



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER

nass-nm@nass.usda.gov

USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

Issue 2013 05 06 CW

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE - May 6, 2013

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 May 5, 2013

NEW MEXICO: Alfalfa conditions were mostly fair; 30% first cutting complete. Cotton 36% planted. Corn 30% planted; 13% emerged. Sorghum was 2% planted. Winter wheat was mostly very poor; with 22% headed; 42% grazed. Peanuts 7% planted. Lettuce 20% harvested. Chile condition was mostly fair; 88% planted. Pecan condition was mostly good; Nut set 29% light and 71% average. Range and pasture conditions were mostly very poor. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Topsoil moisture was 78% very short, 16% short and 6% adequate. Wind damage was 22% light, 11% moderate and 7% severe; with winter wheat 60% damaged and onions 7% damaged. Freeze damage was 12% light, 29% moderate, 4% severe.

Additional Comments: Curry: Severe wind and freezing weather this week has limited wheat and alfalfa growth, damaged fields and pasture conditions and reduced livestock conditions in this area. Some wheat being harvested as silage and some limited wheat hay being baled. Wind and freeze damage still to be determined but could be substantial. No field work in progress for corn planting. Some dry land areas seeing major damage to fields with no prospects of planting anything until we receive adequate moisture. Livestock producers still liquidating or reducing herd sizes and selling light weight calves in an effort to keep some cows for rebuilding herds in the event we do receive moisture. Chaves: Cold weather has knocked back alfalfa. De Baca: Rangeland pastures need rain after dry winter and spring. Lea: Everything is extremely dry. Weather is not cooperating with producers. Mostly all nut set has been lost due to freezing conditions in the pecans. Most planting is approximately 2-3 weeks behind due to poor weather. Luna: Livestock continues to be sold. Producers continue to feed livestock herds. Cattle are losing body condition as calves are being born on poor range. Taos: Cold temperatures have caused fruit trees that were in full bloom to freeze, leading to minimal production on cherries, apricots and plums. Union: Winter wheat conditions are being assessed by crop consultants. With two severe frosts the last couple of week's severe damage is expected over a large number of acres.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
Alfalfa	1st cutting	30	24	56	44
Chile	Planted	88	87	95	93
Corn	Emerged	13	9	5	9
Corn	Planted	30	20	44	49
Cotton	Planted	36	30	59	61
Lettuce	Harvested	20	-	26	20
Peanuts	Planted	7	-	7	12
Sorghum	Planted	2	2	8	8
W Wheat	Grazed	42	42	59	-
W Wheat	Headed	22	15	50	51

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	4	7	51	30	8
Chile	-	2	62	29	7
Lettuce	11	-	-	56	33
Onion	-	-	31	58	11
Pecan	-	2	43	55	-
Winter Wheat	65	11	20	4	-
Cattle	13	36	38	13	-
Sheep	28	30	33	9	-

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	62	38	1	-
Northeast	97	2	1	-
Southwest	63	3	34	-
Southeast	70	30	-	-
State Current	78	16	6	-
State-Last Week	75	19	6	-
State-Last Year	61	30	9	-
State-5-Yr Avg.	47	33	19	1

RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITION



Weather Summary

The average temperatures were well below normal statewide during the past week. No measurable precipitation was reported. The state of New Mexico continues in a "drought".

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS – April 29 - May 5, 2013