



# Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

Utah Field Office · PO Box 25007 · Salt Lake City, Utah 84125  
(800) 747-8522 · (801) 524-3090 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Issue 32 Week Ending October 16, 2011

John Hilton, Director

Released October 17, 2011

## Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for field work last week averaged 6.5. Weather conditions in Utah were favorable for field work last week. Soil moisture content decreased slightly from the previous week. Last week's topsoil moisture content was at 17 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

## Field Crops Summary

Weather conditions for field work in Utah improved last week. Farmers in **Box Elder and Cache Counties** were busy swathing alfalfa, harvesting onions, chopping corn for silage and planting winter wheat. Most of the late alfalfa is being green chopped for silage. Some producers are continuing to plant winter wheat as the corn is harvested. Winter wheat plantings look very healthy due to recent moisture. Moisture levels in corn remain high; however, a few farmers have begun to harvest corn for grain. Efforts were made to harvest safflower, but the moisture levels were too high last week. Dryland farmers have been waiting for safflower to dry down following the storms last week. Corn silage harvest in **Weber County** is finally underway. Good weather has allowed most of the corn to mature appropriately for silage. A recent frost in Sevier County has ended the growing season. Apple harvest in **Utah County** is well underway, and so far, apples are in excellent condition. Peach production was spotty; areas that were not affected by frost had excellent peach yields. Many producers in **Duchesne County** are trying to finish cutting hay. The growth of crops has slowed as temperatures have cooled. The corn crop has started to dry down and many producers are hoping it will be ready to harvest soon. Wet and cool weather in high elevations has delayed alfalfa hay harvest in **Wayne and Piute Counties**. The warm weather last week was welcomed by producers who were anxious to bale hay.

## Livestock Summary

In **Box Elder and Cache Counties** calves were weaned and shipped to buyers. Prices have generally been good. Producers were also busy pregnancy checking cows and administering vaccinations. Livestock producers in **Utah County** continue to move animals off of summer ranges. Many lambs have been shipped straight from the range to the feedlots. Some cattle in **Carbon County** are beginning to move to lower elevation pastures on their own. Livestock are in very good condition in **Duchesne County**. Producers continue to move livestock off of summer ranges.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending October 16, 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         | 82             | 64             | 79             | 89             |
| Winter Wheat Planted     | 85             | 82             | 87             | 81             |
| Corn Dent Stage          | 89             | 81             | 85             | 96             |
| Corn Mature              | 59             | 51             | 66             | 85             |
| Corn Harvested for Grain | 5              | 1              | 7              | 30             |
| Corn Silage Harvested    | 74             | 53             | 85             | 76             |
| Alfalfa Third Cutting    | 98             | 92             | 99             | 100            |
| Apple Harvested          | 60             | 49             | 78             | 79             |

### Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending October 16, 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              | 6              | 18             | 65             | 11             |
| Corn            | 1              | 1              | 25             | 68             | 5              |
| Sheep           | 0              | 0              | 5              | 73             | 22             |
| Cattle/calves   | 0              | 0              | 9              | 75             | 16             |

### Livestock Percent for Week Ending October 16, 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 | 62             | 46             | 71             | 72             |
| Sheep Moved from Summer Range  | 66             | 47             | 76             | 74             |

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 16, 2011

| Item                 | Very Short     | Short          | Adequate       | Surplus        |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                      | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Topsoil              | 0              | 17             | 80             | 3              |
| Subsoil              | 0              | 22             | 77             | 1              |
| Stock water supplies | 0              | 10             | 89             | 1              |