

Issue NE-CW2205, released May 31, 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 29, 2005, below normal temperatures limited growing degree days in parts of the state but did not significantly limit crop progress, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall was scattered throughout much of the state but, in most cases, totals were limited. Producer activities included planting of soybeans and sorghum along with taking the first cutting of alfalfa.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged from normal to 5 degrees below normal with the state averaging almost 3 degrees below normal. The highest temperature in the state, at 90, was recorded in the Grand Island area with the lowest temperature of 33 recorded near Sidney. Precipitation since April 1 is above normal in some areas but the Panhandle and southern one-third of the state are behind normal.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending May 29, 2005**

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Topsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 4 | 1 | 18 | 13 |
| Short | 20 | 17 | 27 | 23 |
| Adequate | 71 | 79 | 52 | 61 |
| Surplus | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Subsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 11 | 10 | 39 | 23 |
| Short | 27 | 24 | 29 | 31 |
| Adequate | 62 | 65 | 32 | 45 |
| Surplus | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Days Suitable | 5.7 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 |

Field Crops Report: Wheat condition declined and rated 5 percent very poor, 16 poor, 40 fair, 33 good, and 6 excellent. Fields were reported to be 64 percent headed, a week behind last year at 83 but almost even with the average at 65. Lower condition ratings resulted from diseases impacting some wheat growing areas.

Corn emergence was at 91 percent, behind last year at 94 percent but ahead of average at 85. Corn condition rated 2 poor, 27 fair, 61 good, and 10 excellent, better than last year when corn rated 65 percent good or excellent.

Soybean planting had progressed to 90 percent, ahead of last year at 79 and the average at 80. Soybean emergence was at 55 percent, ahead of last year at 50 and the average at 47.

Oat condition rated as 5 percent poor, 31 fair, 50 good, and 14 excellent. This rates above last year and the average.

Alfalfa condition rated 4 percent very poor, 17 poor, 38 fair, 36 good, and 5 excellent. First cutting was 34 percent complete, ahead of last year at 26 but in line with the average.

Proso Millet planting had just begun with 1 percent complete, behind last year at 23.

Dry Bean planting was underway with 7 percent in the ground, behind last year and the average at 23.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending May 29, 2005

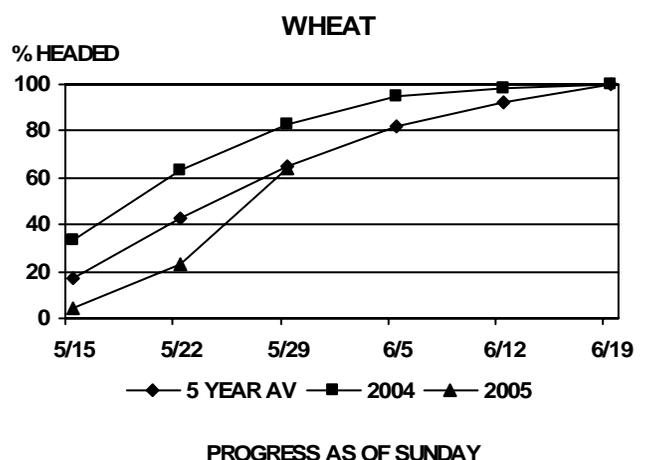
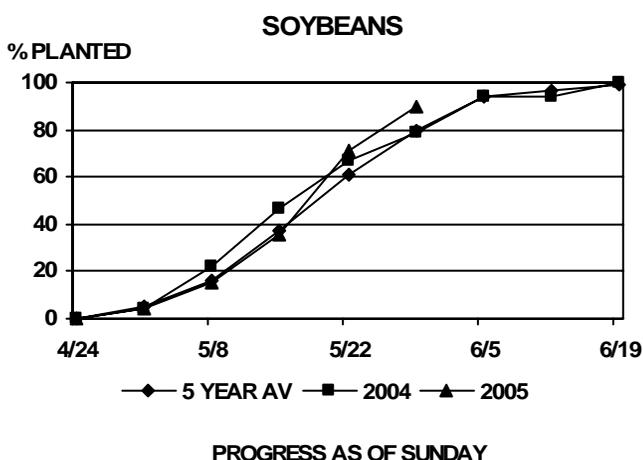
| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| | | | | |
| Alfalfa 1 st Cutting | 34 | | 26 | 34 |
| Corn Emerged | 91 | 70 | 94 | 85 |
| Dry Beans Planted | 7 | | 23 | 23 |
| Proso Millet Planted | 1 | | 23 | |
| Sorghum Planted | 71 | 41 | 50 | 57 |
| Sorghum Emerged | 20 | 8 | 17 | 24 |
| Soybeans Planted | 90 | 71 | 79 | 80 |
| Soybeans Emerged | 55 | 25 | 50 | 47 |
| Wheat Headed | 64 | 23 | 83 | 65 |
| Wheat Turning Color | 1 | | 7 | 5 |

