

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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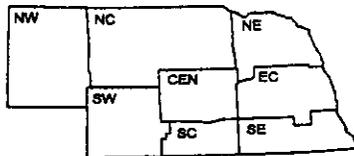
For Week Ending August 29, 1999

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week ranged from one to six degrees above normals with the warmest temperatures being in the Panhandle and North Central areas of Nebraska. Precipitation across the State averaged from traces in the Northeast and East Central Districts to three and nine hundredths inches at Imperial.

GENERAL

Dry weather conditions covered most of the state allowing producers to get some field activities done, but caused some crops to suffer, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Heat and lack of moisture took its toll on corn and soybeans. Crops were maturing too rapidly. The need for moisture is getting critical for field crops in the final maturing stage and within soil profiles. Fields were starting to show that they were running out of moisture. Irrigation wells were running at full speed. Producers are moving corn off the farm to local elevators. Reports of insects in grain were of great concern to elevators. Producer activities included moving grain, haying prairies, preparations for seeding wheat, fertilizer applications, irrigating, field demonstrations of seed companies' test plots, silage cutting, marketing of yearlings, and preparations of harvest equipment.

CROPS

Corn conditions rated 2% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 51% good, and 20% excellent. Dryland corn rated 58% and irrigated corn rated 79% in good and excellent conditions. Corn reaching a dough stage was at 91%, just below 93% last year, but ahead of 86% average. Corn dented moved to 52%, behind

CROPS (Cont.)

67% last year, but ahead of 45% average. Corn matured 2%, just below 3% last year, but same as average. Gray leaf spot was noted in some corn fields. Several farmers have begun cutting corn for silage. Some fields showed poor pollination.

Soybeans setting pods moved ahead to 98%, behind last year's 99%, but just above 97% average. Soybean conditions rated 2% very poor, 9% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, and 16% excellent. Coloring was noted on 6% of the acreage, compared to 7% last year and 10% average. Reports indicated that some soybean fields had pods not filling while other reports indicated some pods were dropping.

Sorghum heading was near completion at 94%, just below last year's 99% and 95% average. Sorghum turning color moved ahead slowly to 28%, compared 55% a year ago and 37% average. Sorghum conditions rated 6% poor, 31% fair, 51% good, and 12% excellent.

Dry beans turning color rated 70%, well ahead of 31% last year, and 48% average. Dry bean conditions rated 5% very poor, 10% poor, 25% fair, 56% good, and 4% excellent.

Alfalfa conditions rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, and 8% excellent. Alfalfa third cutting was 83%, just above last year's 75%, but ahead of 68% average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions rated 3% very poor, 10% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, and 7% excellent. Pastures were short and supplemental feeding was required. Weather was tolerable for livestock, but, because of the high temperatures, sprinklers went back on in the feed yards. Feed supplies remain adequate.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 29, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	97	98	98	96	92	100	99	98	92	99	97
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	19	3	12	6	15	3	5	6	2	7	10
% Corn Dough	70	92	90	92	89	94	92	96	91	84	93	86
% Corn Dented	6	60	46	31	64	48	58	65	52	27	67	45
% Corn Mature	0	0	0	1	3	0	4	4	2	n/a	3	2
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	100	100	95	100	95	85	97	94	88	99	95
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	19	48	18	65	42	22	23	28	10	55	37
% Dry Beans Turning Color	72	98	n/a	50	n/a	68	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	31	48
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	33	91	87	93	83	81	86	86	83	62	75	68

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 27, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR
Days suitable	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.9	7.0	5.4	5.7
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	6	25	9	9	2	8	13	9	5	1
- Short	45	45	44	45	32	16	34	70	42	22	22
- Adequate	55	47	30	45	58	62	57	17	46	71	76
- Surplus	0	2	1	1	1	20	1	0	3	2	1
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	6	15	7	1	5	8	10	7	3	2
- Short	28	35	38	36	31	18	22	63	34	23	19
- Adequate	72	59	47	57	67	69	70	27	58	73	78
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	1	1	1

