

Issue NE-CW4202, released October 21, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending October 20, 2002, moisture received last week slowed harvest progress but did little to recharge soil moisture reserves, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Many corn producers continue to wait for "field dry down" before harvesting to avoid the cost of artificial drying. Corn harvest is about one week behind average.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Weather and Crop reports back to 1947 and current county specific comments can be found at: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged below normal for the week and ranged from two to seven degrees below normals across the state. Precipitation was very light and limited to the eastern third of the state with amounts less than 70 hundredths of an inch.

Field Crops Report: Corn harvest for grain or seed progressed to 46 percent complete, ahead of last year at 41 but behind average at 61.

Soybean harvest was 78 percent complete, behind last year at 81 and average at 85.

Sorghum fields were 56 percent harvested, ahead of last year at 48 but behind average at 62.

Dry bean harvest was 95 percent complete, behind last year at 98 and average at 97.

Proso millet harvest was 92 percent combined, behind 98 percent last year.

Wheat fields were 91 percent emerged, behind last year and average at 92.

Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 49 percent very poor, 32 poor, 14 fair, and 5 good, well below average. Cattle continue to receive supplemental feed and are being moved to stalks as fields become available.

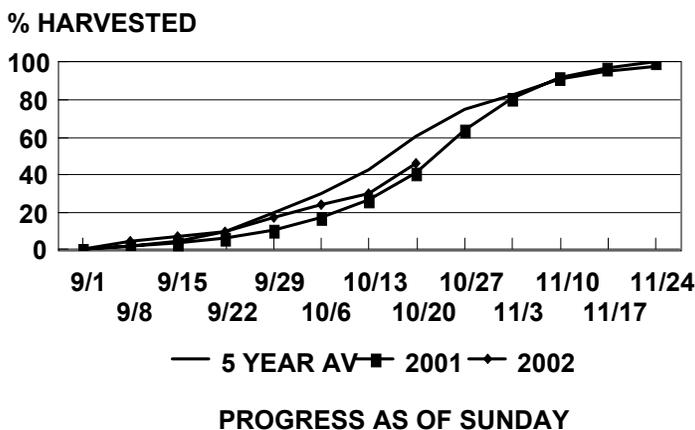
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Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of October 20, 2002

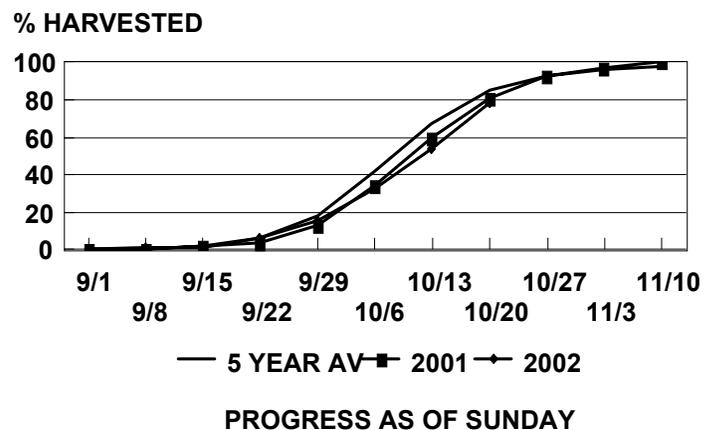
Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Harvested	16	36	36	46	55	34	49	66	46	30	41	61
% Soybeans Harvested	¹	61	80	74	78	91	93	68	78	54	81	85
% Sorghum Harvested	25	31	54	73	58	52	45	58	56	42	48	62
% Wheat Emerged	97	85	95	100	72	90	88	61	91	82	92	92
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	7.0	5.7	5.2	6.3	5.5	6.7	6.9	4.9	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.1
Topsoil Moisture												
- % Very short	42	15	8	26	8	68	32	17	28	22	3	19
- % Short	44	40	29	60	22	26	38	27	36	33	18	25
- % Adequate	14	45	63	14	69	6	30	56	36	45	78	54
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Subsoil Moisture												
- % Very Short	81	43	30	50	37	88	79	51	58	55	8	24
- % Short	17	36	39	49	44	12	21	37	30	30	26	25
- % Adequate	2	21	31	1	19	0	0	12	12	15	66	50
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

¹ Data not available.

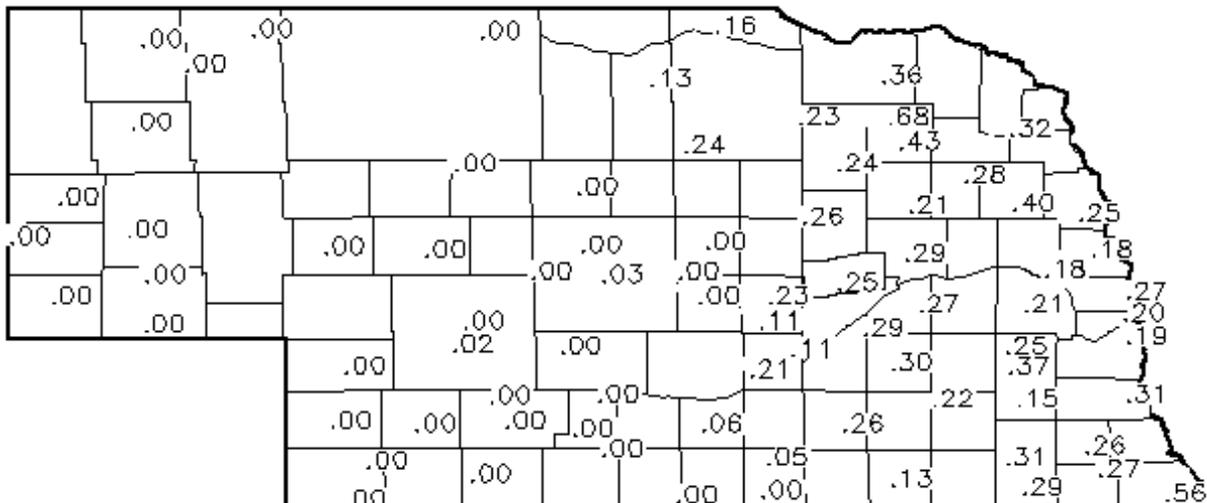
**CORN
HARVESTED**



**SOYBEANS
HARVESTED**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending October 20, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - October 20, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.14	.37	.08	.24	.00	.04	.24
Total since April 1	7.95	12.96	18.19	12.51	20.81	8.60	12.51	18.92
Normal since April 1	13.62	17.66	20.50	19.26	22.55	16.31	19.34	23.65
Total as % of normal	58%	72%	88%	65%	92%	52%	63%	79%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, October 20, 2002

Station	Temperature			
	Extremes		Average	Departure
	High	Low		
NW Alliance	70	25	45	-3
	70	23	45	-3
	69	22	46	-3
NC Ainsworth	68	26	47	-3
	71	28	46	-4
	67	26	46	-4
NE Concord	67	27	44	-7
	66	26	47	-5
	69	29	45	-7
C Grand Island	71	28	47	-5
	72	28	48	-3
	68	28	47	-4
EC Lincoln	70	32	48	-6
	71	27	47	-5
	70	29	47	-7
SW Champion	73	24	46	-5
	72	24	47	-3
	73	28	48	-2
SC Arapahoe	71	23	44	-6
	71	28	48	-3
	72	30	48	-4
SE Beatrice	73	31	47	-7
	71	29	47	-5
	74	30	48	-7

N/A = Not available. Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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