

# *Crop Summary*

**2013 Crop Summary:** January brought cold temperatures to most of the state. Some minor fruit damage occurred due to the cold temperatures. Northern Utah had some snow storms that brought needed moisture, while southern Utah did not have much moisture at all.

February continued with the cold temperatures and also brought needed moisture to parts of the state. The Uintah Basin suffered from lack of moisture and reservoirs were very low. Fall planted winter wheat did not grow as tall as normal due to the late planting because of weather complications.

March brought concerns about moisture and irrigation water to southern and central Utah. In northern Utah spring seeding of small grains began, and winter wheat started to green up. Fertilizer and herbicides were also applied to alfalfa and other fields.

Wide spread moisture fell on most of the state in April, while the planting of spring crops continued throughout Utah. Concerns about adequate moisture and lack of irrigation water eased for most of the state. Cooler temperatures slowed the growth of winter wheat and delayed corn planting.

Some moisture was received during May, but concerns about adequate irrigation water persisted. Corn and other crops were mostly planted, and alfalfa hay was being cut in various locations around the state. Some irrigation companies put water in the canal early to help water stressed fields.

June started with some rain but by the end of the month most areas in the state were dry. Those crops that were irrigated looked good, but some producers were faced with not having enough water to last through the growing season. The first cutting of alfalfa hay was completed by month's end.

Limited moisture fell during July, leaving most areas dry and in need of additional moisture. The small grain harvest was in full swing as was the second cutting of alfalfa hay. The sweet cherry and apricot harvests were nearly complete, while the tart cherry harvest was almost halfway done. Irrigation water was quickly running out in some areas of the state.

August was hot and dry for the most part, although the southern part of the state received monsoonal rains that helped crops and pasture but made it difficult to harvest alfalfa hay. Most of the small grains were harvested and the third cutting of alfalfa hay was about half complete. The peach harvest was well underway. Corn looked very good where there was enough irrigation water.

Wet weather in September caused some problems with alfalfa hay in the windrows, but it was good for pastures and crops still awaiting harvest. Corn was mostly mature and just needed to dry down some before harvest. Most of the winter wheat was seeded by month's end, and most of the third cutting of alfalfa hay was complete.

October and November saw the completion of harvest for all crops, including corn and apples. Winter wheat was all planted and mostly emerged, as well. Precipitation was adequate for fall planting.