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Agricultural Marketing Service
and
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Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 7-19-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 7-18-55

WEATHER Temperatures averaged near normal during the week, with warm weather during the first half and cool weather during the latter half. Sunshine was abundant, and wind movement was low. Good showers fell over the south central, northeastern, and much of the east central portions of the state. Most of the southeastern portion received no rain, and only light local showers fell over the western and north central portions.

CROPS Corn held its previous high condition up to the past week end. Rains in most of eastern Nebraska improved the outlook sufficiently to offset a slight deterioration in the dry areas. A small percentage of the corn had started to tassel last week. A little of the corn was planted unusually early, but the bulk of the corn was planted later than usual.

Much of the corn is now reaching the critical tasseling stage and the size of the crop will depend largely on the moisture received during the next three or four weeks. Humidity has averaged higher than usual so far during July and this, together with favorable temperatures so far, has enabled corn to make splendid progress. Some damage from corn borer and grasshoppers was reported.

Returns on winter wheat continue to indicate higher yields than expected. Harvest had just started in part of the panhandle last week and good to excellent yields are expected. Harvest is nearly completed in eastern and southern Nebraska with 71% of the state's harvest completed by the past week end. Progress of harvesting by districts is as follows: Northwest, just starting; Central, 85%; East Central, 99%; Southwest, 82%; South Central, 96%; Southeast, 99%.

While spring small grains have not done as well as hoped, there are still some very good yields of oats and barley. The recovery from the spring drought, especially to late planted oats, was better than expected. Some good yields of oats and barley are reported in the panhandle.

Grain sorghums have made excellent progress, but more moisture would be helpful. Soybeans are also making excellent progress. Rains of the past week covered most of the soybean area.

The progress of beans, potatoes, and sugar beets on the tableland in the panhandle has been very good; however, a report from a farmer in the North Platte Valley is not so favorable. He said flood and hail have done some damage causing a loss of beans and sugar beets. Some of this land was planted to potatoes about July 1. He reports insufficient irrigation water for the second crop of alfalfa. A lot of the beans are late and the same holds true for corn.

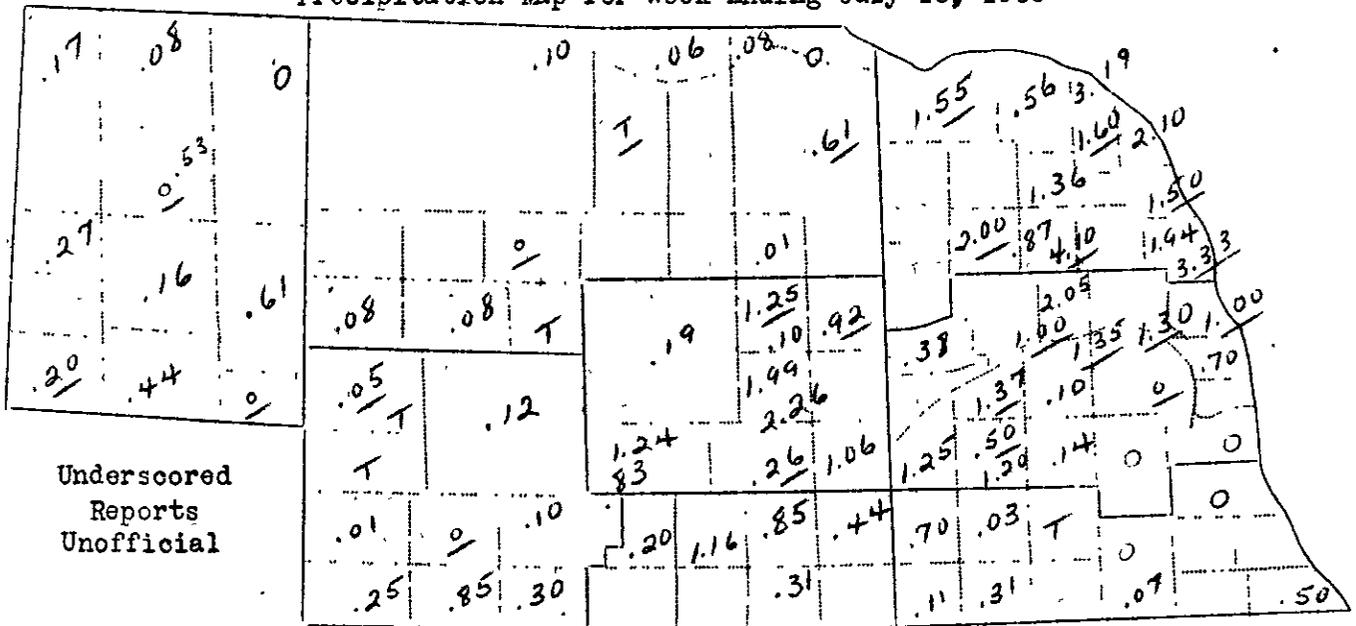
The second crop of alfalfa was very good. The third crop is getting a good start in the area receiving substantial rains last week. Elsewhere, more moisture is needed. A few returns indicate a little disappointment in wild hay, but generally the crop is better than expected earlier. There has been some cutting, but most of the harvest was delayed because of the slow start that hay got last spring.

Pasture shows a drop in condition because of the need for rain. Some of the pastures are getting brown and are a little short. Pastures got a late start in much of eastern and southern Nebraska, and while the grass greened up well, there is not the usual growth for this time of the year. Grass in the sand hills is still excellent.

Crops are needing moisture in most of the western two thirds of the state. With the exception of a few central and south central counties, this area has received very little precipitation so far this month. Northeastern and most of east central Nebraska received fair to substantial rainfall last week. The extreme southeastern part and a few southern counties are short of moisture. Nearly half of the counties are still reporting a short supply of surface and subsoil moisture.

LIVESTOCK Cattle have been making good gains, but some of the pasture in drier areas is beginning to get a little short. Cattle on feed are only slightly above the number a year ago, but are considerably above for the country as a whole.

Precipitation Map for Week Ending July 15, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		July 12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th		18th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	99	71	95	60	92	54	92	60	90	58	91	..	94	63
	Scottsbluff	97	64	90	61	90	57	92	60	87	59	90	58	91	59
	Sidney	94	64	90	61	89	56	92	61	87	55	89	55	91	55
N-C	Burwell	..	..	97	66	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	52	91	58
	Valentine	97	73	92	67	90	60	87	57	84	52	88	58	90	61
NE	Norfolk	100	75	95	71	96	64	84	64	84	59	83	61	84	63
	Sioux City	97	73	93	72	91	66	87	64	87	64	83	64	87	67
Cen.	Grand Island	98	75	96	67	95	62	90	65	86	61	83	60	85	65
E-C	Lincoln	97	76	94	72	95	71	94	66	87	62	85	63	85	67
	Omaha	93	72	89	70	90	68	88	65	84	63	81	63	81	64
SW	Imperial	98	71	96	64	92	53	95	62	90	54	92	58	92	56
	North Platte	95	73	90	66	91	56	92	64	88	58	89	56	88	58

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 1955

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	.89	Burwell	.01	Chadron	.08
Lincoln	0	North Platte	.12	Imperial	.01
Norfolk	.84	Valentine	.03	Scottsbluff	.27
Omaha	.01			Sidney	.45
Sioux City	.87				

Precipitation, April 1-July 15, 1955

	<u>Eastern Div.</u>	<u>Central Div.</u>	<u>Western Div.</u>
Total past week	.76	.52	.22
Total since April 1	10.23	8.52	9.08
Normal since April 1	12.82	10.97	8.97

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