



UTAH CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
UTAH FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING MAY 18, 2025

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Spring storm systems delivered some much-needed, decently widespread moisture to Utah during the past week, leaving producers 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Precipitation totals ranged from a trace to over 2 inches in isolated areas of central Utah, according to data from the National Water Prediction Service (NWPS). Large swaths of eastern Utah remained dry during the week. Virtually all western counties received above average moisture during the week. Quality rainfall was noted in Box Elder, Cache, Grand, and San Juan Counties, with expectations that the moisture will help improve the winter wheat crop in Grand and San Juan Counties. Reports from Box Elder County indicated the moisture helped with corn and spring sown small grains emergence, although, some hail damage was reported in orchards. Statewide, topsoil moisture condition was reported as 69 percent adequate, compared with 96 percent adequate to surplus last year. Grasshopper pressure was noted in Grand County, with reports indicating over 8 grasshoppers per square yard. Reports from Beaver County noted that corn planting was progressing well, and livestock were being worked prior to being turned out on summer ranges. Statewide, alfalfa hay condition was reported as 82 percent good to excellent, compared with 78 percent last year, with harvest underway on 1 percent of this year’s intended acreage. The first cutting of alfalfa was expected to start within the week in Box Elder County. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor for May 13, drought conditions shifted slightly when compared with the previous week, and remained significantly worse when compared with a year ago, when about 75 percent of Utah was categorized as drought free. Extreme drought (D3) conditions were estimated at slightly above 3 percent, severe drought (D2) conditions were at 39 percent, moderate drought (D1) encompassed roughly 30 percent, and abnormally dry (D0) conditions sat around 21 percent. About 7 percent of the State was drought-free. As of May 18, snow water equivalent (SWE), as a percent of median, ranged from 13 to 550 percent across the State’s basins, according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Average temperatures over the last 7 days varied depending on location, ranging from more than 4 degrees below to more than 4 degrees above normal, according to data provided by the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Temperatures across much of western Utah were mostly cooler than average, while areas along the eastern border were above average.

Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 2 percent very short, 10 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus, compared with 13 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus last year. Stock water supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 15 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus, compared with 1 percent very short, 3 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 26 percent surplus last year. Irrigation water supply was reported as 3 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 35 percent fair, and 57 percent good, compared with 15 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 18 percent excellent last year.

NOTE: The Crop-CASMA (**C**rop **C**ondition and **S**oil **M**oisture **A**nytics) for Root Zone Moisture can be accessed at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Utah by clicking on Crop Progress & Condition. For this data product, the root zone is defined as the top 3.2 feet of soil (approximately 1 meter).

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested	1	--	--	1
Barley				
Planted	95	84	91	NA
Emerged	80	71	33	61
Corn				
Planted	55	35	48	54
Emerged	22	12	7	16
Other hay				
1 st cutting harvested	1	NA	--	--
Tart cherries				
Full bloom	95	65	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Moved to pasture	53	38	40	56
Receiving supplemental feed	21	32	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled – range flock	86	76	68	80
Moved to pasture	70	55	51	67
Sheep shorn – farm flock	83	75	92	NA
Sheep shorn – range flock	80	72	75	
Receiving supplemental feed	12	27	NA	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	3.8	6.5	7.0	6.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	3	1	10
Short	30	35	3	29
Adequate.....	69	62	70	52
Surplus.....	--	--	26	9
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	1	4	1	11
Short	32	32	4	28
Adequate.....	66	63	71	52
Surplus.....	1	1	24	9
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	1	--	--
Poor	5	1	--	3
Fair.....	13	13	22	28
Good	55	63	67	60
Excellent	27	22	11	9
Barley				
Very poor	--	--	NA	NA
Poor	--	--	NA	NA
Fair.....	--	--	NA	NA
Good	77	84	NA	NA
Excellent	23	16	NA	NA
Other hay				
Very poor	--	--	--	1
Poor	4	2	--	6
Fair.....	14	16	10	31
Good	70	74	82	58
Excellent	12	8	8	4
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	6	5	--	8
Poor	18	10	--	19
Fair.....	26	28	28	35
Good	45	49	65	35
Excellent.....	5	8	7	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	7	7	--	5
Poor	9	8	2	15
Fair.....	19	18	12	32
Good	55	62	75	39
Excellent.....	10	5	11	9
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	--	1	--	1
Poor	2	1	1	2
Fair.....	10	12	9	20
Good	75	80	73	68
Excellent.....	13	6	17	9
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	--	1	--	1
Poor	3	1	--	5
Fair.....	10	14	12	28
Good	75	80	70	58
Excellent.....	12	4	18	8
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				