



Nevada Ag Stats Newsletter

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Annual Bulletin

The Nevada Agricultural Statistics 2011 Bulletin is now available and can be downloaded for free from our website at www.nass.usda.gov/nv. This annual publication contains state level data on crop and livestock production from 2001 through 2010.

Hay Prices

Nevada: Hay prices for October were down slightly for all hay, alfalfa hay, and all other hay. The all hay price, at \$213.00 per ton, is down \$2.00 from September and up \$92.00 from last October. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$216.00 per ton, down \$4.00 from September and up \$94.00 from a year ago. All other hay, at \$161.00 per ton, is down \$9.00 from September and up \$51.00 from a year ago. All other hay is comprised of grain and grain mixtures, timothy, clover, wild, prairie, range, and other types.

United States: On the national level for October, prices were up from September for all hay, alfalfa hay, and all other hay. The all hay price, at \$181.00 per ton, is up \$5.00 from September and up \$70.00 from last October. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$203.00 per ton, and all other hay at \$129.00 per ton. September hay prices for the U.S. were \$176.00 for all hay, \$196.00 for alfalfa hay, and \$128.00 for all other hay.

Quarterly Milk Production

Nevada: Milk production during the third quarter of 2011 was 167 million pounds, an increase of 5.7% from the third quarter of 2010. The average number of milk cows in the State during July – September was 29,000 head, compared with 28,000 a year earlier.

United States: Milk production during the July - September quarter totaled 48.7 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.21 million head, 83,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2010-2011

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,093	9,165	5,212	5,283	47,392	48,421	2.2
April-June	9,119	9,198	5,462	5,483	49,809	50,432	1.3
July-September	9,126	9,209	5,267	5,291	48,070	48,725	1.4
October-December	9,130		5,208		47,548		
Annual	9,117		21,149		192,819		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Alfalfa Hay Forecast

Nevada: The October 1 alfalfa hay production forecast is 1.293 million tons, 7 percent above the 2010 total. Yield is forecast to average 4.70 tons/acre, up from 4.30 tons in 2010. Area harvested for hay, at 275,000 acres, was down 5,000 acres from last year. Some growers were finishing with the third cutting and fourth cutting was underway during the survey period.

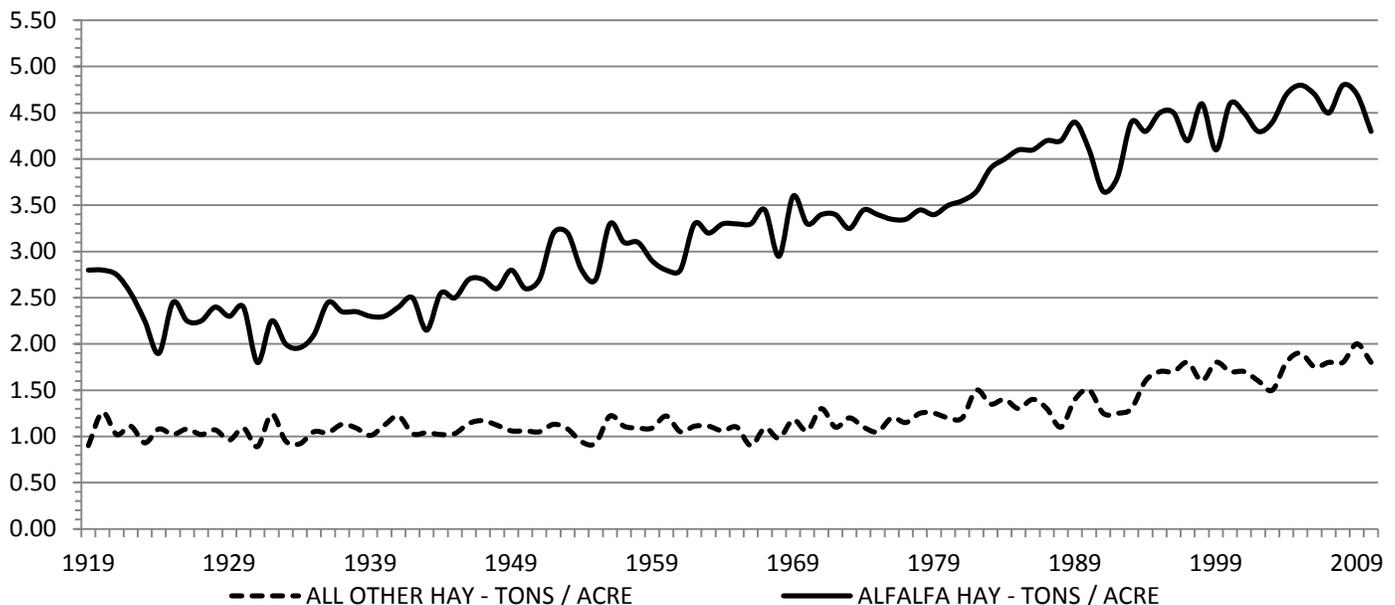
United States: Production is forecast at 64.7 million tons, down fractionally from the August 1 forecast and down 5 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is expected to average 3.35 tons per acre, down 0.01 ton from August 1 and 0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 19.3 million acres, unchanged from June but down 3 percent from the previous year's acreage.

