



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 28 Week Ending September 18, 2011

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Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for field work averaged 5.8. Temperature highs were in the 70s and 80s for the week. Many parts of the state received significant rainfall toward the end of the week. Topsoil moisture content increased some from the previous week to 3 percent very short, 26 percent short and 71 percent adequate. Range and pasture conditions good to excellent declined from 89 percent to 80 percent.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder County reported that crops continued to progress through the first part of the week. Farmers are busy planting wheat and other small grains, finishing up on third crop hay and starting to chop corn. Scattered rain fell on Friday night and Saturday in most portions of the county and dry farmers were reporting that they received enough moisture to begin drilling the rest of their fall grain. Some hay was on the ground in windrows when it rained. It will be raked and baled when it is dry enough but the quality will be affected because of the moisture. The corn crop continues to mature and silage corn looks good but there is concern that it may not all mature. Some producers feel they need the weather to stay frost free until October 10th. There was a lot of dryland wheat planted prior to the latest storm. Farmers had to plant deeper than they normally do to find moisture; as a result, some of the grain looks a little spotty. Weekend rains in **Cache County** damaged alfalfa that was still in the windrow. Hay that is still standing will likely be cut this week, now that warm dry weather has returned. Hay yields are good. There are still some wheat, barley and oats to be harvested for grain, though most fields are done. Safflower is maturing nicely. Most growers will begin harvesting safflower near the first of October. Growers are happy about the stage of maturity for most silage corn. The hot days in late August and early September enhanced maturity much more than anticipated. Some silage corn is being harvested already, though most will not be ready for two or three more weeks. Growers are glad there has not been a killing frost yet. Almost daily rain showers in **Garfield, Kane and Iron Counties** have delayed farmers cutting and harvesting hay. **Carbon County** reports that light rains have slowed field work, but have not done much to increase topsoil moisture.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County livestock continues to do well and pastures seem to be holding up very well. Producers are busy bringing cows, calves, sheep and lambs off summer range. The calf and lamb crops look good. Sheep producers will begin this week to sort lambs and move some sheep from summer ranges to fall pastures. Prices for fat lambs are up. All livestock are doing well in **Cache County**. There is adequate fall grazing and temperatures are conducive to steady growth rates. **Carbon County** range and pasture lands are mostly in excellent condition. Producers will graze as long as possible to help alleviate the effect of high feed costs.

Crop Progress for Week Ending September 18, 2011

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Onions Harvested	20	13	18	44
Oats Harvested (Grain)	87	84	90	91
Winter Wheat Planted	31	NA	39	31
Corn Dough Stage	80	67	87	94
Corn Dent Stage	33	13	41	66
Alfalfa Third Cutting	64	59	71	83
Apple Harvested	5	1	23	32
Peach Harvested	59	36	73	77

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending September 18, 2011

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	0	2	18	64	16
Corn	1	3	29	62	5
Sheep	0	0	7	66	27
Cattle/calves	0	0	7	76	17

Livestock Percent for Week Ending September 18, 2011

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	12	5	15	31
Sheep Moved from Summer Range	9	4	12	28

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 18, 2011

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	3	26	71	0
Subsoil	3	21	76	0
Irrigation water supplies	3	14	83	0
Stock water supplies	0	10	84	6