

Issue NE-CW1505, released April 11, 2005, 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](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending April 10, 2005, beneficial showers across much of the state slowed spring fieldwork while providing additional moisture for germination of spring planted crops, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies continued above average and year ago levels. Fieldwork activities included stalk shredding, disking, and applying fertilizer, with some producers starting to plant corn. Other producer activities included caring for livestock.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged from 4 to 11 degrees above normals. Precipitation was statewide with heaviest amounts in the extreme southeastern corner of the state. Several locations throughout the state received amounts greater than one inch. Soil temperatures were in the mid-to-upper 50's in the eastern half of the state, 6 to 8 degrees higher than last week.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending April 10, 2005**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	3	2	23	21
Short	23	21	31	29
Adequate	71	76	45	48
Surplus	3	1	1	2
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	18	15	40	32
Short	36	36	34	40
Adequate	46	49	26	28
Surplus	0	0	0	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.2	3.9	5.7	4.9

**Field Crops Report:** Wheat conditions improved and rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 28 fair, 52 good, and 15 excellent. Fields were 9 percent jointed, in line with last year at 8 percent and above the average of 3.

Corn planting had made a start in a few areas of the state as soil temperatures neared a favorable level.

Oats planted increased to 73 percent, ahead of last year at 60 and average at 49. Twenty percent had emerged, ahead of last year and average at 9.

Sugar beet planting was underway in the Panhandle with 17 percent completed, behind last year at 21.

Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 28 fair, 57 good, and 9 excellent.

**Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending April 10, 2005**

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Oats Planted	73	43	60	49
Oats Emerged	20	6	9	9
Wheat Jointed	9	1	8	3

**Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 10, 2005**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Wheat	1	4	23	57	15

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range condition rated 2 percent very poor, 11 poor, 44 fair, 42 good, and 1 excellent. Cattle and calf condition rated 1 percent poor, 13 fair, 61 good, and 25 excellent. Spring calving was 82 percent complete with calf losses rated average to below average.

*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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm). For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>.*

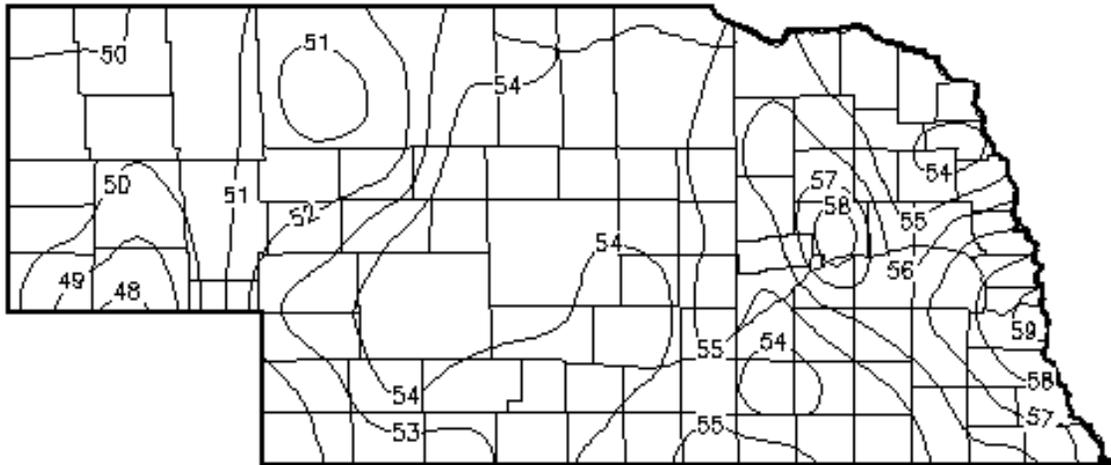
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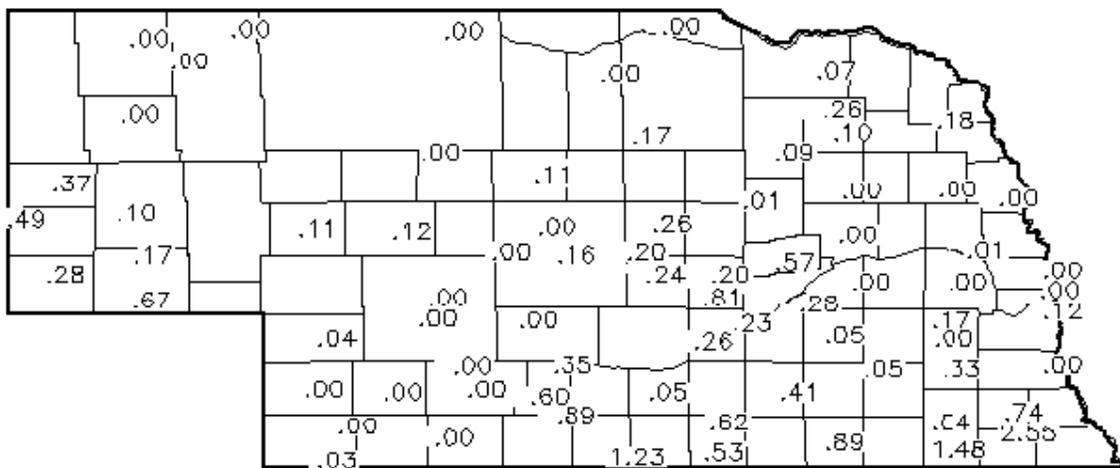
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**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil  
April 4 - April 10, 2005**



**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 10, 2005**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - April 10, 2005**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.23	.06	.06	.24	.10	.05	.67	1.04
Total since April 1	.23	.06	.06	.24	.10	.06	.67	1.04
Normal since April 1	.55	.66	.79	.77	.87	.59	.64	.88
Total as % of normal	43%	9%	7%	31%	12%	9%	107%	118%

**Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday April 10, 2005**

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	74	27	48	5
	Scottsbluff	78	24	49	5
	Sidney	78	28	47	3
NC	Ainsworth	82	30	54	7
	Arthur	78	31	51	5
	O'Neill	80	31	55	8
NE	Concord	78	33	57	9
	Elgin	78	35	55	7
	West Point	81	33	59	10
C	Grand Island	78	35	56	8
	Lexington	77	31	54	7
	Ord	77	32	54	7
EC	Lincoln	82	42	62	12
	Central City	80	37	57	10
	Mead	82	31	60	11
SW	Champion	77	26	50	3
	North Platte	77	29	52	5
	Curtis	76	30	53	7
SC	Smithfield	75	33	54	7
	Minden	79	33	54	7
	Red Cloud	80	36	57	10
SE	Beatrice	81	35	59	10
	Clay Center	79	35	55	8
	Nemaha	80	42	62	12

Sources: High Plains Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate office.