Adequate rainfall in portions of the West led to increases in expected yields. Most notably, a record-setting yield is forecast for Idaho, where warmer temperatures this fall have allowed producers a longer haying season. Elsewhere, predominately hot, dry weather in the Four Corners region as well as the southern Great Plains adversely affected much of the alfalfa crop. Producers in Oklahoma are expected to harvest the lowest alfalfa yield since 1956, while producers in Texas are expecting the lowest yield since 1970.

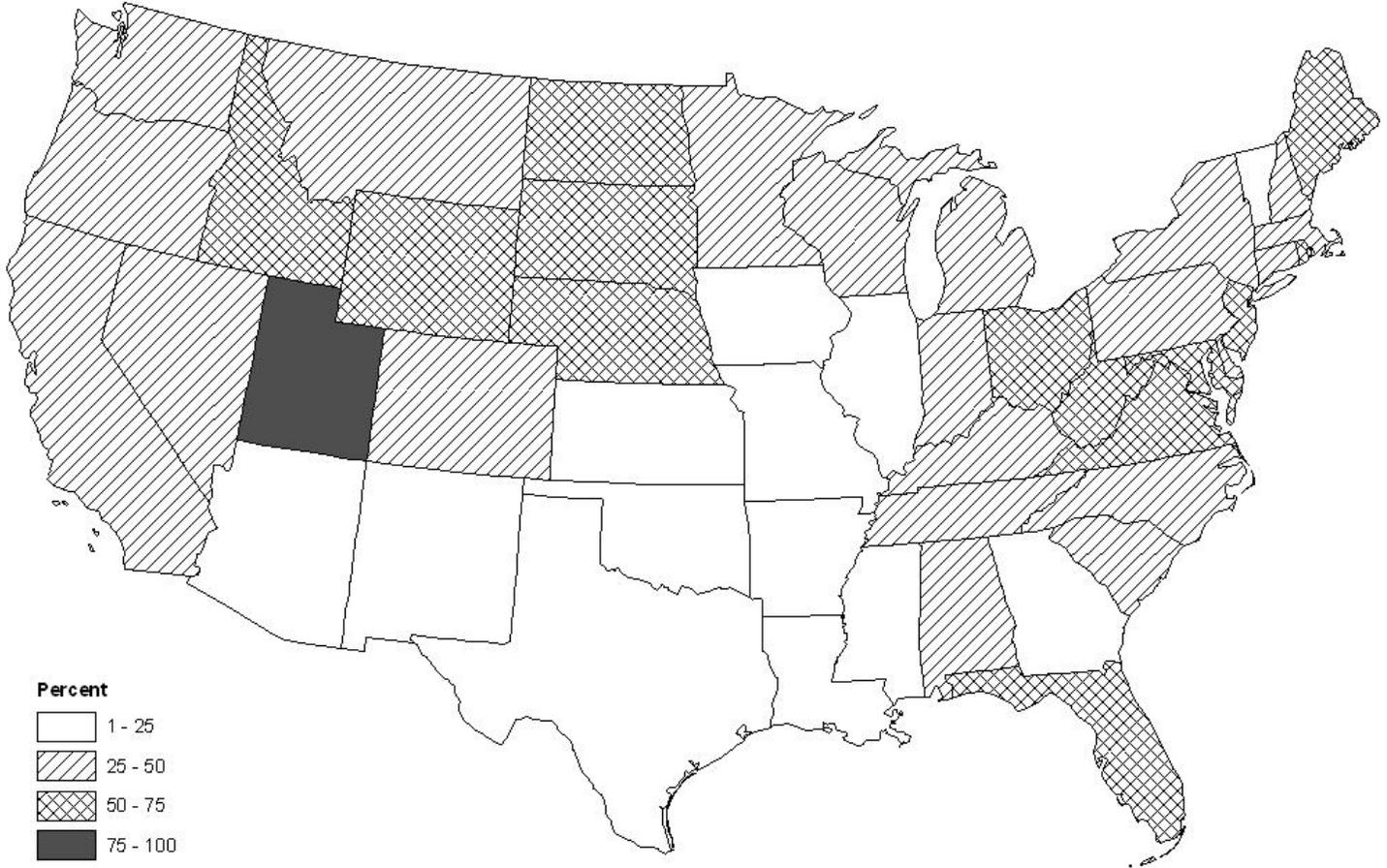
Alfalfa & Alfalfa Mixtures for Hay: Area Harvested, Yield, & Production for 11 Western States and the United States, 2009, 2010 and Forecasted October 1, 2011

