

RECENT REPORT ON ARIZONA COUNTIES RANGE CONDITIONS

Of interest to the stockmen of Arizona, is a special report on range and livestock conditions in Arizona just issued by the local office of the U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimates. That the ranges in the eastern and southern counties are in a critical condition is confirmed by the report. Conditions have declined during the month in these counties and feeding is general over the greater part of the drought-stricken area. In some instances,

stockmen are finding it difficult further to finance their operations. In contrast to the critical conditions in the eastern and southern counties, is the favorable outlook for summer feed in the higher altitudes in the northern counties. In Mohave and Coconino counties, ranges are reported in very good condition, except in some parts of eastern Coconino County. Navajo and Apache counties report feed conditions satisfactory in the southern districts, but poor in the central and northern sections, due to the dry weather and late spring. In Yavapai County, conditions are spotted being reported as favorable in the higher altitudes but only fair to poor in other parts of the county. Gila County conditions are reported fair to poor. The following comments from the Bureau's correspondents are particu-

larly interesting. They indicate the local conditions as seen by the stockmen themselves.

COCHISE COUNTY
Tombstone: North to Dragoon and east to Sulphur Springs Valley cattle are holding their own. Feed mostly soap plant blossoms, bear grass, and mesquite. Grass is getting less every day and water shorter. Many springs are about dry.

Bisbee: Range pastures in this section are very poor and dry. There has been no rain to speak of for two years. Cattle are dying.

Douglas: Range in very bad condition. Cattle are being fed.

Willcox: Condition of range in this section very poor. No rain here during the winter and spring.

Bowie: Pasture is a failure here. Cattle are being fed cotton seed from the Yuma valley, and hay from the Gila Valley.

Tombstone: The range is in worse condition now than in any year since 1905.

range there are some forage grasses and browse is good. Water is sufficient to date but not abundant. Stock are looking good, considering range conditions.

GILA COUNTY
Payson: About 50 per cent of normal in this district.

Rosevelt: On the National forest range, conditions are about 70 per cent of normal.

Globe: About 70 per cent of normal here.

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San Carlos: Range very poor in this section. Only about 50 per cent of normal.

YAVAPAI COUNTY
Prescott: Range spotted but as a general rule the stuff is in fair to good condition. Much of the summer range is in better than average condition. Year long ranges are not in as good condition.

Jerome Junction: Owing to the drought, pasture is in very bad condition. About 25 per cent of normal.

STATE AND COUNTY ESTIMATES
For the entire State the condition of range pastures on June 1 was 50 per cent of normal, compared with 55 per

cent one month ago, 100 per cent one year ago, 93 per cent two years ago, and 87 per cent, the ten-year June average. Detailed county estimates of conditions June 1, 1921 are as follows: Cochise, 35 per cent; Pima, 30 per cent; Santa Cruz, 35 per cent; Graham, 36 per cent; Greenlee, 35 per cent; Navajo, 72 per cent; Apache, 65 per cent; Coconino, 85 per cent; Yavapai, 60 per cent; Pinal, 35 per cent.

L. M. HARRISON,
Agricultural Statistician.

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PIMA COUNTY
Tucson: In my experience of 23 years in the cattle business in Arizona, I have never known a time when there has been as little feed and as few cattle. From western Pima county to the New Mexico line, conditions are practically the same. Everyone is compelled to ship or feed.

Ajo: No rain here for two years and the range is in very bad condition. Many cattle are dying in this section.

Tucson: Mesquite and browse are helping out the situation, which is the worst I have seen in 30 years. Very few cattle dying now but everything in poor condition. Our hope is for early summer rains.

Tucson: Not over 20 per cent of normal. General range conditions are poorest I have seen in over twenty years.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Nogales: Range very poor. Mesquite browse is helping a little in the Santa Cruz Valley, but in the hills there is no feed and cattle are dying in large numbers. Some are being shipped to Mexico.

Amadoville: Range only 40 per cent of normal. If the dry weather continues much longer, nearly all of the cattle in this section will perish.

Canille: Practically no range feed here and cattle are dying. Range water is giving out.

GRAHAM COUNTY
Thatcher: I am familiar with Graham county range conditions, which were never so bad in twenty five years that I have resided here.

Klondyke: No feed in this section, only mesquite and cat claw. Nearly all the oak brush are dying. Cattle are very poor.

Safford: On the National forest

NAVAJO COUNTY
White River: The Fort Apache Indian Reservation is about 50 per cent of normal. There were good rains in November, 1920 and two good snows during the winter. The spring has been very dry and windy, and range feed is very short. There has been very little loss of cattle and sheep on the reservation, but many sheep have been lost coming here. The cattle will get through the summer fairly well, but without summer rains, the loss during the coming winter will be excessive.

Winslow: In the lower country, feed is poor and water is scarce, but in the cedars and in the mountains, conditions are fully 100 per cent.

Holbrook: Both Navajo and Apache counties have been sold and windy and grass has made slow growth.

Woodruff: Range is poor here, due to the cold, dry weather.

Taylor: There is practically no feed here.

Mal in this district. Low conditions due to dry weather and cool, backward spring. Water is scarce.

APACHE COUNTY
Colter: This is an unusually dry year and range pasture is only about 50 per cent of normal.

Springerville: Range conditions are very poor here. It will take rain to save us and that very soon.

COCONINO COUNTY
Flagstaff: Within the yellow pine belt, the range is good—about normal. Below the yellow pine belt, the range is dry and very little green feed has started. Many stock tanks are dry. It is hard to figure the average condition for this region but 80 per cent is close.

Flagstaff: Immediate vicinity of San Francisco Peaks—say ten to fifteen miles—the condition is 90 per cent; north of Peaks and in eastern part of County there is no green feed. Condition about 25 per cent.

Williams: Range feed is good for this time of the year but cattle are suffering for water. There has not been enough rain to fill water tanks.

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