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 29, 2005

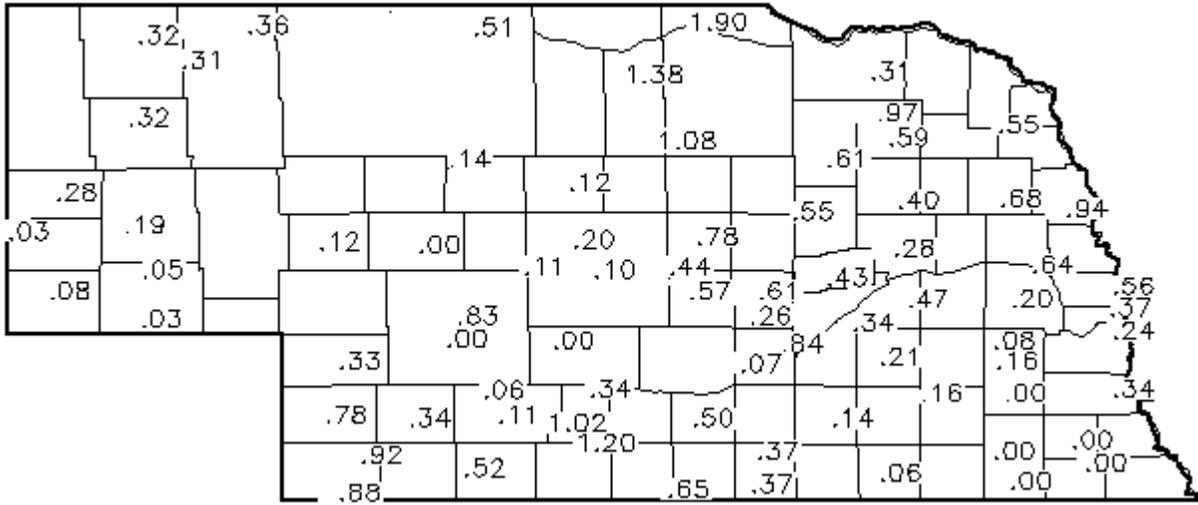
| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|---------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | | | | | |
| Alfalfa | 4 | 17 | 38 | 36 | 5 |
| Corn | 0 | 2 | 27 | 61 | 10 |
| Oats | 0 | 5 | 31 | 50 | 14 |
| Wheat | 5 | 16 | 40 | 33 | 6 |

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 15 poor, 34 fair, 42 good, and 6 excellent. Conditions continue to be above last year and normal.

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. 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>



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. May 29, 2005



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 29, 2005

| Item | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total past week | .16 | .94 | .63 | .38 | .30 | .78 | .78 | .08 |
| Total since April 1 | 4.27 | 8.10 | 7.82 | 6.38 | 6.95 | 3.15 | 3.75 | 6.14 |
| Normal since April 1 | 4.60 | 5.18 | 6.10 | 5.84 | 6.55 | 5.00 | 5.63 | 6.60 |
| Total as % of normal | 92% | 156% | 128% | 107% | 106% | 63% | 66% | 93% |

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, May 29, 2005**

| Station | Temperature | | | | Growing Degree Days Since April 15 | | | |
|---------|--------------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|-----|
| | Extremes | | Average | Departure | Last Week | Current | Normal | |
| | High | Low | | | | | | |
| NW | Alliance | 78 | 36 | 55 | -5 | 63 | 317 | 393 |
| | Scottsbluff | 85 | 34 | 59 | -1 | 80 | 376 | 392 |
| | Sidney | 85 | 33 | 56 | -4 | 71 | 330 | 406 |
| NC | Ainsworth | 87 | 41 | 60 | -4 | 79 | 347 | 444 |
| | Arthur | 87 | 36 | 58 | -5 | 74 | 354 | 432 |
| | O'Neill | 84 | 38 | 59 | -5 | 81 | 369 | 451 |
| NE | Concord | 83 | 43 | 61 | -4 | 87 | 402 | 469 |
| | Elgin | 88 | 43 | 62 | -3 | 88 | 411 | 461 |
| | West Point | 86 | 43 | 63 | -4 | 98 | 462 | 488 |
| C | Grand Island | 90 | 42 | 63 | -2 | 96 | 501 | 458 |
| | Lexington | 88 | 43 | 62 | -2 | 90 | 474 | 449 |
| | Ord | 86 | 39 | 61 | -3 | 91 | 434 | 452 |
| EC | Lincoln | 88 | 44 | 65 | -2 | 107 | 557 | 502 |
| | Central City | 88 | 43 | 63 | -2 | 98 | 492 | 464 |
| | Mead | 88 | 43 | 63 | -3 | 100 | 529 | 499 |
| SW | Champion | 89 | 40 | 60 | -3 | 83 | 425 | 436 |
| | North Platte | 88 | 38 | 59 | -4 | 83 | 418 | 442 |
| | Curtis | 87 | 37 | 59 | -4 | 83 | 435 | 443 |
| SC | Smithfield | 87 | 42 | 61 | -3 | 86 | 457 | 450 |
| | Minden | 87 | 43 | 63 | -1 | 95 | 501 | 453 |
| | Red Cloud | 89 | 38 | 63 | -1 | 106 | 535 | 463 |
| SE | Beatrice | 89 | 43 | 65 | -1 | 113 | 556 | 502 |
| | Clay Center | 88 | 40 | 63 | -2 | 102 | 513 | 461 |
| | Nemaha | 89 | 48 | 67 | 0 | 120 | 593 | 523 |

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

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