



# 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](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Issue 29 Week Ending September 23, 2012

John Hilton, Director

Released September 24, 2012

## Agricultural Summary

For the week ending September 23, 2012, there was a reported 7.0 days suitable for field work. In **Box Elder County** the weather continued to be warmer than normal and dry which provided ideal conditions for field work. **Carbon County** reports that mountain rain storms have allowed irrigators a little more time at the end of the season. **Duchesne County** has not received moisture for a couple weeks. Things continue to dry out and almost the entire county has stopped irrigating as irrigation supplies are depleted.

## Field Crop Summary

**Beaver County** reports finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> crop of alfalfa. Corn silage harvest is starting. In **Box Elder County** many dry land wheat-farmers are beginning to plant their wheat with insufficient soil moisture to sprout the seed. The onion harvest is in full swing. The crop looks good although there are some problems with sun scald; the crop looks to be above average. Onion farmers took advantage of the dry weather this week and were busy picking up onions and hauling them to the storage sheds. Weather conditions helped farmers who were busy this week finishing chopping corn for silage. Some producers are beginning to combine high moisture grain corn to grind and pack into the silage pit. Silage yields look to be about average to slightly above average. The safflower harvest is wrapping up with yields ranging from poor to moderate. Alfalfa hay is still being cut and baled. Most producers will take 4 crops of hay. **Cache County** reports the harvest of corn silage is in full swing this week. Conditions are still extremely dry however, and several growers continue holding back on planting winter wheat. Safflower harvest is also underway. Yields are generally disappointing, especially on land that was not irrigated. **Duchesne County** reports that the corn crop has fared well in spite of the lack of water. **San Pete County** reports that there is no frost damage on corn yet.

## Livestock Summary

**Beaver County** reports that cows are starting to come off summer range and they look good. Range lands look fair but are drying out again. In **Box Elder County** livestock producers have started to bring cows and sheep off summer ranges. Sheep producers have been sorting and shipping lambs. They report that lambs are much lighter this year due to feed conditions and dust. Cattle and sheep producers are concerned about fall feed conditions and are still hoping for a good rain storm to soften old feed and bring some new green shoots. **Cache County** livestock producers are scrambling to find sufficient fall grazing for their animals. **Duchesne County** reports that fall feed, for livestock coming home from summer range, is very short both in pastures and harvested hay. Producers are starting to bring livestock off the summer range earlier than normal. **Uintah County** reports mountain pasture feed is now depleted. Livestock will soon begin moving to irrigated pastures.

## Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending September 23, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	11	27	32	29	1
Corn	1	4	25	53	17
Sheep	0	3	16	75	6
Cattle/calves	0	4	28	63	5

## Crop Progress for Week Ending September 23, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Onions Harvested	66	29	26	49
Oats Harvested (Grain)	93	88	91	93
Winter Wheat Planted	35	30	54	48
Corn Dough Stage	96	93	88	94
Corn Dent Stage	83	67	47	69
Corn Mature	49	23	4	33
Corn Silage Harvested	43	33	11	22
Alfalfa Third Cutting	92	85	75	83
Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	35	23	NA	14
Apple Harvested	35	29	10	30
Peach Harvested	80	77	73	80

## Livestock Percent for Week Ending September 23, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cattle Moved from Summer Range	22	15	15	29
Sheep Moved from Summer Range	25	10	12	27

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 23, 2012

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	23	44	33	0
Subsoil	31	42	27	0
Irrigation water supplies	36	31	33	0
Stock water supplies	19	32	49	0