n/a = not available

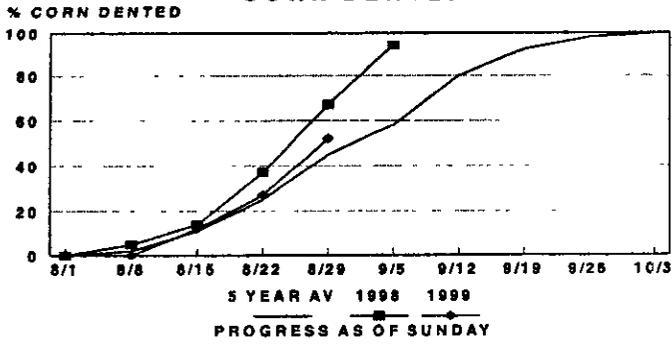
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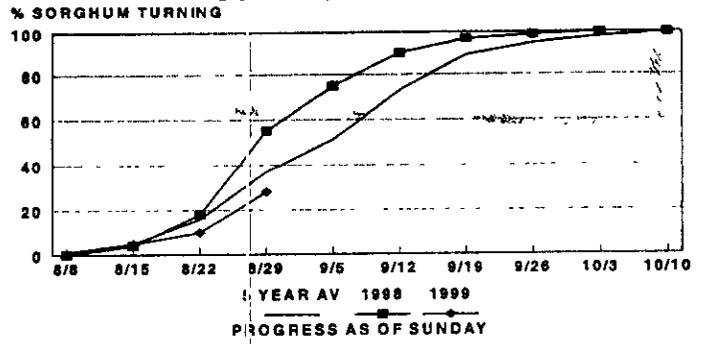
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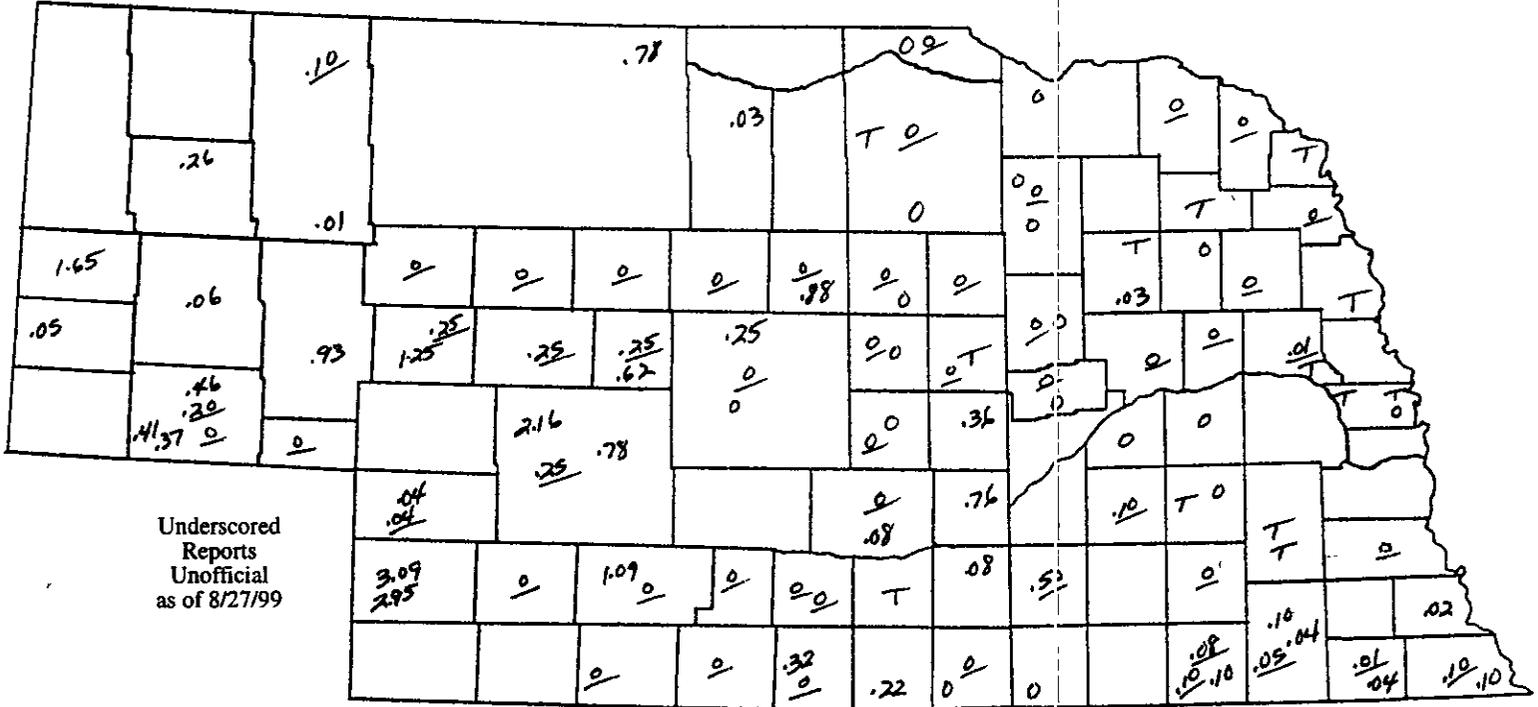
CORN DENTED



SORGHUM TURNING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1999



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 28, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.52	.40	.01	.18	.01	1.69	.12	.06
Total since April 1	14.48	16.42	21.28	20.63	23.61	18.37	20.26	20.21
Normal since April 1	11.71	14.48	16.24	15.92	17.54	13.53	15.87	17.99
Total as % of normal	124%	113%	131%	130%	135%	136%	128%	112%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1999

Station	Temperature			Departure	Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean			Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	99	48	77	---	.06	---	---	---
	97	53	75	+6	1.65	154	2113	2123
	95	54	75	---	.37	154	2017	2179
NC Valentine	102	45	75	+5	.78	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	145	2098	2295
	---	---	---	---	---	157	2221	2437
NE Norfolk	90	55	73	+2	T	---	---	---
	90	55	72	+1	T	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	151	2281	2486
	---	---	---	---	---	160	2235	2491
	---	---	---	---	---	149	2317	2624
CEN Grand Island	89	53	73	+1	.76	158	2387	2521
	91	51	73	---	0	155	2303	2503
	---	---	---	---	---	157	2359	2495
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
EC Lincoln	92	56	74	+1	T	168	2583	2755
	90	56	73	+2	T	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	148	2346	2557
	---	---	---	---	---	149	2433	2715
SW Imperial	96	55	75	---	3.09	---	---	---
	91	48	71	+1	.78	150	2266	2368
	---	---	---	---	---	N/A	N/A	N/A
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	156	2393	2477
	---	---	---	---	---	170	2703	2549
	---	---	---	---	---	153	2483	2756
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	150	2351	2543
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.