



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 9 Week Ending May 3, 2009

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Agricultural Summary

The state of Utah continues to receive stormy weather and cooler than normal temperatures. **The days suitable for work were 5.7 days.** Livestock around the state continue to do well.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder County reports receiving between 1 inch and 1.5 inches of precipitation during the past week with temperatures in the 50's and 60's. Farmers have been able to plant some of their crops but have been interrupted by spring rains. Some corn has been planted and that activity should continue for the next couple of weeks. Alfalfa is also being seeded along with safflower and spring grains. The fall planted grain looks good except for some areas that were damaged due to snow mold in the Blue Creek / Pocatello Valley areas. Producers are having a difficult time planting corn because of high soil moisture content. The peach crop appears to have fared well this week even though temperatures dipped into the upper 20's. **Cache County** reports farmers are getting very discouraged with their inability to plant spring crops. Several growers are experiencing losses from standing water in low spots, especially with alfalfa hay and small grains, but farmers within the county are optimistic about corn plantings. **Utah County** reports fruit producers were hit with some frost this past week. The extent of damage to tart cherries is has yet to be determined, while sweet cherries were hit hard. Dry land grain crops, hay, and pastures look excellent within the county; recent rains have aided in crop progress. River levels have risen due to melting snow packs. **Carbon County** reports precipitation in the mountains has helped alleviate concerns for irrigation water throughout most of the county. Rain and snow in the valley has been minimal but winds have been calm, so topsoil moisture is still quite good. **Morgan County** reports soils are just now drying out enough to begin tillage. **Weber County** reports soils have finally dried out enough to begin tillage and planting. Alfalfa is growing rapidly and 1st crop harvest is expected the first of June. **Duchesne County** reports recent rains have helped but the topsoil is still very dry. Farmers are still hoping for more rainstorms in the coming weeks. **Uintah County** reports early morning temperatures dipped into the mid 20's but it is still too early to determine the extent of damage to hay crops; first cutting may be delayed as a result. Spring tillage and planting of spring grains and corn are well underway. **Beaver County** reports farm work is going well but freezing temperatures during the night have held back the crop progress of alfalfa. **Garfield and Kane Counties** report that the east sides of the counties have received limited precipitation.

**Crop Progress
for Week Ending May 3, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley Planted	66	60	80
Oats Planted	58	49	67
Oats Emerged	18	10	31
Spring Wheat Planted	77	71	87
Corn Planted	11	3	19
Apple Full Bloom	42	5	91
Apricots Full Bloom	98	86	96
Peach Full Bloom	90	48	88
Tart Cherries Full Bloom	94	14	94

**Soil Moisture
for Week Ending May 3, 2009**

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	1	17	58	24
Subsoil	1	23	70	6
Irrigation water	1	13	85	1
Stock water supplies	1	11	88	0

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County reports cattle and calves are doing well with calving just about concluded. Sheep producers are still lambing ewes on range herds. Spring calving is nearly complete and calves appear to be mostly healthy. **Carbon County** reports many stock ponds on the desert have little water so produces have had to haul water for their livestock on the winter and spring range. **Cache County** reports livestock are doing fine, but would benefit from some extended days of sunshine. Some producers continue to feed hay to their beef animals in spite of tight feed supplies. **Duchesne County** reports producers are starting to turn livestock out on pastures and reducing feeding.

**Livestock Percent
for Week Ending May 3, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cows Calved	87	86	94
Sheep Sheared on Farm	72	72	75
Sheep Sheared on Range	49	49	57
Ewes Lambed on Farm	91	88	94
Ewes Lambed on Range	45	38	65

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending May 3, 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	6	36	53	4
Winter Wheat	1	9	21	56	13
Sheep	0	0	13	85	2
Cattle/calves	0	0	18	74	8