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
	-- 1,000 Acres --		-- Tons/Acre --		-- 1,000 Tons --		
AZ	280	250	8.20	7.90	2,380	2,296	1,975
CA	920	940	6.80	6.90	7,000	6,256	6,486
CO	820	820	3.50	3.40	3,315	2,870	2,788
ID	1,130	1,020	4.20	4.50	4,788	4,746	4,590
MT	1,950	1,950	2.30	2.40	3,570	4,485	4,680
NV	280	275	4.30	4.70	1,316	1,204	1,293
NM	220	230	5.20	5.20	1,224	1,144	1,196
OR	415	380	4.30	4.50	1,800	1,785	1,710
UT	540	540	4.00	4.20	2,226	2,160	2,268
WA	450	390	5.00	4.80	2,401	2,250	1,872
WY	620	570	2.60	2.60	1,725	1,612	1,482
US	19,956	19,329	3.40	3.35	71,072	67,903	64,714

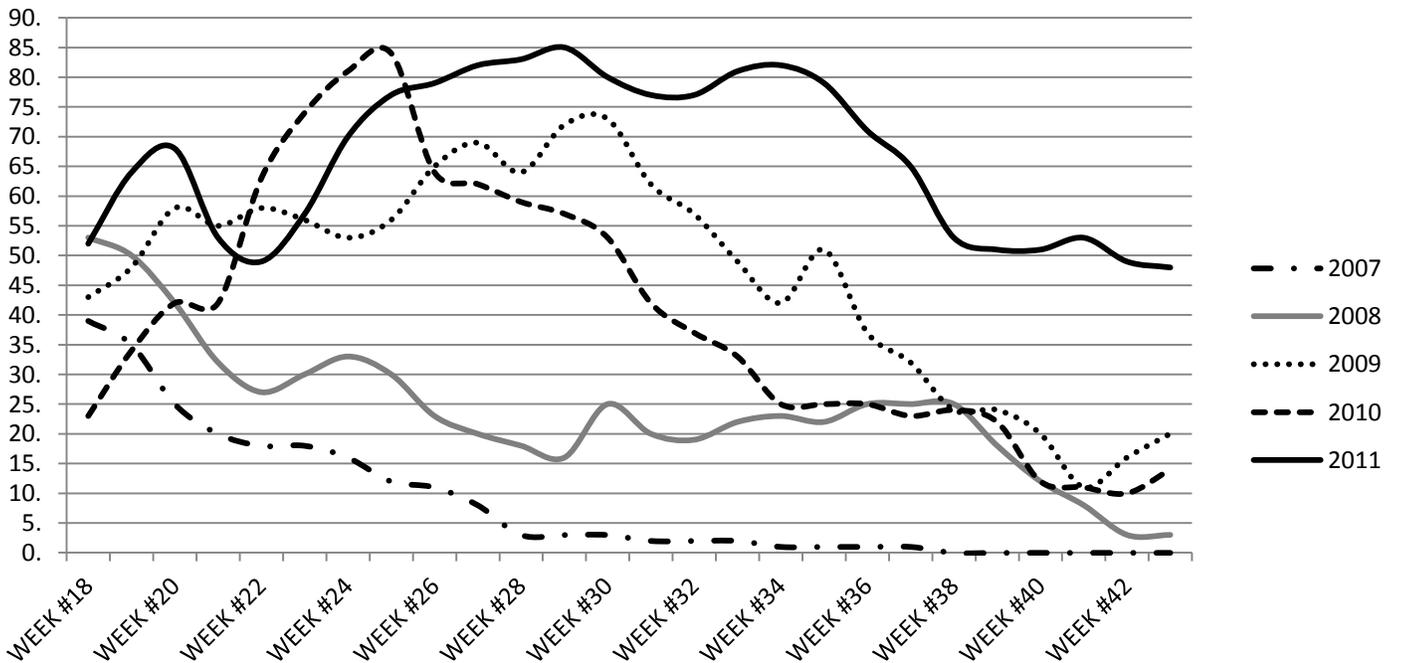
Alfalfa & All Other Hay, Yields for Nevada, 1919 to 2010



Pasture and Range Condition, Percent Rating Good or Better Week Ending October 30, 2011



Pasture and Range Condition, Percent Rating Good or Better for Nevada, by Week During Growing Season 2007 to 2011



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October Weather Summary

The month of October started off with a low pressure system moving through the State. This brought some rain around the fifth of the month. High pressure systems returned to the area bring warming temperatures for the remainder of the month. Temperatures were above normal averaging between 1.0 and 4.4 degrees above