

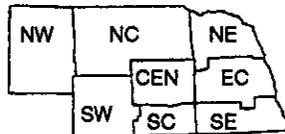
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Period Ending April 7, 1996

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WEATHER

The week was cool and dry. Temperatures varied from three degrees above normal in the northwest to two to seven degrees below normals over the remainder of the state. Little to no precipitation was reported across the state.

GENERAL

Spring fieldwork activities were limited last week to fertilizer application and seedbed preparation due to cold conditions and below normal soil temperatures, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. High winds blowing unprotected soils and below normal soil moisture were the main items of concern noted by reporters. Producer activities included spring equipment preparation, ordering seed and chemical supplies, grain marketing, and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition declined and rated 10% very poor, 37% poor, 38% fair, and 15% good. Reporters

CROPS (Cont.)

continue to indicate green up has not yet occurred in most areas and the extent of winter kill and loss from dry, windy conditions won't be known until the crop begins to put on growth. Wheat under pivots was being irrigated in western counties.

As of Sunday, 24% of the oat crop had been seeded. This compares to 23% last year and 36% for the five-year average. Previous week's planting progress was revised downward to 12% complete. To date, 2% of the crop had emerged, compared to 0% revised for last week.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition rated at 3% very poor, 22% poor, 44% fair, 30% good, and 1% excellent. Pastures need moisture and warmer conditions to start growth. Spring calving progressed to 71% complete.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 7, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Oats Sown	20	14	14	12	25	40	50	77	24	12	20	36
% Oats Emerged	1	0	1	0	3	6	1	6	2	0	n/a	n/a
WINTER REPORTING AS OF APRIL 5, 1996												
% Cows Calved	88	61	57	72	78	80	84	73	71	66	77	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 5, 1996												
Days Suitable	6.4	5.6	1.2	4.0	3.2	6.1	4.1	4.0	4.3	2.2	5.1	
Topsail Moisture --Very Short	22	0	7	16	16	34	54	16	18	17	1	
- Short	43	61	43	75	49	61	43	79	57	53	20	
- Adequate	35	38	49	9	35	5	3	5	25	27	76	
- Surplus	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	
Subsoil Moisture - Very Short	1	0	5	0	11	23	32	45	13	15	0	
- Short	28	52	38	74	55	45	57	52	49	46	20	
- Adequate	71	30	56	25	34	32	11	3	34	35	76	
- Surplus	0	18	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	

n/a - Not Available.

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