



# Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 31 Week Ending October 9, 2011

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## Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for field work last week averaged 4. Most of the state received a considerable amount of rain last week. Temperatures dropped and some areas across the state experienced frost. Soil moisture content increased from the previous week. Last week's topsoil moisture content was at 11 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus.

## Field Crops Summary

In **Box Elder County** farmers have been busy chopping corn for silage and harvesting onions; however, midweek snow and rain slowed the progress. Some areas of the county reported frost. The rain was welcome by many dryland farmers. Winter wheat is looking much better as a result of the rains. Now, there should also be ample moisture for those who have not planted winter wheat yet. Safflower yields have been good so far. In **Cache County** corn silage harvest continues but is nowhere near completion. Corn to be harvested for grain is not mature. Safflower harvest is beginning. Most of the fall grain already planted has emerged and looks good. Corn harvested for silage has begun in **Weber and Morgan Counties**. Corn maturity in **Sevier County** is still behind average. Crop growth in **Duchesne County** was reduced significantly due to cool temperatures. Irrigation will end soon. Producers are trying to finish up cutting hay, but some 3rd and 4th cuttings of alfalfa have been rained on which slowed progress. Corn silage harvest continues. The corn seems to be drying down faster than last year even though it was planted later. It is hoped grain corn will be harvested by December. Most areas in **Uintah County** received snow and a killing frost, which brought the growing season to an abrupt end. However, most crops had already reached normal maturity. In **Beaver County** the snow, rain and frost really slowed down crop growth. The weather in **Iron County** made it hard for producers to get the 3rd cutting of hay dry enough to bale. In **Wayne County**, reservoirs are nearly full and irrigation companies are sending water downstream to make room for 2012 spring runoff.

## Livestock Summary

Livestock in **Box Elder County** are doing well; producers are moving cattle and sheep from summer ranges to fall pastures. Ranchers are also busy weaning calves and lambs. Sheep and cattle continue to do well in **Cache County**. **Morgan County** ranges continue to have good quality grass. Operators in **Carbon County** are starting to move cattle off of Forest Service Land. Producers plan to keep cattle on private summer ranges until late October as a way to lower feed costs. Many livestock producers

in **Duchesne County** have begun moving livestock off of summer ranges. Cattle are in very good condition and benefitted from the abundant moisture received last spring. Some high mountain ranges in **Iron County** received over a foot of snow; however, feed remains abundant and animals are in very good condition. Producers are in the process of removing lambs from ranges and selling them. Ewes which are grazed on private land will remain on mountain pasture until the end of the month.

Crop Progress  
for Week Ending October 9, 2011

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Onions Harvested	64	44	68	79
Winter Wheat Planted	82	72	84	72
Corn Dough Stage	97	94	98	99
Corn Dent Stage	81	67	76	93
Corn Mature	51	23	52	76
Corn Silage Harvested	53	38	68	65
Alfalfa Third Cutting	92	87	94	98
Apple Harvested	49	19	67	70
Peach Harvested	95	85	98	98

Crop & Livestock Condition  
for Week Ending October 9, 2011

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	0	1	15	68	16
Corn	1	4	27	62	6
Sheep	0	0	7	64	29
Cattle/calves	0	0	7	75	18

Livestock Percent  
for Week Ending October 9, 2011

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cattle Moved from Summer Range	46	27	56	60
Sheep Moved from Summer Range	47	31	64	64

Soil Moisture  
for Week Ending October 9, 2011

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	11	79	10
Subsoil	0	20	79	1
Irrigation water supplies	0	18	79	3
Stock water supplies	0	9	90	1