



# Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

Utah Field Office · PO Box 25007 · Salt Lake City, Utah 84125  
(800) 747-8522 · (801) 524-3090 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Issue 7 Week Ending April 19, 2009

Rick Kestle, Director

Released April 20, 2009

## Agricultural Summary

The days suitable for work were 4.0 days. Storms were plenty around the state. Some farmers are still unable to get into their fields, but spring crop yields are expected to do well. A few livestock producers are reported some disease, but overall livestock condition are doing well.

## Field Crops Summary

Weather conditions are reported to have delayed spring plantings in Box Elder, Morgan, Juab, and Beaver counties. Box Elder County reports onions were only 50 percent planted and the window to expect normal yields has passed. Spring grain, corn, and safflower will be planted as soon as conditions permit. Safflower should germinate and emerge rapidly. Blossoming on the fruit trees is just under way and will be in full swing this week with the warmer weather that is forecasted. Most alfalfa and winter wheat looks good in the Bear River Valley with some concern for the dry land areas in Blue Creek - Hansel Valley. Things may look better after the storm last week but the grain appears to be small and thin in some fields. Fruit growers report that there has been very little frost damage in the county. Recent rains have been very beneficial to range and pastureland. Utah County reports fruit crops should be in bloom this week. There was some frost damage to the fruit, but mainly on apricots. Duchesne County reports current storms and cooler than normal weather have helped the irrigation water. Grasshopper infestation is anticipated to be extreme this season. Emery County reports windy, stormy weather with limited fieldwork this past week. Recent storms have greatly improved mountain snow-pack. This should result in near normal irrigation water supplies for the summer irrigation season. Summit County reports spring tillage work in progress and pastures starting to green up. Iron County reports some producers are concerned because they are running out of hay and could have usually turned out on spring ranges by now.

## Livestock Summary

Box Elder and Cache counties report sheep producers are now lambing their range flocks. Shearing is just about complete and should finish this week. Livestock producers have reported that calving went well but there is some sickness in their calves right now. They are taking measures to brand, vaccinate and treat the sick animals. They should respond quickly, however, with a few days of warm sunshine. Utah County reports cattlemen are pleased with their success this year with calving, and water supplies are good. Emery County reports calving and lambing have gone very well this spring but valley grazing continues to be a problem area. Only 50% of normal moisture has been received in the valley over the past year, causing grazing to be greatly diminished. Summit County reports ranchers are finishing up calving, while lambing is well underway. Beaver County reports livestock are doing well. Iron County reports lambing is going well while many producers are reporting a higher than normal number of twins and triplets this year.

## Crop Progress for Week Ending April 19, 2009

| Item                      | Current Week   | Previous Week  | Previous Year  | 5 Year Average |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                           | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Barley Planted            | 41             | 40             | 60             | 58             |
| Oats Planted              | 26             | 21             | 43             | 43             |
| Oats Emerged              | 5              | 4              | NA             | NA             |
| Spring Wheat Planted      | 48             | 38             | 63             | 64             |
| Winter Wheat Planted      | 0              | 100            | NA             | NA             |
| Apricots Full Bloom       | 62             | 0              | 66             | 86             |
| Peach Full Bloom          | 15             | 0              | NA             | NA             |
| Sweet Cherries Full Bloom | 5              | 0              | NA             | NA             |

## Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending April 19, 2009

| Item            | Very Poor      | Poor           | Fair           | Good           | Excellent      |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                 | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Range & Pasture | 1              | 11             | 44             | 43             | 1              |
| Winter Wheat    | 0              | 10             | 34             | 40             | 16             |
| Sheep           | 0              | 1              | 18             | 78             | 3              |
| Cattle/calves   | 0              | 1              | 19             | 72             | 8              |

## Livestock Percent for Week Ending April 19, 2009

| Item                   | Current Week   | Previous Week  | Previous Year  | 5-Year Average |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                        | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Cows Calved            | 79             | 74             | 81             | 84             |
| Sheep Sheared on Farm  | 61             | 54             | NA             | NA             |
| Sheep Sheared on Range | 49             | 33             | NA             | NA             |
| Ewes Lambled on Farm   | 83             | 72             | 79             | 85             |
| Ewes Lambled on Range  | 26             | 21             | 32             | 42             |

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 19, 2009

| Item                      | Very Short     | Short          | Adequate       | Surplus        |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                           | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Topsoil                   | 0              | 9              | 74             | 17             |
| Subsoil                   | 0              | 21             | 70             | 9              |
| Irrigation water supplies | 0              | 13             | 87             | 0              |
| Stock water supplies      | 1              | 6              | 93             | 0              |