Agricultural Summary

For the week ending July 8th there was a reported 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Winter wheat harvest has begun and much needed rain came throughout Utah. Irrigation water has been cut off as of today in some areas of Duchesne and surrounding counties. Producers in the state report increasing hay prices.

Field Crop Summary

In Box Elder County, wheat harvest is under way while most of the second hay crop is down. Although there is no report on wheat yields, lower yields are expected due to frost in May and June. Corn in the county has been reported in good to excellent condition. Cache County’s second crop alfalfa is coming along with wheat and barley harvest expected within days. Irrigated corn is reported in excellent condition. Producers with limited irrigation water are experiencing stress in corn and alfalfa. Winter wheat is also being harvested in Utah County and second cutting of hay is well under way. Tart Cherry producers are looking at a good to excellent crop this year. In Duchesne County, corn continues to progress but there is concern over lack of irrigation water. Emery County producers are expecting a very poor second cutting of alfalfa due to lack of irrigation water. Winter wheat in Iron County is expected to have reduced yields due to frost damage. Summit County producers continue to cut and bale alfalfa and grass hay with some areas of the county expecting to be out of irrigation water by the end of July. Rich County producers expect hay production to be about half of last years.

Livestock Summary

Ranchers in Box Elder County report that rain last week helped preserve some rangeland feed particularly in higher elevations but some still expect to bring their livestock home early. Cache County ranchers report that range and pasturelands are dwindling but livestock continue to do quite well. In Utah County, cooler temperatures helped range conditions. Fires in Carbon County have significantly reduced the number of range acres available for grazing. Feed availability for both summer and fall and has become a greater concern. Livestock in Summit County continue to look good, but range conditions are dry. Iron County ranchers are expecting to move their livestock from ranges early unless more rain comes.