



Utah Crop Progress

Cooperating with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

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Crop Summary for the Month of March 2015

Agricultural Summary: With the arrival of an early spring, producers have been busy planting crops sooner than what is typical for Utah. Small grain seeding was advancing at a rapid pace. Most crops were reported to be in good condition as March drew to a close, but summer irrigation water supply shortages are expected as some producers had started their irrigation approximately six weeks ahead of normal. Cow pea aphid infestations were evident in some alfalfa fields due to the abnormally mild winter. Elsewhere, ground squirrels had caused damage to growing alfalfa. Peach and apricot trees were in full bloom in the northwestern part of the state. The mild weather has not only benefitted livestock in terms of calf and lamb deaths, but has allowed producers to decrease the amount of supplemental feed needed.

Crops, Livestock, and Pasture Condition

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter wheat	--	2	25	62	11
Cattle/calves	--	--	15	72	13
Sheep/lambs	--	--	22	72	6
Pasture/range	1	16	49	32	2

Soil Moisture Condition and Stock Water Supply

Item	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil moisture	10	52	38	--
Subsoil moisture	11	51	38	--
Hay and roughage supply	--	2	93	5
Stock water supply	3	25	72	--

Crop and Livestock Progress

Item	Current week	Previous month	Previous year	5-year average
Barley planted	44	NA	9	21
Cows calved	36	15	18	46
Ewes lambled - farm	18	12	14	34
Ewes lambled - range	5	1	2	10
Cattle – supplemental feeding	55	57	NA	NA
Sheep – supplemental feeding	38	53	NA	NA
Oats planted	25	NA	6	9
Spring wheat planted	49	NA	13	15

NA – not available

Soil Moisture - Utah Soil Climate Analysis Network - Mar-30-2015

Site name	Weekly Precip	Current Precip ¹	Prev. Yr. Precip ²	Soil Moisture					Current Avail. Water**	Current Avail. Water % of AWC*	Prev. Yr. Avail. Water**	Prev. Yr. Avail. Water % of AWC*
				2"	4"	8"	20"	40"				
				volume %								
	<i>in.</i>	<i>in.</i>	<i>in.</i>						<i>in.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>in.</i>	<i>%</i>
WESTERN												
Grouse Creek	0.40	4.9	5.3	12	21	24	27	28	6.3	93	5.5	81
Park Valley	0.06	2.3	3.9	3	7	16	nd	18	4.1	90	4.8	107
Goshute	0.00	2.0	3.7	17	nd	18	12	3	0.3	17	0.2	11
Dugway	0.00	1.7	3.8	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
Tule Valley	0.00	1.4	2.8	11	14	19	17	9	4.1	64	5.1	81
Hal's Canyon	0.00	1.8	2.4	1	7	11	11	8	1.0	18	1.4	27
Enterprise	0.00	4.3	2.4	8	36	31	21	16	3.3	82	1.0	25
DIXIE												
Sand Hollow	0.01	3.7	4.2	1	0	1	4	0	0.7	31	0.7	29
NORTH CENTRAL												
Blue Creek	0.38	4.3	6.2	27	27	35	32	18	5.1	99	5.8	113
Cache Junction	0.59	5.4	7.6	26	18	32	27	36	1.5	39	4.1	103
Grantsville	0.10	1.8	5.1	3	13	19	5	nd	1.6	83	1.2	64
SOUTH CENTRAL												
Nephi	0.01	4.1	5.1	15	17	17	10	0	0.6	14	1.5	33
Ephraim	0.02	3.1	5.1	23	35	35	39	35	8.4	90	4.8	52
Holden	0.00	2.8	3.5	5	4	0	14	12	0.6	10	0.6	10
Milford	0.00	2.7	2.0	21	28	29	27	16	2.9	44	1.3	20
Manderfield	0.00	2.7	3.2	20	19	18	18	5	2.2	41	0.3	6
Circleville	0.00	2.0	2.0	24	18	17	21	13	3.5	53	2.0	30
Panguitch	0.00	3.8	2.5	18	30	24	30	34	4.4	75	2.2	38
Cave Valley	0.00	6.5	5.6	1	5	6	5	7	1.6	30	2.0	32
Vermillion	0.00	6.2	5.8	1	10	11	20	31	5.3	111	1.6	33
Spooky	0.00	5.1	3.8	0	7	6	26	3	2.7	110	2.5	103
NORTHERN MOUNTAINS												
Chicken Ridge, sagebrush	0.25	3.4	2.7	18	20	25	24	22	5.5	77	4.7	65
Chicken Ridge, aspen	0.25	3.4	2.7	17	21	21	17	17	3.0	49	0.2	3
Buffalo Jump	0.14	3.1	3.7	12	15	16	10	na	0.9	20	1.5	35
Morgan	0.25	5.6	8.4	26	21	27	33	21	6.7	81	8.4	101
UINTAH BASIN												
Mountain Home	0.00	2.5	2.3	12	14	19	12	4	0.3	6	2.2	38
Little Red Fox	0.00	2.6	1.5	5	28	37	36	35	7.0	98	1.2	16
Split Mountain	0.00	2.5	3.6	10	20	16	16	12	2.1	31	2.3	34
SOUTHEAST												
Price	0.00	2.1	3.0	1	18	25	14	18	2.9	37	2.2	29
Green River	0.00	1.7	2.0	18	14	12	6	7	1.0	18	0.4	7
Ham's Way	0.00	4.0	4.1	nd	nd	23	22	6	3.2	63	2.7	53
West Summit	0.00	3.6	4.1	21	25	26	24	16	3.8	61	4.0	64
Eastland	0.00	3.9	4.4	21	21	25	33	27	6.4	108	6.7	113
Alkali Mesa	0.00	4.9	3.8	13	15	nd	21	17	1.9	38	1.0	20
McCracken Mesa	0.00	4.6	3.8	14	26	26	27	13	5.0	136	2.7	74
¹ from: 10/01/2014 to present ² from: 10/01/13 to 03/30/14 na = no sensor									What the colors mean:			
**plant available water in the top 40" of soil nd = missing data									= below wilting point (WP); too dry			
*AWC = available water capacity in the top 40" of soil									= between WP & FC; ideal			
									= above field capacity (FC); too wet			