

December 3, 2021

PRECIP & PRICES

A monthly report with insights into agricultural markets, weather, and current issues relevant to Utah producers

Weather and Drought Report

Current Conditions

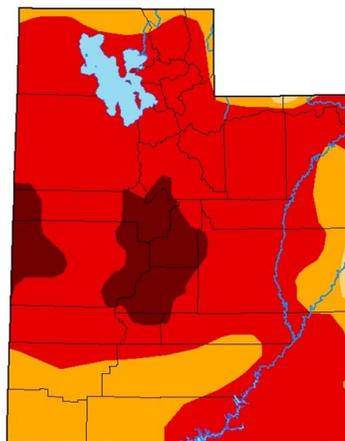
Unfortunately, the wet conditions we saw across the state in October did not persist through November. As such, while drought has not gotten worse across the state, we have seen smaller gains this month in improvement.

Currently, just shy of 10% of the state is experiencing exceptional drought with 79% of the state in D3-D4 or extreme and exceptional drought. Once again, this suggests that while conditions are improving, drought is still extensive and impacting local conditions.

Further, while measures of statewide precipitation and soil moisture for the water year (which started October 1) remain at or above 90% of normal, we will need to watch snowpack and snow water equivalence closely as we move into the winter months.

Future Conditions

The 3-month drought outlook, valid through February 28, 2022 shows drought persisting across the southwest. For Utah, this means a seasonal outlook of above average temperatures. Local conditions across the west this winter are also expected to be impacted by La Nina conditions which have developed and are expected to persist with an 90% chance through the winter. Currently, there is a 50% chance of conditions continuing through the spring (May 2022).

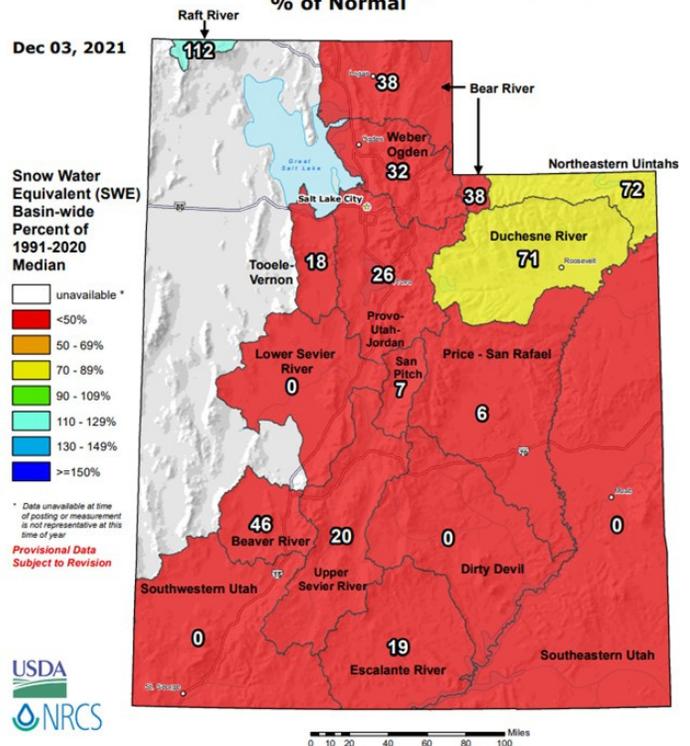


November 30, 2021
(Released Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.52	78.71	9.69
Last Week 11-23-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.52	78.71	9.69
3 Months Ago 08-31-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	88.07	24.46
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	97.38	90.11	68.56
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	88.07	20.09
One Year Ago 12-01-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.07	90.11	68.56

SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal



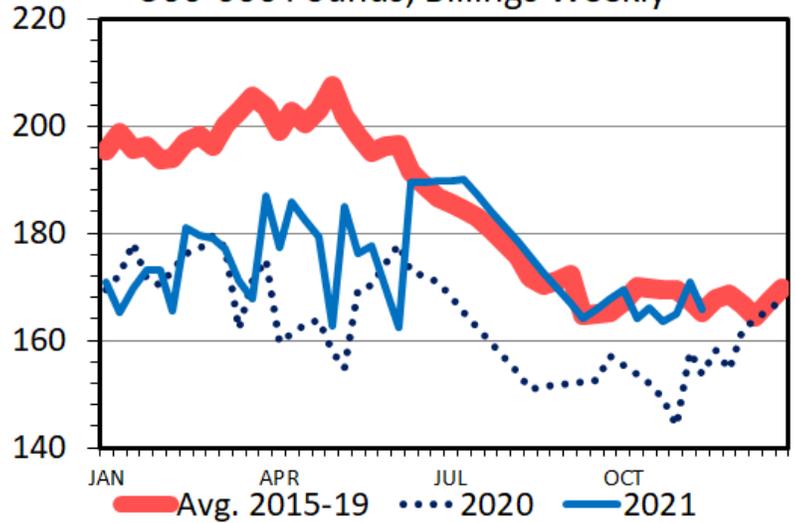
Price and Agriculture Market Report

Commodity Prices

Commodity prices continue to rise both in the futures and cash markets. Corn prices were trading around the \$5.80 mark. Wheat was trading around the \$8.00 range. Soybeans are trading around the \$5.50-\$5.70 range. One area of concern is the forecasted drop in U.S. beef consumption. 2022 and 2023 forecasts show a dramatic reduction in red meat demand that could hurt prices received by cattle producers. .

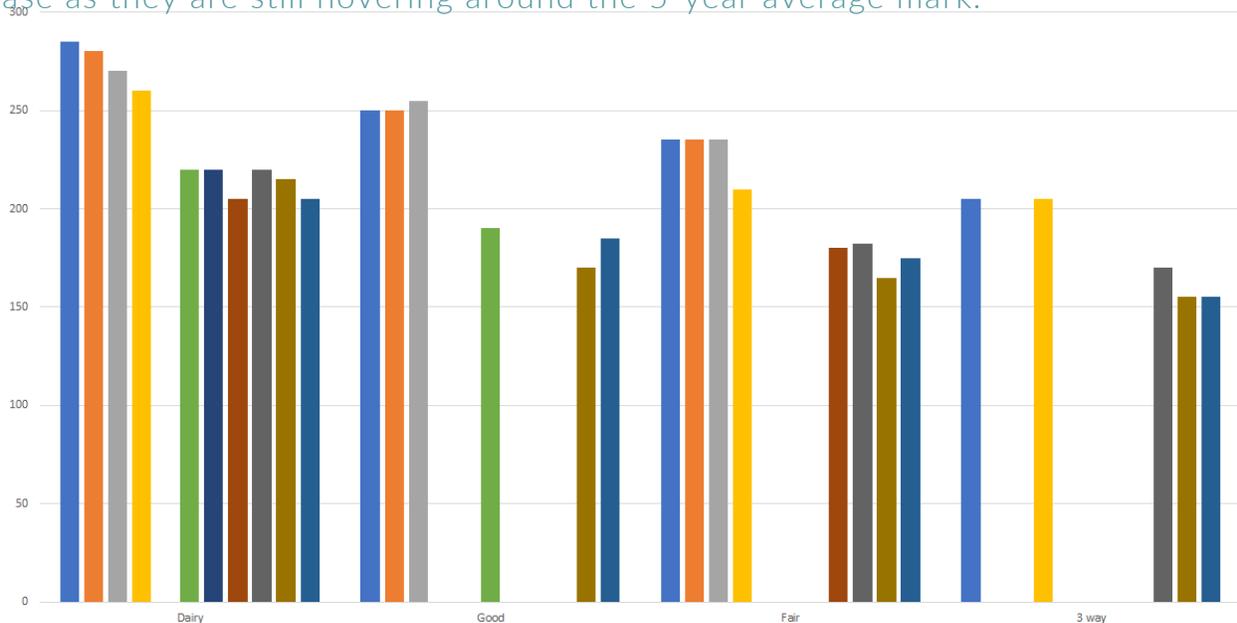
MED. & LRG. #1 STEER CALF PRICES

\$ Per Cwt.
500-600 Pounds, Billings Weekly



Utah Hay & Cattle Prices

Hay prices are remaining high with premium alfalfa around the \$285/ton range and good alfalfa in the \$250-\$255 range. These prices will vary based on different parts of the state. Cattle futures prices have continued to strengthen over the past month. Calf prices have not seen that price increase as they are still hovering around the 5-year average mark.



**CONTACT US WITH
QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Ryan Larsen, Extension
Agribusiness, Farm Management,
Risk Analysis Specialist
ryan.larsen@usu.edu

Anastasia Thayer,
Extension Water Resource
Specialist
anastasia.thayer@usu.edu