acres, an increase of 33 percent from 2009. All hay area to be harvested this year is 340,000 acres, 6 percent above 2009.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 88.8 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2010, up 3 percent from both last year and 2008. Soybean producers intend to plant 78.1 million acres in 2010, up less than 1 percent from last year. All wheat planted area is estimated at 53.8 million acres, down 9

percent from 2009. The 2010 winter wheat planted area, at 37.7 million acres, is 13 percent below last year but up 2 percent from the previous estimate. All cotton plantings for 2010 are expected to total 10.5 million acres, 15 percent above last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 10.3 million acres, up 15 percent. American-Pima cotton growers intend to increase their plantings by 34 percent from 2009 to 190,000 acres. The 2010 sorghum area intended to be planted for all purposes is estimated at 6.36 million acres, down 4 percent from 2009. Producers expect to harvest 60.5 million acres of all hay in 2010, up 1 percent from 2009. Growers intend to plant 1.20 million acres of peanuts in 2010, up 8 percent from the previous year.

Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 2008-2010

	New Mexico				United States			
	2008	2009	2010 ^{1/}	2010/2009	2008	2009	2010 ^{1/}	2010/2009
	-----1,000 Acres-----		-Percent-		-----1,000 Acres-----		-Percent-	
Corn	140	130	120	92	85,982	86,482	88,798	103
Sorghum	130	85	85	100	8,284	6,633	6,360	96
All Wheat	430	450	480	107	63,193	59,133	53,827	91
Winter	430	450	480	107	46,307	43,311	37,698	87
Soybeans					75,718	77,451	78,098	101
Peanuts	8.0	7.0	8.0	114	1,534.0	1,116.0	1,201.0	108
All Cotton	40.6	33.5	39.0	116	9,471.0	9,149.2	10,505.0	115
Upland	38.0	30.5	35.0	115	9,297.0	9,007.5	10,315.0	115
A-P	2.6	3.0	4.0	133	174.0	141.7	190.0	134
All Hay ^{2/}	340	320	340	106	60,152	59,755	60,460	101

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

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA: There were 19,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona (Mountain Region III) during the week of Jan 10-16, 2010, one thousand less than Jan 11-17, 2009. Average hours worked by all hired workers decreased to 49.4 hours a week compared to 49.7 hours last year. Wage rates for field workers were down 80 cents to \$8.47 an hour from the previous Jan's \$9.27 an hour. Livestock worker wages were down 99 cents to \$9.59 an hour from \$10.58 in Jan 2010. Overall, average wage rates for all hired agricultural workers were \$9.44 an hour.

UNITED STATES: There were 767,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 10-16, 2010, down 2

percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 587,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 180,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.06 per hour during the January 2010 reference week, up 13 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.14 per hour, up 18 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$10.26 per hour compared with \$10.27 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.19 per hour, was up 11 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 37.3 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 3 percent from a year ago.

	Mountain II <u>2/</u>		Mountain III <u>3/</u>		Southern Plains <u>4/</u>		United States <u>5/</u>	
	Jan 11-17 2009	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 11-17 2009	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 11-17 2009	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 11-17 2009	Jan 10-16 2010
Workers on Farms	-----Thousands-----							
All Hired Workers	15	15	20	19	65	55	595	587
Hours Worked	-----Hours Per Week-----							
All Hired Workers	41.5	40.2	49.7	49.4	40.4	36.5	38.3	37.3
Wages By Work	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Field	9.37	10.74	9.27	8.47	10.06	9.01	9.96	10.14
Livestock	8.90	11.30	10.58	9.59	10.24	10.21	10.27	10.26
Field & Livestock	9.05	11.04	9.75	8.90	10.15	9.66	10.08	19.10
All Workers	10.32	11.73	10.30	9.44	10.70	10.00	10.98	11.06

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers. 2/ Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. 3/ Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. 4/ Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. 5/ Excludes AK.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa hay prices for March averaged \$147.00 per ton up \$2 from February, 2010. All hay prices were also up \$2 from the previous month at \$145.00 per ton. Cow prices increased slightly to \$55.50 per hundredweight. Steer and heifer prices increased

from \$95.20 in February to \$99.40 in March. Calf prices also increased by \$5.00 to \$119.00 per hundredweight. Milk prices decreased from \$15.50 per hundredweight to \$14.70 per hundredweight.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2010 and March 2009- 2010

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		March 2009 ^{2/}	February 2010 ^{2/}	March 2010 ^{1/}	March 2010
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	-	-	-	5.34
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	-	-	-	0.639
Potatoes	Cwt.	-	-	-	7.46
Hay, all baled	Ton	188.00	143.00	145.00	108.00
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	194.00	145.00	147.00	111.00
Peanuts	Lb.	-	-	-	0.207
Corn	Bu.	-	-	-	3.49
Wheat, all	Bu.	-	-	-	4.63
LIVESTOCK					
Sheep ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	55.00
Lambs ^{3/}	Cwt.	-	-	-	106.00
Cows	Cwt.	47.20	54.50	55.50	52.40
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	88.00	95.20	99.40	93.90
Calves	Cwt.	107.00	112.00	119.00	113.00
Milk	Cwt.	10.80	15.50	14.70	15.10

^{1/} Mid-month ^{2/} Entire month ^{3/} February - entire month ^{4/}