



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 8 Week Ending April 29, 2012

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Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for field work were 6. In parts of Northern Utah temperatures were 10 to 15 degrees above normal at the first of the week with highs in the upper 70's and lower 80's. About 1/4 to 1/2 inch of precipitation was received Thursday in the northern part of the state. High temperatures at the end of the week were in the 40's and 50's with a hard frost in many parts of **Box Elder County** on Friday morning and light frost on Saturday morning. It is anticipated that irrigation water will be very short this year in those areas that rely on stream flow. Irrigation is taking place in parts of Central Utah, where cropland is dry. Eastern Utah did not receive much moisture this past week. The soil continues to dry out and concerns about irrigation water continue to increase. Irrigation throughout the area is in full swing and seems to be going very well. Topsoil moisture content was rated 26 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus.

Field Crop Summary

Box Elder County Crops, that have emerged, grew rapidly at the first of the week because of the warm temperatures. Fall wheat is looking very good in many parts of the county. Alfalfa fields were putting on some growth with fields reaching between 4 to 15 inches in height in different parts of the county. Some corn was planted this week but most of the corn producers are waiting until the first week in May to plant seed. Most onions in the county have emerged and are about 3 inches tall. The cold weather at the end of the week could have caused light to moderate damage to alfalfa and possible light fruit damage. In **Cache County** some growers are planting corn this week, as the soil has adequate moisture. Alfalfa hay is looking very good, as are pastures. **Duchesne County** reports that many farmers are beginning to plant corn which is considerably earlier than most years. Alfalfa is progressing because of warm temperatures and the irrigation that has been applied. This year's first crop could be harvested earlier than normal. **Morgan County** reports that spring crops are progressing well. **Weber County** reports that conditions have been good for getting spring field work completed and farmers are now focusing their effort into planting corn, with most of the corn anticipated to be planted by the end of next week.

Livestock Summary

In **Box Elder County** the livestock producers continue to brand and vaccinate calves in preparation for turnout on summer ranges. Feed in pastures could be short this year unless we get timely rainstorms to help the grass and other plants develop. Sheep producers are busy shearing range sheep. Calves and lambs seem to be doing well. In **Cache County** operators are branding and vaccinating beef calves and are now turning them out on summer pastures. **Duchesne County** livestock producers are finishing up working and branding calves. Producers have experience very little sickness and death in calves and lambs because of the favorable weather. **Beaver County** reports that livestock have been doing well this past week. **Utah County** livestock are in good shape, but range conditions are dry.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 29, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley Planted	95	92	44	72
Barley Emerged	76	61	23	37
Oats Planted	80	62	38	54
Oats Emerged	48	24	14	20
Spring Wheat Emerged	80	68	20	38
Corn Planted	20	9	4	11
Apple Full Bloom	92	50	14	45
Sweet Cherries Full Bloom	99	93	44	68
Tart Cherries Full Bloom	95	88	15	59

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending April 29, 2012

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	42	49	3
Spring Wheat	0	0	19	57	24
Winter Wheat	0	0	22	55	23
Sheep	0	0	8	67	25
Cattle/calves	0	0	10	69	21

Livestock Percent for Week Ending April 29, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cows Calved	95	90	89	90
Sheep Sheared on Farm	93	86	87	62
Sheep Sheared on Range	83	66	81	53
Ewes Lambd on Farm	93	85	87	89
Ewes Lambd on Range	60	44	50	49

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 29, 2012

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	26	73	1
Subsoil	0	36	64	0
Irrigation water supplies	1	15	83	1
Stock water supplies	1	16	82	1

Freeze Damage for Week Ending April 29, 2012

Item	None	Light	Moderate	Severe
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fruit	42	23	25	10