



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Agricultural Summary

A variety of weather was seen across the state of Utah throughout December of 2010. Most of Utah experienced rain and snow showers the beginning of December. By mid December temperatures rose above freezing and storm events came as rain in lower elevations; which allowed moisture to then enter the soil profile. The end of December brought snow storms, and the New Year was welcomed with frigid temperatures and lingering snow from previous storms. Mountain snow pack and soil moisture content across the state is above average for this time of year, and has increased since November. The top soil moisture content for December was 1 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus.

Field Crops Summary

There was very little field activity across the State of Utah in December. Most of the winter wheat in **Box Elder County** entered the winter months in good condition. Snow mold may be a concern if the snowpack remains into the month of March. Some grain corn remains standing in **Utah County**. Fruit trees have been damaged due to heavy snow. **Garfield and Kane Counties** received warm rains which enabled forages to continue growing. Some flooding has occurred in those counties. **Iron County** producers are concerned the excellent soil moisture conditions may produce an abundant crop of cheatgrass which could result in an increase of wildfires this summer.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder and Duchesne Counties livestock producers are feeding cattle and preparing for calving season which is expected to begin around February 1st 2011. Cattle appear to be in good condition. In **Weber County** livestock producers are glad temperatures are below freezing so they do not have to deal with mud. In **Utah and Beaver Counties** some producers have started their calving seasons. In **Uintah County** livestock have been stressed due to the temperature swings this past month.