



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 19 Week Ending August 5, 2007

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Agricultural Summary

An estimated 450,000 acres of public and private rangeland have burned in the Milford Flat, Neola North and Salt Creek fires. An estimated 90 farmers and ranchers have been affected. About 7,000 cattle have been displaced by the fires, and must be moved to other range or pasture land. Approximately 200 cattle and 70 sheep were killed in the Utah fires. Utah Partners for Conservation and Development are coordinating relief efforts to assist Utah farmers and ranchers in their recovery. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.5 days. There were several counties this week that experienced thunderstorms and some much need rainfall, but the overall weather conditions within the state continue to be hot and dry. Livestock continue to do well.

Field Crops Summary

Across the state winter wheat was 72 percent harvested compared to 43 percent the previous week. Barley was 50 percent harvested compared to 27 percent harvested the previous week. Alfalfa 2nd cutting was 91 percent harvested compared to 82 percent the previous week. Box Elder reports that the wheat harvest is still underway within the county with some areas such as Pocatello Valley reporting over 30 bushel per acre and other parts of the county as low as 6 bushels per acre. Irrigated wheat has been variable as well. Some fields are 25 percent or more below normal and other fields are close to normal but no reports of exceptional yields. Alfalfa hay continues to be cut and producers are working on 3rd crop. Some reports have indicated good third crop quality and quantity while others have reported light yield due to the heat. Corn and onions continue to look good within the county. Box Elder also reports that there is some concern of spider mites on the edges of cornfields in some areas. Cache County reports that the weather has been so hot for so long that it has been almost impossible to prevent the corn crop from shrunken kernels. The grain harvest within the county is well underway. Some fields are yielding very well, others are very disappointing. Much of the grain is low on bushel weights. The alfalfa hay is doing very well, as is the silage corn, where irrigation water is available. Sevier and Beaver counties report that the soaking rains have improved the overall crop condition but on the other hand farmers were not able to bale their hay fast enough from the windrow causing damage to good quality hay. Duchesne and Utah counties report that the irrigation water supplies are shrinking, while the recent rain storms have helped the crops and rangelands.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder reports that pastures and ranges continue to be of great concern as the dry, hot temperatures have made the feed short and very brittle. There have been a few thunderstorms around but generally, they have had little effect on the quality or quantity of the forage.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 5, 2007

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Onions Harvested	13	NA	9	5
Barley Harvested (Grain)	50	27	39	40
Oats Headed Stage	96	93	97	96
Oats Harvested (Grain)	38	36	19	25
Spring Wheat Harvested	46	21	43	32
Winter Wheat Harvested	72	43	58	57
Corn Silk Stage	74	48	73	64
Corn Dough Stage	20	9	9	NA
Alfalfa Second Cutting	91	82	90	86
Alfalfa Third Cutting	14	6	16	15
Other Hay Cut	90	84	85	90
Peach Harvested	17	11	4	8

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending August 5, 2007

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	18	25	37	20	0
Spring Wheat	5	18	38	34	5
Winter Wheat	5	17	37	35	6
Barley	0	3	30	52	15
Corn	0	0	19	63	18
Sheep	0	0	17	76	7
Cattle/calves	0	2	29	59	10

Livestock Percent for Week Ending August 5, 2007

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cattle Moved from Summer Range	45	44	32	18

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 5, 2007

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	19	42	39	0
Subsoil	28	43	29	0
Irrigation water supplies	29	40	31	0
Stock water supplies	12	38	50	0