

Wayne County Agriculture Profile

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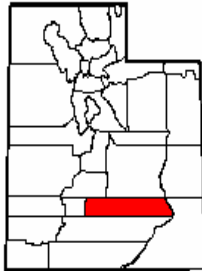
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Area: 2,460 square miles
 (1,574,400 acres)

Population: 2,454 (U.S.
 Census Bureau
 Estimate, 2003)

County seat: Loa

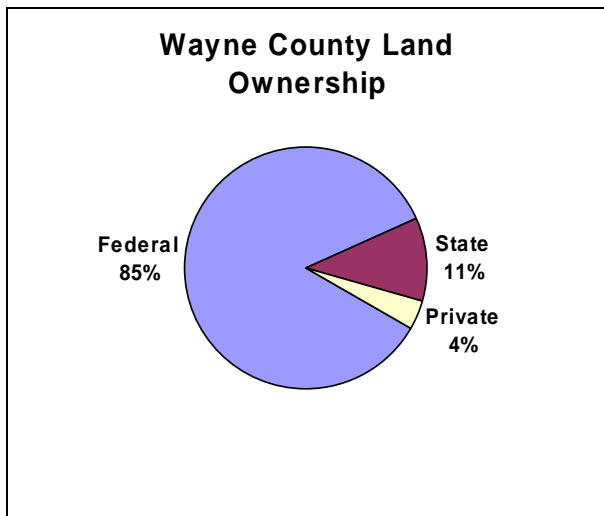


Location

Wayne County is located in the south east quadrant of the state.

Land Ownership

The land ownership within the county is divided as follows:



Source: (Utah County Fact Book, 2002)

The majority of the federally-owned ground is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Portions are maintained as national parks and recreation areas. The state owned ground is primarily under the jurisdiction of the Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration (SITLA). Portions of the state owned land are wildlife preserves. The private ground is primarily farm ground and grazing areas.

The 2002 Census of Agriculture indicated that there were 42,374 acres in farms or ranches in the county with an average size of 245 acres and an average value of \$1,678 per acre. The county had 20,173 acres in cropland of which 14,394 acres were harvested and 18,025 were irrigated. The value of livestock and crops produced was listed at \$10,500,000.

Agricultural Snapshot

The major crops grown in Wayne County with 2004 yields and total acres harvested were (see following page):

2004 Primary Crops	Yields	Total harvested acres	Average yield/acre
All alfalfa hay	35,500 tons	10,500	3.4 tons
Other hay	8,700 tons	2,900	3.0 tons
Oats	30,000 bu	300	100 bu
Barley	11,000 bu	100	110 bu

Typical ground preparation for planting alfalfa is begun by spraying Roundup in the fall or early spring to kill the quack grass prior to plowing. The ground is disked and harrowed and then planted. The procedure is the same for planting small grains except Roundup is not typically used prior to planting grains. About 98% of all grain is planted in the spring.

The most prevalent crop rotation that producers practice is to leave alfalfa in for seven years, plant oats for two years, then replant alfalfa with an oat crop. Producers typically get two to three cuttings of alfalfa each year. About 75% of all inputs (e.g., seed, fertilizer, pesticides, etc.) are purchased locally while the remaining 25% is bought in a neighboring county

Irrigation water sources include the Fremont River and its tributaries.

Growing Season

The growing season in Wayne County averages about four and a half months. Following are some of the details on climatology in three areas of Wayne County.

Wayne	Climate Characteristics			
County locations	Annual Precip.	Last spring freeze	First fall freeze	Freeze-free period
Hanksville	5.44 in	May 5	Oct. 3	152 days
Hans Flat Ranger Station	9.61 in	May 6	Oct. 14	163 days
Loa	7.43 in	June 15	Sept. 5	83 days

The major classes of livestock produced in the county along with their associated inventories as of January 2004 were:

Livestock Type	Number of Head
All Cattle & Calves	21,000
Beef Cows	11,000
Milk Cows	1,800
Sheep & Lambs	5,300

For more information visit these Web sites

<http://utahreach.org/wayne/visitor/about.htm>

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/htmlfiles/ut/ut.ppt.html>

<http://climate.usu.edu/utahclim/freeze/default.htm>

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/summary/listut.html>

http://www.utahweather.org/UWC/utahs_climate/climate_of_utah.html

<http://biology.usgs.gov/s+t/SNT/noframe/gb150.htm>

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