

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
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 10-23-56

Week Ending 10-20-56

WEATHER Temperatures for the week averaged 5 to 10° above normal. They remained above normal through Friday, followed by marked cooling on Saturday and warming on Sunday. Scattered showers up to 3/4 inch occurred early in the period in the eastern part of the State, a few showers occurred in the southeast near the close of the period. The western half of the State remained dry. Considerable sunshine and low humidities continued last week.

CROPS Harvest of corn made favorable progress and at the close of the week 53% of the crop had been harvested as compared with 33% a week earlier. The extremely dry condition was causing considerable difficulty in the harvesting of dry-land corn as mechanical pickers were knocking off a number of ears. Some farmers were gleaning the fields while others were turning cattle in to pick up the fallen ears and utilize the feed. Combining of grain sorghum advanced rapidly and some good yields were reported from irrigated fields.

Condition of winter wheat continued to decline as the week passed without precipitation except in the eastern part of the state and there only local rains of consequence occurred. Generally, stands of wheat are very irregular and that part of the crop that is up has not developed normally. Crown roots have not developed and the plant is being held only by the tap root. The top soil is very dry and loose and is subject to wind erosion. A general rather heavy rain is needed to pack the soil around the plant before winter conditions prevail.

Harvesting of potatoes is nearing completion in the western part of the state and much of the crop is going into storage cellars. Some very high yields have been reported and the crop is of a very good quality. Digging of sugar beets progressed rapidly although dry weather is causing some difficulty with mechanical harvesters.

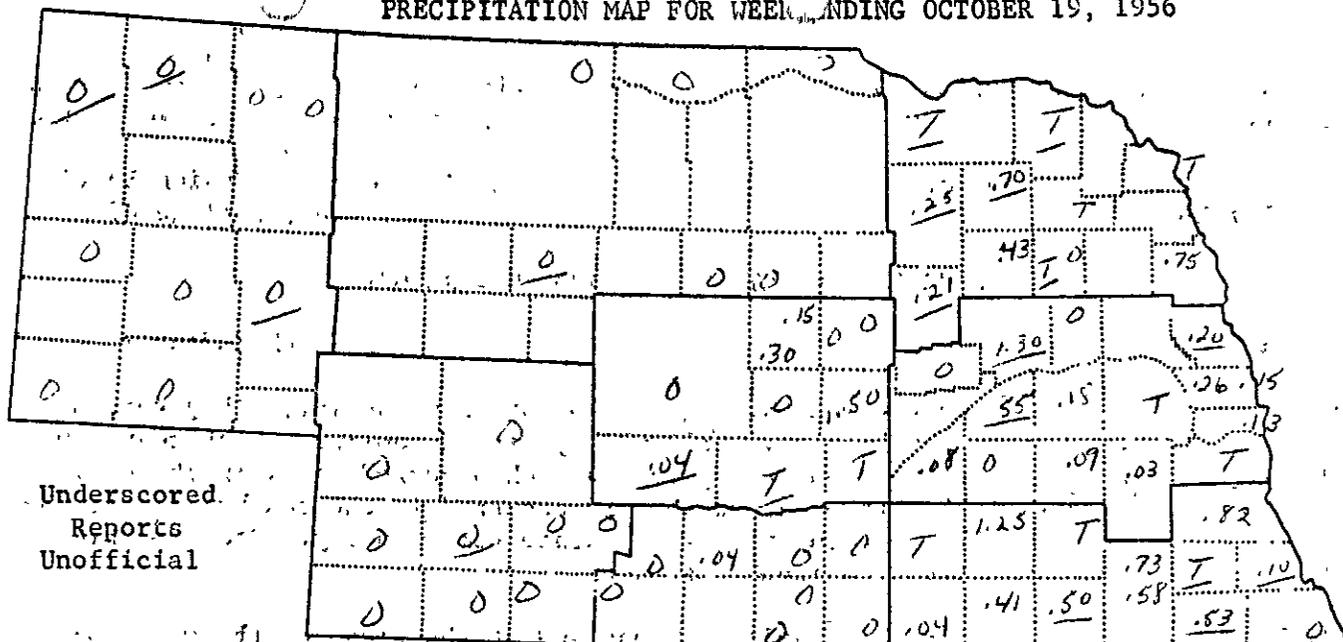
Ranchers in the Sandhills have been moving stacks of hay to feed yards, rounding up cattle for delivery to contract buyers and moving some of their cattle to market. Hay supplies in the Sandhills, while short, appear to be adequate for normal winter feeding. In the southern part of the State where there is ample alfalfa, there has been a rather heavy movement of the crop out of the state to southern drouth areas. Reports indicate that the price of alfalfa has advanced during the past month. Pasture and range feeds are extremely short and where there is ample pasture grasses, it is very dry, brittle and dusty. A general rain would be quite beneficial to make this feed more palatable to livestock. Despite the unfavorable feed conditions, all livestock appears to be in fair to good condition.

Cattle feeding in Nebraska on October 1 was on a lower level than a year earlier. The number in feed lots was 358,000 head as compared with 407,000 head on October 1, 1955. Hog production is also on a reduced scale because of the rather poor corn crop.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 22, 1956

<u>Eastern Division</u>	<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>
Grand Island .34	Burwell .07	Chadron 0
Lincoln .03	North Platte 0	Imperial 0
Norfolk .43	Valentine 0	Scottsbluff 0
Omaha .15		Sidney 0
Sioux City 0		

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 19, 1956



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)

		October		16th		17th		18th		19th		20th		21st		22nd	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	73	39	84	37	70	33	76	52	71	30	67	39	78	37		
	Scottsbluff	75	33	84	32	76	38	75	44	67	28	67	28	77	37		
	Sidney	75	35	79	34	75	39	71	43	70	27	67	28	76	35		
NC	Burwell	80	38	83	50	82	46	79	42	74	39	64	--	75	42		
	Valentine	75	33	87	42	--	--	77	52	77	34	65	30	80	46		
NE	Norfolk	78	48	80	55	80	49	79	53	77	50	63	34	69	47		
	Sioux City	76	51	81	52	81	55	80	53	77	55	65	37	71	45		
CEN	Grand Island	76	47	80	54	80	50	76	50	72	48	63	34	69	43		
EC	Lincoln	78	54	77	58	79	55	80	56	77	53	60	42	71	51		
	Omaha	74	52	77	52	--	--	78	55	75	53	60	42	69	41		
SW	Imperial	79	41	82	38	--	--	73	37	74	34	64	27	79	32		
	North Platte	79	34	80	44	--	--	73	44	72	32	65	22	79	32		

U. S. Department of Agriculture
 203 P. O. Building, Box 1911
 Lincoln 1, Nebraska

Penalty for Private Use to Avoid
 Payment of Postage \$300.