



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

Issue 27 Week Ending September 6, 2009

Rick Kestle, Director

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Agricultural Summary

The week was mostly hot and dry throughout the state and harvesting is underway for several crops. All 7 days were suitable for field work.

Field Crops Summary

No rain fell in **Box Elder County** this week and it was a good week of moderate to warm temperatures. Farmers were able to work in the fields all week. Progress continued on land preparation for seeding of fall grain. Some producers are burning stubble and irrigating fields in preparation for planting fall grain. Dry land producers have seeded winter wheat or will seed winter wheat in the next week or so. Most report that they have moisture although some state that it is a little deeper than they would like. Hay producers are continuing to harvest and bale hay. Some are just finishing 3rd crop while others are just finishing 4th crop. Alfalfa seed producers are beginning the harvest process and should be combining seed this week. Onion producers will begin harvest this week on some of the transplanted onions and they should begin lifting the direct seeded onions in about two weeks. Some corn producers need a little more good hot weather to help with corn maturity due to the cool down in mid August. Corn Silage producers have begun to chop edges of fields to open them up and should be in full harvest mode by the end of the week. **Cache County** farmers enjoyed another good week for harvest. Wheat, barley, and alfalfa harvest continues to make good progress. Corn silage looks to be two or three weeks later than most years. There is concern that much of the silage corn will not be mature before killing frosts come. Some irrigation systems have run out of water also, making it very difficult to finish the corn silage properly. Corn is growing well in **Weber County** and harvest of corn silage will begin in about a week. **Carbon County** reports that irrigated crops have done well. **Duchesne County** reports that the temperatures last week of between 80 and 90 degrees have been great for the growing corn. The threat of moisture this weekend delayed producers from starting to harvest 3rd crop hay. No significant moisture was received, but due to the loss of first crop, producers are very wary of getting the hay rained on. There continues to be a large surplus of hay in the county as producers are having a hard time moving it. The irrigation supplies in most areas have gone longer than normal. Some are turning off this week or next and others have plenty of water left. In **Emery County** the weather has continued to be very nice this past week for irrigated crops to grow. Third crop hay is growing very nicely and producers should be getting a good crop if fall frosts don't come to soon. Other irrigated crops have done very well this year. Irrigation water supplies are beginning to get a little short but most of the growing season is through. **Summit County** farmers are finishing up with harvesting second crop alfalfa hay. Grasshoppers are starting to be a problem on range and farm land.

**Crop Progress
for Week Ending September 6, 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)	93	86	87	92
Oats Harvested (Grain)	79	70	69	82
Winter Wheat Harvested	97	94	97	97
Corn Dough Stage	68	49	71	82
Alfalfa Third Cutting	64	52	54	72
Peach Harvested	55	44	65	64
Pears Harvested	48	41	47	54

**Soil Moisture
for Week Ending September 6, 2009**

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	9	38	53	0
Subsoil	8	38	54	0
Irrigation water supplies	13	24	63	0
Stock water supplies	12	23	65	0

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County reports that Cattle and calves continue to do well. Cattle will begin moving home from summer ranges at the end of September through the end of October. Sheep producers will begin to gather and sort lambs this week or next. Lambs look good. It has been a very good feed year on summer ranges. In **Cache County** beef cattle and sheep continue to do well. Dairy farmers are very discouraged with market conditions, but continue to move forward as steadily as they can. In **Carbon County**, lack of rainfall on the desert is creating concern for winter range conditions for livestock for the coming season. **Duchesne County** reports that High temperatures continue to dry the soil out and decrease the quality of grazing in some areas. The livestock on mountain pastures continue to do well. Producers will begin to bring the animal's home within the next two weeks on some permits and others still have a month or so left. Cattle and sheep in **Emery County** continue to do well on mountain ranges but will be coming home soon. Mountains are very dry as moisture has been very short this summer. Winter grazing is going to be in tough shape and there will be very little water available in ponds. Producers will have to haul water in order to keep livestock on winter permits. **Summit County** reports that range grass is drying out due to a lack of rain. Sheep producers will start shipping lambs during the last part of September. Cattle producers will start shipping calves in October. Overall the ranges in **Beaver County** still look good but they are dry. Some ranchers are starting to bring their cattle home early due to the dry conditions. Hot, dry winds continue to dry out ranges in **Garfield and Kane Counties**. A few spotty thundershowers provided some relief for some ranges. **Wayne County** also reports that ranges are drying up very fast and winter ranges are starting show signs of extreme drought. Some cattle are coming home on their own because the feed is gone.

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending September 6, 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	10	35	48	6
Barley	0	0	9	70	21
Corn	0	0	26	61	13
Sheep	0	0	8	81	11
Cattle/calves	0	0	12	80	8

**Livestock Percent
for Week Ending September 6, 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	23	25	18