



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 38 Week Ending November 20, 2011

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Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for field work last week averaged 4.6. Cold and wet weather dominated last week; snow storms were experienced across much of the state. Soil moisture content decreased slightly from the previous week. Last week's topsoil moisture content was 7 percent short, 86 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder County farmers in the Bear River Valley continued to harvest grain corn. Moisture levels remained high. Last week, snow fell on most of the county; some of the higher elevations received over six inches of snow. Due to the winter weather, corn harvest has been delayed. Winter wheat was being planted on some fields where corn had recently been harvested. Many dryland wheat producers are concerned with future snow mold problems due to the snow falling on unfrozen ground. Farmers were trying to prepare fields as much as possible last week, to get an early start on spring crops. Alfalfa hay producers reported a good year overall. Some first crop hay had rain damage, but most of the other crops were of good quality and quantity. Grain and corn prices have decreased since the beginning of harvest; many growers in the area are waiting until after the first of the year to sell their grain. Field work in **Cache County** is virtually finished for the season. Grain corn still needs to be harvested, but conditions are not conducive at this time. Growers are very grateful for the extended fall harvest season which allowed them to complete most of the harvest. Most crop yields were unusually good this season, even with the late spring planting. Field work in **Morgan and Carbon Counties** is complete. Some corn producers have started to harvest grain in **Duchesne County**. Producers are concerned about corn moisture levels especially with the snow received last week. Producers in **Beaver County** were completing fall tillage and waiting for corn to dry down. Some reservoirs in **Wayne County** are nearing capacity; it is not yet known what will happen to irrigation supplies once the spring runoff begins.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County ranchers were wrapping up marketing and shipping calves. Some producers were moving cattle to winter ranges. Prices have remained strong for calves and livestock in

general which has been a relief for producers. Most of the county's larger sheep producers are now in the breeding season. Some ranchers in **Cache County** were forced to begin feeding cattle due to the weekend snow storm. Nearly all livestock in **Morgan County** have been removed from summer ranges. Ranchers in **Carbon County** were searching for the last of their cattle in the mountains. Snow has begun to accumulate in the mountains. Producers in **Duchesne County** have not yet begun feeding cattle, but expect to start in the near future. Producers are marketing and shipping calves. A lack of excess hay and high feed prices might create problems for feeding cattle next spring. Livestock in **Beaver County** are in good condition.

Crop Progress for Week Ending November 20, 2011

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat Emerged	90	87	90	94
Corn Mature	95	94	95	99
Corn Grain Harvested	66	59	69	85

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending November 20, 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	3	20	68	9
Sheep	0	0	5	72	23
Cattle/calves	0	0	5	77	18

Soil Moisture for Week Ending November 20, 2011

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	7	86	7
Subsoil	0	10	88	2
Stock water supplies	0	2	96	2