



# Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 21 Week Ending July 31, 2011

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## Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for field work averaged 6.2. Thunderstorms and monsoonal rains slowed fieldwork last week. Soil Moisture content increased from the previous week. Topsoil moisture content was rated 18 percent short and 80 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

### Field Crops Summary

Corn in **Box Elder County** is growing rapidly due to the favorable weather; however, crop development is still slower than normal when compared to previous years. Farmers are hoping the corn will mature before the first frost. Winter wheat harvest is underway. Dryland farmers are reporting good yields but low protein content. Alfalfa hay producers are still working on the second cutting. Some hay is down and will suffer quality losses due to the rain. Most of the second cutting appears to be good quality and average yield. Onion producers report that the crop is doing very well. Some late planted fields are still behind in development and will need a long fall to reach maturity. Safflower is in bloom in most parts of the county. Some irrigated safflower looks very good in the Bothwell area. The apricot harvest is underway, and the quality of the fruit looks good. Grasshoppers have been reported in the county. In **Utah County** the sweet cherry harvest is underway. Sweet cherry production is low due to early frosts. Many **Cache County** growers have been working hard during the past week cutting the second crop of hay. One inch of rain put a stop to harvest activities for a few days last week. Corn has been growing well with the warmer days. Wheat and barley are starting to turn, although harvest is not expected to begin for at least two more weeks. Safflower is flowering and most fields look very good. Grasshopper numbers have been increasing. **Duchesne County** continued to receive rain in the afternoons last week. Rain has been very good for the grass and summer pastures, but has provided a problem for farmers trying to harvest hay. The corn crop is growing very well although it is behind normal due to late planting. Corn and alfalfa are in good condition in **Beaver County**. The Mormon cricket infestation is improving but farmers are still having major problems with grasshoppers. The second crop of hay was rained on in **Iron County**. Alfalfa hay in **Wayne and Piute Counties** was also damaged by rain.

### Livestock Summary

Livestock in **Box Elder County** are in good condition. One sheep producer reported that sheep losses due to coyotes and other predators are higher than previous years. Pasture conditions are excellent. Pastures and rangeland in **Cache County** are still in good condition, with adequate forage for livestock. Range and livestock conditions remain excellent in **Utah, Beaver, and Carbon Counties**. Many producers in **Iron County** believe the high elevation ranges have never looked better in their lifetimes.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending July 31, 2011

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley Harvested (Grain)	9	7	11	24
Oats Headed Stage	93	86	92	94
Oats Harvested Silage/Hay	70	49	81	81
Spring Wheat Headed	92	87	100	99
Winter Wheat Harvested	20	11	21	36
Corn Silk Stage	15	5	39	51
Alfalfa Second Cutting	57	41	60	71
Other Hay Cut	91	88	87	85
Apricots Harvested	78	43	75	88
Sweet Cherries Harvested	87	59	91	95
Tart Cherries Harvested	46	30	53	73

### Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending July 31, 2011

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	0	1	11	67	21
Spring Wheat	0	2	16	61	21
Winter Wheat	1	1	29	56	13
Barley	0	1	12	63	24
Oats	0	1	11	77	11
Corn	1	5	34	56	4
Sheep	0	0	7	72	21
Cattle/calves	0	0	8	75	17

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending July 31, 2011

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	18	80	2
Subsoil	0	12	88	0
Irrigation water supplies	0	6	80	14
Stock water supplies	0	5	87	8