



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

Nebraska Field Office

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 21, 2005, cooler temperatures and limited rainfall helped maintain soil moisture levels but did not improve crop conditions, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Rain in the southern portion of the state allowed producers to stop irrigating for a few days. Producer activities included irrigating, chopping corn silage, marketing of old crops, and preparing for harvest.

Weather Summary: Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal to 1 degree above with most highs reaching the low nineties. Limited rainfall maintained soil moisture throughout much of the state. Precipitation since April 1 was at or above normal for six of the eight districts, with the East Central and South Central Districts each less than one inch behind normal.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 21, 2005

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	11	14	24	41
Short	30	28	40	35
Adequate	58	57	36	24
Surplus	1	1	0	0
Subsoil				
Very Short	20	22	36	49
Short	33	34	34	32
Adequate	47	44	30	19
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	5.2	5.0	6.6	6.2

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 9 poor, 24 fair, 44 good, and 19 excellent. Irrigated fields declined to 81 percent good or excellent and dryland fields declined slightly to 35. Eighty-seven percent of the crop was in the dough stage, ahead of 81 last year and the average at 85. Fifty percent of the crop had denting, ahead of 28 last year and 42 for the average. One percent of the corn crop had reached maturity.

Ninety-eight percent of the soybean crop had set pods, ahead of last year and average at 94. Soybean coloring had progressed to 6 percent, ahead of 3 last year but behind 10 for the average. Conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 13 poor, 30 fair, 42 good, and 11 excellent. This is still above average but below last year.

Sorghum conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 14 poor, 37 fair, 36 good, and 8 excellent, lower than last year but

better than average. Ninety-five percent of the crop had headed, ahead of 88 last year and the average at 87. Sorghum coloring was at 28 percent, ahead of last year at 14 and average at 23.

Dry Bean conditions rated 7 percent poor, 28 fair, 53 good, and 12 excellent. Ninety-eight percent of the crop had set pods, ahead of last year and the average at 94. Thirteen percent had begun turning color, ahead of last year at 3 and the average at 10. Five percent of the dry bean crop had begun dropping leaves.

Alfalfa conditions rated 6 percent very poor, 17 poor, 37 fair, 34 good, and 6 excellent. Third cutting was 81 percent complete, ahead of last year at 73 and the average at 72. Fourth cutting was underway with 5 percent harvested.

Proso millet harvest began earlier than last year with 2 percent already out of the field, but is still behind the average at 4.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 21, 2005

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	81	67	73	72
Corn Dough	87	74	81	85
Corn Dented	50	23	28	42
Sorghum Headed	95	86	88	87
Sorghum Coloring	28	6	14	23
Soybeans Setting Pods	98	95	94	94
Soybeans Coloring	6	1	3	10

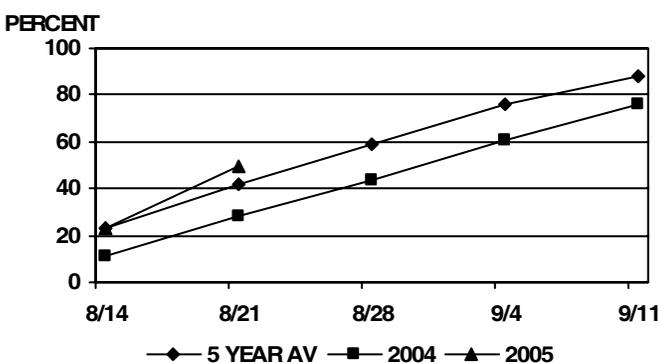
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 21, 2005

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	6	17	37	34	6
Corn	4	9	24	44	19
Dry Beans	0	7	28	53	12
Sorghum	5	14	37	36	8
Soybeans	4	13	30	42	11

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 7 percent very poor, 20 poor, 33 fair, 38 good, and 2 excellent. Conditions are ahead of last year and average.