normal. Las Vegas recorded the high of 95 degrees. Most other stations recorded highs in the mid to low 80's. By the middle of October most areas of the State were experiencing frost at night. Eureka recorded a low of 8 degrees. All stations recorded some precipitation. Ely recorded the most with 1.16 inches. Pasture and range conditions were declining seasonally, with most being in good to fair condition. Alfalfa production continued with the extended warm weather. Some northern Nevada producers went for a 4th cutting. Most crop harvesting concluded. Seasonal onions were being taken to sheds for sorting, bagging, and shipping. Livestock producers worked to gather livestock for market and to move herds to winter pastures. Main farm and ranch activities included: harvest of hay, weed control, equipment maintenance, and planting of fall-seeded crops.

Weather data for stations in Nevada: October 2011

Station	Temperature (°F)				Precipitation (inches)		
	Monthly Avg.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24 Hour
Reno	56.4	+4.4	85	29	0.24	-0.18	0.19
Elko	48.9	+2.3	83	15	0.59	-0.16	0.35
Ely	47.2	+1.9	78	14	1.16	+0.16	0.70
Winnemucca	49.5	+1.3	85	12	0.66	-0.01	0.36
Eureka	49.3	+3.1	81	8	0.85	+0.11	0.43
Tonopah	54.4	+1.6	81	26	0.49	+0.15	0.49
Las Vegas	70.5	+1.0	95	49	0.21	-0.06	0.12