

Wyoming Crop Update



May 2012

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WATER – WATER

According to the May 1 NRCS Wyoming Water Supply Outlook Report, the Bighorn Basin 2012 data for snowpack, precipitation, reservoir levels and stream flow are cause for concern. The good news is that the reservoir levels are at or near average long-term levels: Boysen Reservoir is 112% of average, Bighorn Lake is 101% of average, Buffalo Bill is 136% of average.

Year-to-date precipitation ranges from 72-121% of average depending upon where you are.

Snowpack in the Bighorn River Basin SWE (snow water equivalent) above Bighorn Reservoir is at 85% of average. The Nowood River is at 72% of average. The Greybull River SWE is at 38% of average. Shell Creek SWE is at 106% of average. The Shoshone River Basin is 68% of average snowpack while the Clarks Fork River Basin is 91% of average.

The 50% exceedance stream flow forecasts for the May through September period are expected to be below average for the Shoshone River, Clarks Fork River and the Bighorn River basins.

US Dept of Labor pulls proposed rule on youth in agriculture

The US Department of Labor has dropped proposed rules which would have affected youth working off the home farm in agriculture. Proposed rules did not apply to children working on their parents' farm.

SAVE THE DATES – July 17 & 18, 2012

The University of Wyoming Research & Extension Center – Powell will host **the Crop Field Day on Tuesday, July 17. The High Tunnel Field Day will be Wednesday, July 18.** Details to be announced.

James C. Hageman SAREC will host Field Day on **Thursday, August 23, 2012.** Details to be announced.

Crops in Wyoming

Producers in the Big Horn Basin have accelerated their planting in response to warm temperatures. Most barley, wheat, and sugarbeets have been planted. Corn and beans are being planted this week. Warm temperatures have hatched first and second instars of Lygus bug, while alfalfa is not yet blooming. As of the second week of May (May 13) precipitation at 31 stations around Wyoming were below normal.

Your Research Stations need YOUR input!

The Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station is seeking input on the list of producer-driven research priorities applicable to production agriculture in the state of Wyoming. A draft document is available at:

www.uwyo.edu/uwexpstn/files/docs/wy_producer_goals_impt_links.pdf.

Please email your recommendations for research priorities in production agriculture to aes@uwyo.edu on or before May 31st.

Don't pass up the opportunity to influence the type of production agriculture research that may be conducted by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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For further information contact UW CES Educator, Sandra Frost, at 307-754-8836 or sfrost1@uwyo.edu. Big Horn CropSite: <http://www.uwyo.edu/ces/bighorncrops/>

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