



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 26 Week Ending August 30, 2009

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Agricultural Summary

The small grains harvest is going well. Temperatures around the state have been mild. The days suitable for work were 6.9 days. Livestock around the state continues to do well.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder County reports the small grains harvest is almost complete. Many producers are discouraged with falling commodity prices. Barley has now dipped below the Farm Service Agency loan rates and there are opportunities for barley producers to request a Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP). The corn crop looks good but some producers are worried that the cooler temperatures we had, a couple of weeks ago, delayed maturity. If a frost occurs before the black layer is formed in the kernel, the corn seed will not fully mature. The safflower crop looks good and harvest will begin in the next two weeks. Yields are expected to be above average. Wheat producers are beginning fall seedings of small grains. Some winter wheat is reported to have emerged in the Promontory area. We will see a major effort in September to drill winter wheat for next year's crop. Alfalfa producers continue to work on putting up hay. The harvest is scattered out now and some producers are just finishing 3rd crop while others are getting ready for 4th crop. Alfalfa seed producers will begin to harvest soon. Some fields look good while other fields look below average. Cool temperatures caused the bees to reduce pollination activity and that may have hurt the seed set. Irrigation water has been excellent in the Bear River Canal System and has been better than average in the rest of the systems in the county. **Cache County** reports growers are continuing with harvests of wheat, barley and alfalfa hay. Yields and quality of small grains are good this year. Silage corn and safflower look to be exceptional this season. Some growers within the county are getting ready to plant winter wheat. **Beaver County** reports 3rd crop alfalfa harvest is going well. **Utah County** reports that the rangelands could use some rain. Wheat harvest will be winding up this week while peaches and apples are being harvested. **Duchesne County** reports most of the corn is tasseled out and growing well. Almost all of the grain in the county has been harvested and production was very good. **Morgan County** reports the range areas have high grasshopper infestations, but feed continues to be plentiful. **Wayne County** reports the lack of rain is causing an impact on late season grazing, some winter ranges are going to be about half of normal. A few summer ranges will be grazed out 2-3 weeks early. Hot dry weather has been good for the alfalfa harvest.

**Crop Progress
for Week Ending August 30, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley Harvested (Grain)	86	75	84	88
Oats Harvested (Grain)	70	57	62	74
Winter Wheat Harvested	94	85	96	95
Corn Dough Stage	49	46	45	67
Alfalfa Third Cutting	52	31	36	62
Peach Harvested	44	34	42	46
Pears Harvested	41	11	0	0

**Soil Moisture
for Week Ending August 30, 2009**

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	4	31	65	0
Subsoil	4	38	58	0
Irrigation water supplies	10	23	67	0
Stock water supplies	12	21	67	0

Livestock Summary

Box Elder reports cattle and calves continue to do well on summer ranges. Some of the ranges have dried out without summer thunderstorms but most producers report that they still have good feed and their cattle are healthy. Sheep producers will begin to sort lambs in the next few weeks and send the larger lambs to market. The sheep are in great condition and lambs should be in good shape. **Emery County** reports some livestock have to come off mountain ranges early as the very dry summer has forced producers to bring them home early. Irrigation water supplies are beginning to become short as we get towards the end of the irrigation season. Irrigated crops continue to do well. Valley pastures and rangeland will be in tough shape this fall as rainstorms have been few and far between. Livestock are doing well even though grazing conditions are deteriorating. **Cache County** reports beef producers are happy for the abundance of feed. Dairy producers continue to struggle with negative cash flows and dwindling equity. Pastures and rangelands responded well to the rainstorms last week.

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending August 30, 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	2	9	33	51	5
Corn	0	0	25	62	13
Sheep	0	0	8	82	10
Cattle/calves	0	0	13	80	7

**Livestock Percent
for Week Ending August 30, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Sheep/Lambs Moved from Summer Range	23	7	0	0