



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 11 Week Ending May 17, 2009

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Agricultural Summary

The weather continues to warm up. With almost no precipitation throughout the state for the week, conditions were good for field activity and livestock work. The days suitable for work were 6.9 days.

Field Crops Summary

It was a very nice week in **Box Elder County** high temperatures were in the 60's and 70's. Some frost was reported at the first of the week. Snowville dropped to 29 degrees on the 11th and 13th. No frost was recorded in the Perry, Tremonton and Corinne areas. No Precipitation was received and some areas are starting be on the dry side. Conditions for planting have improved considerably during the past week and farmers were busy in the fields trying to finish planting corn and alfalfa. Some corn that was planted early is already up. Irrigation water was introduced into the Bear River Canal System and some farmers were beginning to irrigate fall grains and other crops. The 1st cutting of alfalfa hay could occur in the next week or two. Fruit trees are finishing up with the bloom and there have been no reports of problems except some hail in the Perry area about two weeks ago. The damage is uncertain at this point. **Cache County** is enjoying beautiful springtime weather this week. Farmers who were delayed with planting because of wet spring rains are rushing to get all the crops in the ground as quickly as possible. Those who are planting small grains and safflower are anxious because of the lateness of the season. Growers are also busy planting corn this week, which is about normal timing. There is some evidence of frost damage in grasses from cooler temperatures 10 days ago. The plants will survive, but are temporarily stunted. Some irrigation companies have turned water into their canal systems and growers will be irrigating their crops very soon. Planting was delayed in **Morgan County** some because of wet soil. However, planting conditions are excellent now. Grasshoppers are becoming a problem on the east side of the Tooele Valley in **Tooele County** with more than 8 grasshoppers per square yard. In **Weber County** Corn, planting is in full swing and alfalfa and grain are growing well. Black Grass Bugs are starting to cause damage to rangeland grasses in **Juab County**. Producers are making plans to start spraying programs. **Duchesne County** reports that the crops are starting to really grow. The past weeks warm temperatures have taken a toll on the snow pack and it is starting to really decrease. There have been grasshoppers starting to hatch in parts of the county. They are being monitored and preparations are being made to spray as they are projected to be very bad this year. Some much needed rain could help to slow the grasshoppers down as they seem to thrive in the drier areas. In **Emery County**, continued warm weather has aided development of irrigated crops. Reservoirs are filling with spring runoff. Water supplies may end up a bit short, though. Problems with a canal in the Tridell area have required that irrigation water be shut off for some of the west side of **Uintah County** while repairs are made. Grasshoppers continue to be a problem in the Independence area. Farmers are busy planting corn in **Beaver County** and alfalfa is looking pretty good. In **Iron County**, spring runoff has peaked and stream flow is headed downward.

Crop Progress
For Week Ending May 17, 2009

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley Planted	90	79	91
Oats Planted	82	78	85
Oats Emerged	49	35	57
Spring Wheat Planted	96	89	96
Spring Wheat Emerged	51	35	87
Winter Wheat Head Stage	10	5	10
Corn Planted	57	30	59
Apple Full Bloom	82	58	96

Soil Moisture
for Week Ending May 17, 2009

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	2	22	70	6
Subsoil	0	24	72	4
Irrigation water supplies	1	8	91	0
Stock water supplies	1	11	88	0

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County reports that Livestock producers will begin moving their animals to summer ranges in the next couple of weeks. Rangeland conditions look good and ranchers are reporting a healthy calf and lamb crop. **Cache County** reports Livestock are doing well with the abundant supply of feed in pastures and on rangelands, all a result of the cooler wet spring weather. In **Duchesne County**, the animals are expected to go on the mountain on time this year, and the grazing is expected to be good. Dry weather continues to negatively affect grazed rangeland in **Emery County**. Most cattle and sheep have calved or lambed with minimal death losses reported. Beef producers in **Beaver County** are getting cows ready to go out on the range. **Iron County** reports hot dry windy conditions have dried out ranges considerably.

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending May 17, 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	39	49	5
Winter Wheat	0	5	44	40	11
Sheep	0	1	10	84	5
Cattle/calves	0	1	15	76	8

**Livestock Percent
For Week Ending May 17, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Sheep Moved to Summer Range	24	0	NA
Cows Calved	99	95	99
Sheep Sheared on Farm	91	89	NA
Sheep Sheared on Range	81	77	NA
Ewes Lambed on Farm	96	94	99
Ewes Lambed on Range	65	60	82