



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 18 Week Ending July 13, 2008

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Agricultural Summary

Crops continue to progress around the state. Days suitable for field work were 6.9. Weather continues to be hot and dry making an already dry situation worse. Livestock continue to do well.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder reports moderate temperatures with highs in the low 90s and lows from 55 to 65. Crops continue to progress with fall barley and wheat ripening rapidly. Farmers expect to begin the grain harvest in 2 weeks. Corn has really been growing this week but no fields were observed in tassel yet. Producers are cutting second crop alfalfa in the Bear River Valley and the crop looks good. Demand is high and prices ranges from \$150 a ton to \$250 a ton depending on quality. These high prices are very concerning to livestock producers. Duchesne County reports areas of the county have been reporting heavy grasshopper infestations. Producers are spraying dimilin and other chemicals to help control. Emery County reports irrigated crops are growing very well. Summer rains are need in the area to keep the mountain grazing in good shape. Things are really drying out on the mountains. Morgan County reports crops are in good condition and water supplies are adequate. Tooele County reports water supplies are adequate and farmers have began cutting 2nd crop alfalfa.

Livestock Summary

A Temporary Restraining Order was issued against USDA for the Critical Feed Use allowance of certain CRP acres. This has thrown a wrench in the plans of many livestock producers to either hay or graze CRP acreage. Ranges are drying out with some areas in the west part of the county in moderate drought conditions. Park Valley producers report that stream flows are falling rapidly and irrigation water is running out. Some meadows were not irrigated this year due to low streams flows. Livestock producers have moved the cattle and sheep to summer ranges and they are in fair to good condition. Some sheep producers are reporting that the higher elevations are beginning to dry out in some places due to lack of rain fall. Ranchers are reporting that they may need to bring cows and calves off public ranges one or two months earlier this year. Also, there have been reports of grasshopper infestations in the Washakie area and in the Howell Valley.

Crop Progress for Week Ending July 13, 2008

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley Headed Stage	93	80	97	96
Oats Headed Stage	77	54	79	79
Spring Wheat Headed	93	76	99	95
Winter Wheat Harvested	6	0	9	11
Alfalfa First Cutting	95	86	100	100
Alfalfa Second Cutting	15	5	49	42
Other Hay Cut	72	69	79	76
Apricots Harvested	60	11	77	57
Sweet Cherries Harvested	34	4	77	82
Tart Cherries Harvested	10	0	45	31

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending July 13, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	3	9	35	41	12
Sheep	0	0	12	87	1
Cattle/calves	0	0	18	79	3

Livestock Percent for Week Ending July 13, 2008

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Sheep Moved to Summer Range	100	97	99	100

Soil Moisture for Week Ending July 13, 2008

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	10	44	46	0
Subsoil	3	39	58	0
Stock water supplies	1	20	79	0