



ARIZONA AGRI-WEEKLY

For Week Ending March 5, 2000

Released March 6, 2000, by the Arizona Agricultural Statistics Service and University of Arizona, College of Agriculture, 3003 N Central Avenue, Suite 950, Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2994, (602) 280-8850, Fax: (602) 280-8897, www.nass.usda.gov/az/

RAINFALL NOT ENOUGH TO IMPROVE RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITIONS SMALL GRAINS REPORTED AS HEADED

Pasture conditions declined throughout the state last month with the continued lack of significant rainfall. Pastures throughout the state were reported in fair condition. Livestock were reported in fair condition with ranchers supplemental feeding to increase protein intake. Ranchers reported a receiving small amounts of rain but not enough to improve pasture conditions. Stock water was reported as short to adequate while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was widely reported as none to light.

Overall, Northern grazing conditions were reported as fair during February, but ranchers reported very dry pastures. High elevation pastures were reported in fair to good condition, mid level pastures were reported in poor to fair condition, and low level were reported in fair condition. Livestock condition was fair, still receiving heavy nutrient supplements. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was widely reported as none to light.

Central Arizona pasture conditions remained in poor to fair condition at low elevation, ranged from poor to good at mid, and were reported as fair to good at high elevations. Some stock ponds are filling due to sporadic storms but the rain has not been enough. Livestock conditions remained constant, being reported as fair. Stock water was reported as adequate while soil moisture were reported as short to adequate. Insect damage was widely reported as none.

Southern pasture conditions were fair to good at low and high elevations. Mid level elevations reported conditions ranging from very poor to good. Livestock conditions were reported as fair. Ranchers report the range is very dry despite light rains. Stock water was reported as being short to adequate while soil moisture were reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none.

Alfalfa harvest was reported as 64 percent not being harvested, 15 percent light, and 21 percent moderate. **Alfalfa** condition was reported as 5 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Sheeping-off remained relatively constant compared to the previous week, being reported as light.

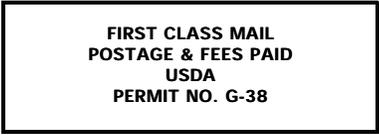
Range and Pasture conditions continued to decline for the month of February. Sporadic rains have not been enough to correct extremely dry conditions. Range and Pasture conditions were reported as 6 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 52 percent fair, and 23 percent good. **Livestock** was reported to be in fair condition for the month of February. **Stock Water** was reported as short to adequate while **Soil Moisture** was reported as short. **Insect Damage** was reported as none to light.

As of March 5, 5 percent of **Durum Wheat**, 5 percent of **Barley**, 4 percent of **Other Wheat**, and 5 percent of **Other Small Grains** were reported as headed.

Temperatures throughout the state were slightly above average last week. Temperatures ranged from 8 degree above normal at Safford to 1 degree below normal at Yuma. The highest temperature of the week was 86 degrees at Coolidge while the lowest reading was 10 degrees at Flagstaff. Precipitation was reported at 13 stations. Precipitation ranged from .01 inches at Douglas, Prescott, Tucson, and Winslow to .74 inches at Flagstaff.

Arizona continued to record above average temperatures with minor precipitation last week. Weather conditions have minimal impact on production as the produce is irrigated. Last week central Arizona producers shipped a variety of vegetables including **bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, cilantro, dandelion, dill, endive, escarole, flowering kale, green onions, kale, kohlrabi, mixed greens, napa, parsley, spinach and swiss chard**. Lettuce shipments included **leaf and romaine**. Eastern Arizona producers shipped **hot house tomatoes**. Producers in western Arizona also shipped a wide variety of vegetables including **anise, bok choy, broccoflower, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, endive, escarole, frisee, kale, mixed greens, napa, parsley, radicchio, salad savoy, spinach and swiss chard**. Western lettuce and salad/salad mixes shipments included **boston, iceberg, leaf, romaine and spring mix**.

Central Arizona citrus producers harvested **lemons, navels, grapefruit, minneolas, fairchild tangerines and tangelos**. Western citrus producers harvested **grapefruit, lemons and tangelos** last week.



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**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION DATA
 FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 4, 2000**

Station	Temperatures				Precipitation 2/		
	Avg.	Dep. 1/	High	Low	Past Week	Jan. 1 to Date	Normal to Date
Canyon De Chelly	40	4	71	22	0.00	0.54	1.44
Casa Grande	57	2	75	42	0.00	0.14	1.54
Coolidge	57	1	86	34	0.03	0.21	1.71
Douglas	50	4	79	29	0.01	0.02	1.33
Flagstaff	33	2	60	10	0.53	2.64	4.46
Gila Bend	60	1	80	42	0.00	0.20	1.29
Grand Canyon	32	6	59	16	0.74	3.29	2.91
Kingman	48	1	70	32	0.06	0.95	1.95
Parker	60	3	81	42	0.00	0.23	1.12
Payson	43	3	70	23	0.61	1.35	4.24
Phoenix	60	2	80	45	0.04	0.05	1.47
Prescott Airport	43	1	65	25	0.01	1.21	1.91
Safford Ag Center	49	8	83	31	0.04	0.21	1.41
Tucson	56	4	85	39	0.01	0.30	1.69
Willcox	47	5	77	27	0.03	0.64	1.74
Winslow	42	3	74	20	0.01	0.19	1.05
Yuma	63	-1	77	46	0.18	0.18	0.61

1/ Departure of temperature for reporting period from average temperature for that week.

2/ Daily precipitation totals 5 a.m. to 5 a.m. instead of midnight to midnight. Periods of record used in computing "average to date" for precipitation and "departure" for average temperatures may be obtained from National Weather Service, Phoenix.