



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 29 Week Ending September 20, 2009

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Agricultural Summary

The small grain harvest is coming to an end. Days suitable for work were 6.3 days. Livestock continues to do well around the state.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder County reports rainstorms in the area with about four tenths in the Garland area and as much as eight tenths of an inch reported in the Snowville and Bear River City. Producers with corn silage continue to harvest and are reporting an excellent year for corn silage production. Small Grain harvest is just about over for the year and producers are moving into the safflower harvest. The safflower should produce very good yields. Fourth cutting of alfalfa continues but some alfalfa producers were only able to get 3 crops while others cut the hay at a younger stage and get 4 cuttings. Grain prices have dropped. The general feeling among grain farmers is that grain dealers are finding ways to pay lower prices for good quality grain. Onions are being lifted and dried in the fields. They will start hauling to onion sheds this week. Most fields look to yield well and the price at this point looks favorable. **Cache County** reports growers continue to make good progress with their field work. A storm early in the week dropped .75 inches of rain, causing a delay in harvesting crops and discouraging alfalfa hay growers and buyers who were counting on a quality third cutting. Swathers and hay balers are busy again today. Most of the small grains have been combined with respectable and even high yields. Safflower and silage corn appear to still be two or three weeks away from ideal harvest. Some growers are planting winter wheat and many producers are spreading manure on their fields prior to plowing. **Duchesne County** reports receiving some rainstorms this week. Some producers had some of their hay get rained on. The corn crop looks very good this year. Most producers will start harvesting corn silage this week or next, which is behind normal. Grain corn is starting to mature but is expected to be later than normal this year. Water supplies for some areas continue to hold up while others are out. **Morgan County** reports farmers are beginning to harvest 3rd cutting of alfalfa. Corn is late maturing this year, so harvest has not begun. **Weber County** reports fourth cutting of alfalfa is in full swing. Corn silage is late maturing, a few have started harvesting, while most will start next week. **Utah County** reports range conditions are better due to recent rainstorms. Third crop hay is being put up while the fruit harvest is going well. **Wayne County** reports scattered showers that did little to improve the dry conditions in the area. **Emery County** reports a few thundershowers in the area, this past week, limited some field work activities. A hail storm did some minor damage to crops in the county. Third crop hay is being cut and the weather has stayed quite warm to date to allow the alfalfa to continue to grow. Crops have done very well this growing season and no signs of frost yet this fall. Irrigation water supplies have held out well this year. **Uintah County** reports most areas received 0.5 to 1 inch of rain this week, which was good for the ranges but reduced quality on hay in windrows. Miller moths have been abundant so it could mean lots of army cutworms next spring. **Summit County** reports farmers are still harvesting 3rd crop alfalfa hay. Heavy grasshopper infestations are reported on rangeland.

**Crop Progress
for Week Ending September 20, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Onions Harvested	46	30	57	57
Oats Harvested (Grain)	95	90	86	91
Winter Wheat Planted	44	22	44	42
Corn Dent Stage	74	36	73	76
Corn Mature	50	19	27	36
Alfalfa Third Cutting	83	73	77	90
Apple Harvested	22	16	33	41
Peach Harvested	61	60	89	89
Pears Harvested	59	51	68	83

**Soil Moisture
for Week Ending September 20, 2009**

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	37	57	0
Subsoil	6	38	56	0
Irrigation water supplies	11	23	66	0
Stock water supplies	11	19	70	0

Livestock Summary

Box Elder reports livestock producers are beginning to bring some animals off summer pastures and onto fall feed. Most of the fall pastures look to be in good to excellent condition. Lamb producers have begun to sort and ship lambs to lamb buyers. **Cache County** reports sheep and beef cattle continue to do well, and have ample feed in pastures and in cultivated acres being grazed for aftermath. Dairymen are grateful for lower feed costs, but still struggle daily with negative cash flows. The county continues to lose a few good dairy producers each month. **Duchesne County** reports producers will start to bring livestock home in the next three weeks. **Emery County** reports cattle and sheep will begin moving off of summer ranges over the next few weeks. Animals are in good shape coming off of summer range. Winter ranges look to be in poor shape with little or no livestock water in ponds and available feed is in short supply since summer thunderstorms were few and far between. **Summit County** reports livestock starting to be moved off summer ranges as range grass is drying out due to frost and colder temperatures.

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending September 20, 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	12	31	47	8
Corn	0	0	23	63	14
Sheep	0	0	7	82	11
Cattle/calves	0	0	13	75	12

**Livestock Percent
for Week Ending September 20, 2009**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle Moved from Summer Range	17	16	18	34
Sheep/Lambs Moved from Summer Range	27	25	34	31