

Issue NE-CW2005, released May 16, 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, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 15, 2005, thunderstorms led to wet soils which interrupted spring planting in many portions of the state, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rain fell on the state mid-week with amounts in excess of 5 inches recorded in counties in the state's mid-section including isolated reports of 10 inches or more. Replanting of the sugarbeet crop neared completion in the western part of the state.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged from normal to 10 degrees below normal with the state averaging 4 degrees below normal. Precipitation throughout the state was welcomed with most portions of the state receiving over one inch. Precipitation since April 1 is above normal in most areas with the exception of the South Central and Southwest Districts.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending May 15, 2005**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	1	3	15	12
Short	6	17	37	22
Adequate	78	78	46	61
Surplus	15	2	2	5
Subsoil				
Very Short	10	14	35	23
Short	20	25	39	31
Adequate	66	60	26	45
Surplus	4	1	0	1
Days Suitable	3.2	6.2	4.8	4.8

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 6 poor, 38 fair, 45 good, and 9 excellent. Fields were 83 percent jointed, behind last year at 91 percent but ahead of the average at 78. Fields were reported to be 4 percent headed, well behind last year at 33 and the average at 17.

Corn planting progressed to 89 percent complete, behind last year at 94 but ahead of the average at 84. Corn emergence was at 32 percent, behind last year at 60 percent and average of 44.

Soybean planting had progressed to 36 percent, behind last year at 47 but in line with the average.

Oat emergence is up to 95 percent. Conditions were rated as 2 percent poor, 28 fair, 56 good, and 14 excellent.

Sugarbeet planting advanced in the west with 98 percent completed. Replanting was almost complete after some original plantings were damaged by the late freeze.

Alfalfa conditions began to improve due to the beneficial rainfall and rated 2 percent very poor, 12 poor, 35 fair, 43 good, and 8 excellent.

Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending May 15, 2005

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	89	74	94	84
Corn Emerged	32	10	60	44
Oats Emerged	95	89	96	90
Sorghum Planted	15	6	16	15
Soybeans Planted	36	15	47	36
Soybeans Emerged	5	0		
Wheat Jointed	83	75	91	78
Wheat Headed	4	0	33	17

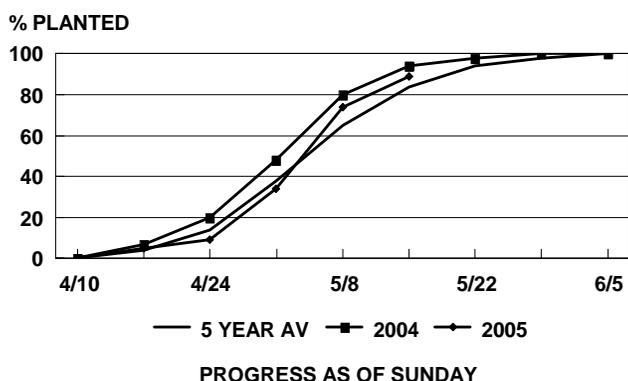
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 15, 2005

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	2	12	35	43	8
Oats	0	2	28	56	14
Wheat	2	6	38	45	9

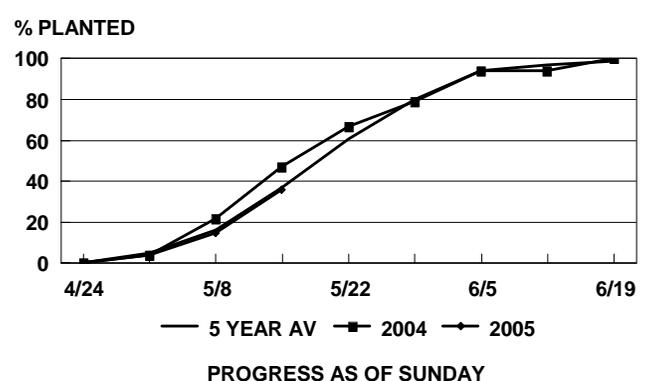
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 2 percent very poor, 10 poor, 34 fair, 46 good, and 8 excellent. Cattle and calf condition rated 2 percent poor, 14 fair, 59 good, and 25 excellent. Spring calving was 97 percent complete with calf losses continuing to rate average 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/cropwth/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/cropwth/2005.htm>.

