Agricultural Summary

For the week ending October 28, 2012, there was a reported 5.34 days suitable for field work. Beaver County reports they received rain this week. Box Elder County reports the weather turned a little wetter and colder in the county during the first part of the week. The storm produced just under an inch of moisture in the eastern part of the county while the rest of the county received about a half inch of rain. The snow level was about 5,000 feet and most of that snow has since melted. Cache County growers were very happy with storms early last week. Carbon County reported receiving their first hard frost this week.

Field Crop Summary

Beaver County reported that farmers are finishing fall work. In Box Elder County most dry land farmers dusted in their crop and now hope that the grain will sprout, make a root system, and a shoot before very cold weather settles in. The forecast for the week ahead has temperatures into the mid 60's, which may help the wheat along. Grain corn harvest slowed significantly this past week because of the wet weather, but should pick up this week. Over three fourths of the crop has been harvested with yields ranging from about 200 bushels per acre to as high as 304 bushels per acre. Some farmers were out this week disking corn stubble or trying to plow some fields in the morning on the frost. Most other field work has come to an end in the county. Some wheat will still be drilled in fields where corn is being cut and some dry farmers may try to plant additional wheat this week. Carbon County reports all crops, with the exception of grain corn, have been harvested. Winter wheat that has been planted is already responding to the moisture. Morgan County reports crop harvest is over. Weber County reported that all crops except grain corn have been harvested and fall grain is being planted.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder County Livestock producers have been working their cattle in preparation for shipping calves and separating cows to either hold over or sell. Cattle ranchers are concerned about lighter weaning weights on calves and the poor condition of their cows. Calf weights are averaging 50 to 150 lbs lighter this year. Some ranchers report as many as 20% of their cows are open. In Cache County beef calves have been weaned and most sold for a good price. Morgan County reports that livestock are being brought off the range two to three weeks early.