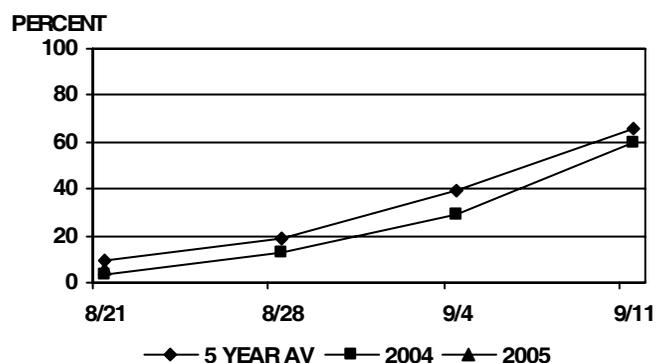
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>

CORN DENTED



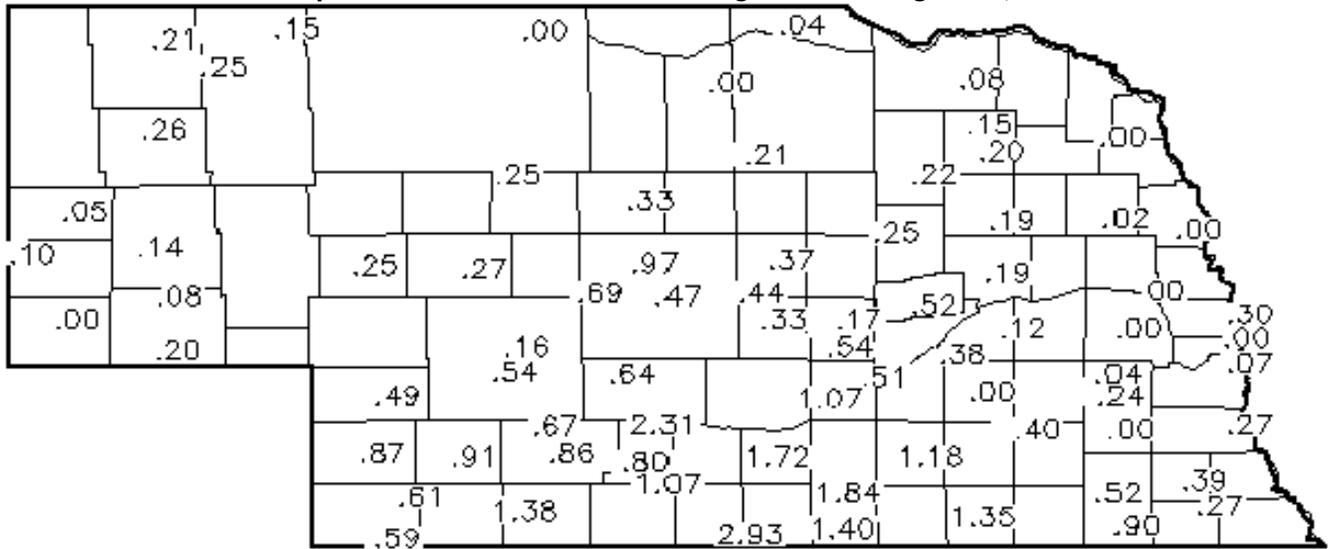
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEANS TURNING COLOR



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 21, 2005



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 21, 2005

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.11	.13	.13	.58	.14	.77	1.75	.76
Total since April 1	15.44	19.35	18.36	16.91	15.72	13.36	14.57	17.32
Normal since April 1	11.26	13.83	15.78	15.02	16.64	13.31	14.83	17.24
Total as % of normal	138%	140%	116%	112%	94%	100%	98%	100%

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, August 21, 2005

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	89	51	68	-2	126	1801	2031
	Scottsbluff	88	51	69	-1	131	1938	2025
	Sidney	87	50	68	-3	127	1823	2092
NC	Ainsworth	90	56	73	+1	157	2088	2312
	Arthur	89	52	71	-2	139	1932	2229
	O'Neill	93	57	74	+1	159	2161	2348
NE	Concord	90	56	72	-1	154	2254	2439
	Elgin	93	55	73	0	156	2229	2395
	West Point	92	52	73	-2	151	2370	2523
C	Grand Island	90	53	73	0	154	2378	2364
	Lexington	93	55	73	+1	157	2368	2316
	Ord	92	53	73	0	155	2248	2346
EC	Lincoln	94	56	76	+1	173	2667	2588
	Central City	91	51	72	-1	147	2362	2403
	Mead	94	52	73	-2	149	2473	2575
SW	Champion	91	48	71	-2	140	2079	2251
	North Platte	92	53	72	0	149	2169	2280
	Curtis	93	53	73	+1	156	2230	2285
SC	Smithfield	91	54	72	-1	151	2249	2324
	Minden	90	53	72	-1	150	2359	2338
	Red Cloud	93	57	74	0	161	2516	2387
SE	Beatrice	93	56	75	0	160	2546	2588
	Clay Center	90	53	72	-1	152	2386	2386
	Nemaha	94	59	76	+1	173	2688	2595

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