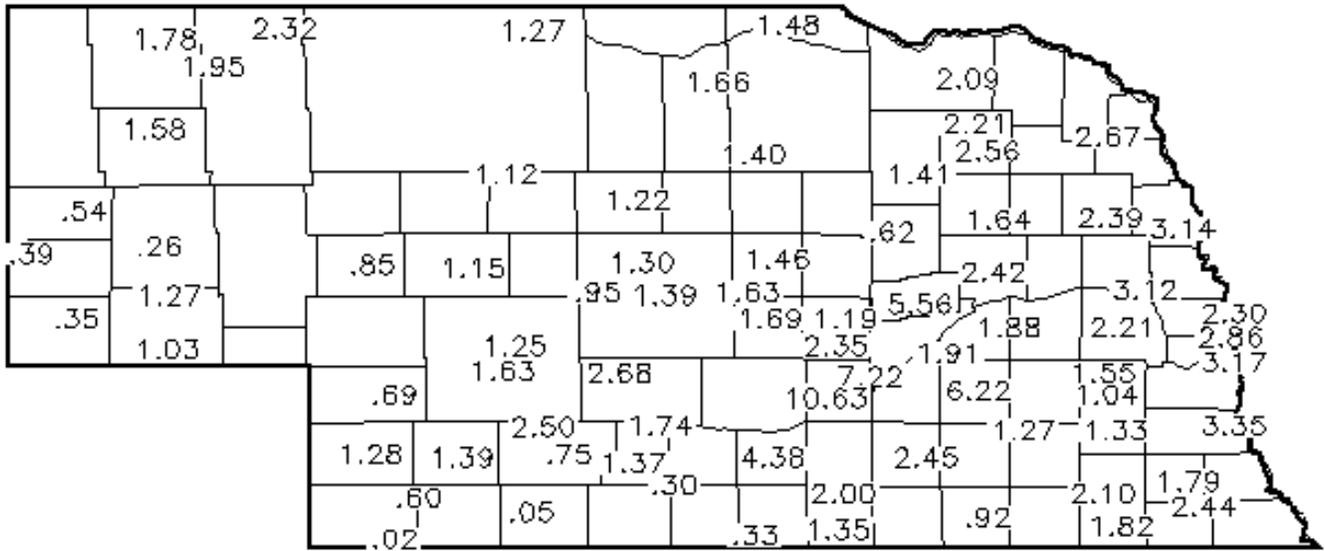
CORN



SOYBEANS



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. May 15, 2005



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 15, 2005

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.08	1.61	2.17	3.12	2.87	.73	1.20	1.96
Total since April 1	4.02	6.16	6.77	5.64	6.63	2.38	2.77	6.16
Normal since April 1	3.20	3.65	4.33	4.13	4.64	3.45	3.86	4.70
Total as % of normal	125%	170%	156%	134%	143%	69%	70%	131%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, May 15, 2005

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	76	30	49	-7
	Scottsbluff	77	32	51	-4
	Sidney	73	31	49	-8
NC	Ainsworth	70	31	50	-10
	Arthur	73	32	51	-7
	O'Neill	67	30	51	-9
NE	Concord	75	31	52	-9
	Elgin	73	35	54	-6
	West Point	82	34	54	-7
C	Grand Island	89	35	58	-2
	Lexington	85	34	58	-1
	Ord	74	29	55	-5
EC	Lincoln	89	38	61	-1
	Central City	88	35	58	-3
	Mead	91	37	59	-3
SW	Champion	77	35	54	-4
	North Platte	77	33	55	-4
	Curtis	79	32	57	-2
SC	Smithfield	85	35	57	-2
	Minden	90	35	59	0
	Red Cloud	90	32	60	0
SE	Beatrice	89	35	61	-1
	Clay Center	88	30	59	-1
	Nemaha	89	39	62	-1

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office

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