

Issue NE-CW2703, released July 7, 2003, 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 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 6, 2003, warmer temperatures and limited moisture spurred wheat harvest and irrigation activities, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The above normal temperatures encouraged crop growth and development which has lagged normal. High grasshopper counts continued to be a concern in a number of counties.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged above normals for the week and ranged to 7 degrees above normals. Precipitation was light in the south and west while rains exceeding two inches occurred in the northeast.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending July 6, 2003**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	1	1	53	21
Short	30	15	31	26
Adequate	64	78	14	48
Surplus	5	6	2	5
Subsoil				
Very Short	10	4	53	22
Short	35	32	34	25
Adequate	53	63	13	50
Surplus	2	1	0	3
Days Suitable	6.4	4.9	6.8	5.6

Field Crops Report: Corn condition declined and rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 19 fair, 57 good, and 21 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated corn rated 79 percent good and excellent while dryland rated 77. Fields were beginning to silk in a few areas of the east and southwest, behind last year at 6 percent and average at 5.

Soybean condition rated 2 percent poor, 21 fair, 61 good, and 16 excellent, above last year and average. Two percent of the fields were blooming, behind last year at 16 and average at 13.

Oat condition rated 1 percent very poor, 1 poor, 19 fair, 57 good, and 22 excellent, well above last year and average. The crop was 98 percent headed, behind 100 last year and near 97 average. Harvest for grain was making a start with 3 percent combined, behind 26 last year and 10 average.

Sorghum condition rated 4 percent poor, 29 fair, 58 good, and 9 excellent, above last year and average.

Wheat condition rated 4 percent very poor, 10 poor, 25 fair, 48 good, and 13 excellent, well above last year and the 5 year average. Wheat fields had turned color on 94 percent of the acreage, behind the 100 last year and 97 average. Forty percent of the acreage was ripe, well behind last year at 83 and average at 60. Harvest made good progress with 15 percent completed, but was 10 days behind last year at 60 and a week behind average at 37.

Dry bean condition rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 24 fair, 57 good, and 12 excellent.

Alfalfa condition declined and rated 4 percent poor, 25 fair, 53 good, and 18 excellent, above last year and average. Second cutting activities progressed to 29 percent harvested, behind last year at 46 and average at 35. Wild hay condition rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 23 fair, 56 good, and 15 excellent.

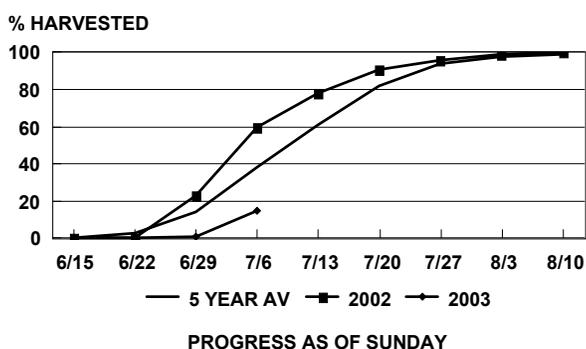
Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending July 6, 2003

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Silked	1	0	6	5
Soybeans Blooming	2	0	16	13
Wheat Turning Color	94	90	100	97
Wheat Ripe	40	9	83	60
Wheat Harvested	15	1	60	37
Oats Headed	98	94	100	97
Oats Harvested	3	1	26	10
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	29	8	46	35

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 6, 2003

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Corn	1	2	19	57	21
Soybean	0	2	21	61	16
Oat	1	1	19	57	22
Sorghum	0	4	29	58	9
Wheat	4	10	25	48	13
Dry Bean	2	5	24	57	12
Alfalfa	0	4	25	53	18
Wild Hay	1	5	23	56	15

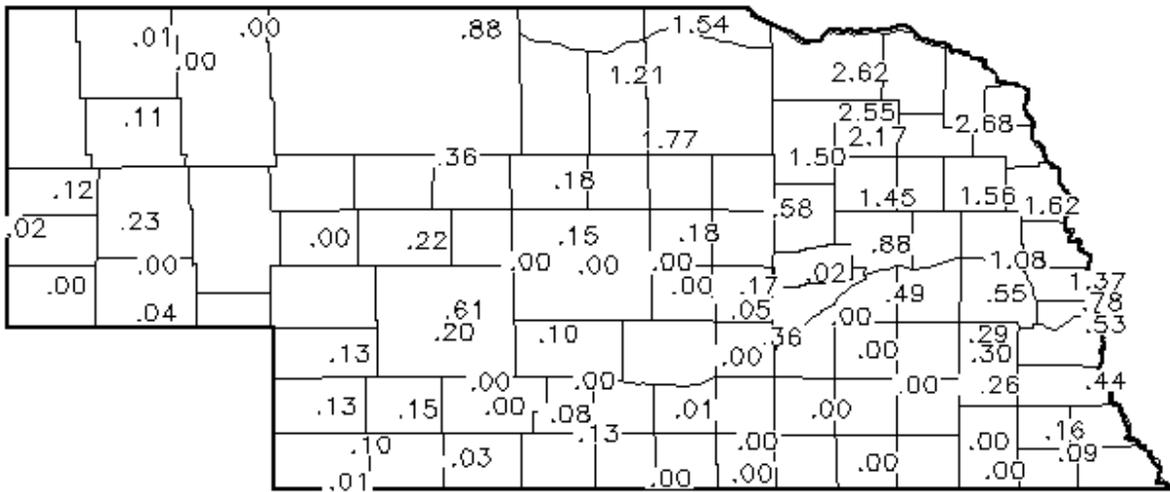
WHEAT



Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 3 percent very poor, 11 poor, 34 fair, 43 good, and 9 excellent. With temperatures peaking above 100 degrees, extra care was being given to livestock in confined areas.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending July 6, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - July 6, 2003

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.03	1.26	1.92	.10	.49	.10	.04	.05
Total since April 1	7.49	11.77	13.39	13.77	12.73	11.24	12.38	14.38
Normal since April 1	8.15	9.62	11.28	10.60	11.72	9.32	10.27	11.79
Total as % of normal	92%	123%	118%	130%	108%	120%	121%	122%

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

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 6, 2003**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	98	50	75	+4	151	894	1021
	Scottsbluff	100	53	77	+6	155	1054	1020
	Sidney	101	55	79	+7	162	943	1047
NC	Ainsworth	97	57	75	+1	160	1013	1131
	Arthur	98	57	76	+3	160	934	1103
	O'Neill	95	52	74	0	158	1000	1193
NE	Concord	93	57	74	-1	160	1037	1226
	Elgin	100	55	76	+1	166	1038	1227
	West Point	99	54	77	+1	169	1100	1305
C	Grand Island	98	55	77	+2	170	1124	1247
	Lexington	99	58	78	+4	174	1150	1223
	Ord	96	56	76	+1	163	1060	1234
EC	Lincoln	98	58	80	+3	190	1212	1375
	Central City	99	53	77	+2	171	1146	1268
	Mead	95	54	77	0	175	1158	1355
SW	Champion	105	56	79	+6	164	1081	1137
	North Platte	102	56	78	+5	165	1087	1150
	Curtis	101	60	80	+6	173	1165	1173
SC	Arapahoe	100	54	75	+3	151	941	1098
	Minden	101	57	80	+5	175	1160	1228
	Red Cloud	104	57	81	+6	180	1181	1263
SE	Beatrice	98	56	79	+2	181	1211	1376
	Clay Center	98	55	78	+3	172	1127	1260
	Nemaha	100	61	80	+3	189	1293	1408

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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