



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 10 Week Ending May 10, 2009

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Released May 11, 2009

Agricultural Summary

Warmer days have arrived and farming activities are in full swing. The days suitable for work were 5.7 days. Livestock around the state continues to do well.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder County reports plenty of sunshine although the weather was still cool. There was a hard frost on Monday morning with temperatures as cold as 13 degrees (in the Snowville area) while the Tremonton area had a low of 26 degrees. Farmers are uncertain if the frost affected any of their crops. There were some reports of possible hail damage on fruit trees in the Brigham City - Perry area from a storm that occurred last week. Farmers are busy planting corn, safflower, new alfalfa, and spraying grain crops for weeds. Corn producers are concerned about high soil moisture content which has delayed planting although most spring small grains have been planted. A recent tour of dryland wheat revealed lower yield expectations for the coming harvest. Irrigated wheat conditions are within the county are good. There has also been a major effort underway in the Howell Valley to spray for a pest called the Black Grass Bug. These bugs are infesting grass areas and are moving into wheat crops. Hay fields are progressing and for the most part look very good. First cutting of alfalfa could start in about 2 weeks. **Cache County** reports temperatures are fair to excellent. In spots where field conditions are dry enough, anxious growers are planting the rest of their spring grain and safflower. Herbicides are also being applied to grain fields. Corn producers are trying to plant their crop quick as possible while alfalfa hay will progress nicely with more warm days. Pastures and range lands look good as a result of copious amounts of rain during April. No insect problems within the county have appeared, but there is some concern about black grass bugs and possibly grasshoppers amongst farmers. **Utah County** reports sweet cherries are the only fruit crop that has been hit hard by frost. The other fruit crops within the county are in good shape at this time. **Duchesne County** reports irrigation season is in full swing. The water supply looks to be better than last year, but more spring rains would be good for the county. Farmers are in the field planting corn and finishing up spring grains. The fall grain has really jumped since being irrigated and is starting to look good. **Uintah County** reports canal companies began filling canals this week while last week's frost did very little damage to hay crops. Farmers have noticed that grasshoppers are beginning to hatch in some areas. **Garfield and Kane Counties** reports range moisture conditions are very dry. **Emery County** reports the windy weather dried out most of the moisture (accumulated last week) in the soil. Irrigated crops are doing very well at this time, and no incidents of freeze damaged have been reported. Reservoirs are beginning to fill with snowmelt but farmers will have to wait to see if there will be enough runoff to fill the reservoirs. **Iron County** reports that the Black Grass Bugs are a problem on many ranges. Alfalfa Weevils are beginning to hatch in fields. Alfalfa hay, pastures and ranges are about two weeks delayed due to a cold spring. **Summit County** reports farmers continue to plant small grains. **Wayne County** reports drought conditions are starting to increase. As a result, irrigation companies are allocating water at 70-80% of normal allocations. Spring ranges are short of growth and have been delayed 10 days to two weeks.

Crop Progress
for Week Ending May 10, 2009

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley Planted	79	66	87
Oats Planted	78	58	78
Oats Emerged	35	18	44
Spring Wheat Planted	89	77	92
Spring Wheat Emerged	35	0	74
Winter Wheat Head Stage	5	2	4
Corn Planted	30	11	37
Apple Full Bloom	58	42	94
Apricots Full Bloom	100	98	99
Peach Full Bloom	100	90	92
Pears Full Bloom	70	69	94
Tart Cherries Full Bloom	100	94	96

Soil Moisture
for Week Ending May 10, 2009

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	1	19	70	10
Subsoil	1	23	68	8
Irrigation water supplies	1	13	85	1
Stock water supplies	1	12	87	0

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County reports that the calf crop is mostly complete but predators have caused modest damage to the calf crop. Sheep producers report that the range lamb crop is well underway and in some cases complete. Docking season is well underway. **Cache County** reports cattle and sheep are being turned out to pasture with the improved weather. **Iron County** reports lambing has gone well this year.

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending May 10, 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	3	6	37	49	5
Winter Wheat	0	11	33	45	11
Sheep	0	1	11	84	4
Cattle/calves	0	1	15	77	7

**Livestock Percent
for Week Ending May 10, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cows Calved	95	87	96
Sheep Sheared on Farm	89	72	88
Sheep Sheared on Range	77	49	75
Ewes Lambed on Farm	94	91	96
Ewes Lambed on Range	60	45	74