



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 31 Week Ending October 7, 2012

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Released October 8, 2012

Agricultural Summary

For the week ending October 7, 2012, there was a reported 5.65 days suitable for field work. **Box Elder County** had another dry week with cold air moving in. The first widespread frost occurred this week which put an end to the growing season. Temperatures were around 26 degrees in the Bear River Valley and in the mid teens in many other parts of the County. **Cache County** growers who had irrigation water enjoyed excellent crops and yields. Dry land farmers had a dismal year with limited production because of persistent hot and dry conditions. **Duchesne County** received its first freezing temperatures this past week. This has started to slow the growth of crops and will begin to help the dry down of the corn crop. Producers have begun working the fields for fall planted crops hoping that some moisture is received to help give the crop a good start. **Sevier County** reports that they have not yet received a killing frost in the Sevier Valley. **Uintah County** reported light to hard frost throughout the county this week.

Field Crop Summary

In **Box Elder County** the onion harvest is reported as “coming along quite well”. Farmers were busy this week cutting grain corn. Most of it is being cut as high moisture corn but some is being put through the dryers so it can be stored in bins. Yields and quality are good. All silage corn has been harvested and put into storage in the county. Dry land wheat producers are still waiting for moisture before planting their fall wheat. Many of them anticipate making a decision in the next two weeks about dusting the seed into the ground with the hopes that moisture will come and it will germinate under the snow. Many expect to work with crop insurance agents to obtain coverage with options on the possibility that the wheat does not come up or turns out poorly next spring. Safflower harvest is just about complete in the county. The frost will dry down the weeds on the acres not yet harvested allowing a combine to cut the crop. The results for safflower have mostly been poor this year on dry land acreage. Soil moisture was limited at planting causing poor germination. **Cache County** reports several growers hesitating to plant winter wheat or barley because of the lack of moisture for germination. In **Duchesne County** many producers are harvesting corn silage. Crop maturity seems to be later than usual. Grain corn, on the other hand, is expected to be ready earlier this year; the drought seems to have caused the crop to start drying down sooner than usual. Producers have begun working the fields for fall planted crops hoping that some moisture is received to help give the crop a good start.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County cattlemen and sheep producers are very concerned about the lack of available fall and winter pasture. **Cache County** livestock producers are concerned about limited fall

forage. Feed prices are high, and it appears many will need to start feeding expensive hay much sooner than anticipated. Fortunately, prices are still quite good for feeder calves....which are being moved this month to new locations or feedlots. **Duchesne County** livestock producers have begun to ship calves and sheep this past week and will continue to do so throughout the month.

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending October 7, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	16	35	34	15	0
Corn	0	1	11	65	23
Sheep	0	1	12	80	7
Cattle/calves	0	2	26	67	5

Crop Progress for Week Ending October 7, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Onions Harvested	79	70	58	73
Winter Wheat Planted	52	47	79	73
Corn Dent Stage	94	90	77	87
Corn Mature	83	65	43	65
Corn Grain Harvested	26	16	1	12
Corn Silage Harvested	77	64	49	54
Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	65	43	NA	31
Apple Harvested	62	50	40	58
Peach Harvested	89	88	92	96

Livestock Percent for Week Ending October 7, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cattle Moved from Summer Range	57	37	41	51
Sheep Moved from Summer Range	58	37	42	54

Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 7, 2012

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	11	33	55	1
Subsoil	14	35	51	0
Irrigation water supplies	26	39	35	0
Stock water supplies	6	32	62	0