



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Agricultural Summary

This December has been one of the wettest on record with several snow storms throughout the month. One of largest agriculture counties, Box Elder, (northern Utah) reports lower precipitation than the state average. Snow pack on the Bear River Drainage is at 68 percent of normal so there is still much concern about irrigation water for the coming growing season. Good winter storms in both the mountains and the valleys have helped the water situation in the southern part of the state. Cold temperatures have been the norm throughout the state. Temperatures have dipped below zero in some areas.

Field Crops Summary

With fields covered with snow most of the month and cold weather little field work has been done. Because of the snow cover winter grains are expected to endure the cold temperatures. Wheat producers that have not already sold grain are starting to sell some at very good if not record prices. Hay supplies are short and expensive.

Livestock Summary

Cattle and sheep are doing well on winter ranges. Major activities this time of year are taking care of cattle including feeding hay and treating any sick animals. In Box Elder County producers will begin calving in the next couple of weeks. The cow herd in Wayne County and surrounding counties is now about 33 percent calved out but due to subzero temperatures some new born calves have been dying or suffering other maladies from freezing.