



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service
Nebraska Field Office

100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Phone: 402-437-5541 E-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

Access our reports via the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov

Mark Harris, Director



Issue NE-CW2906

Released July 17, 2006

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 16, 2006, triple digit temperatures and limited precipitation across most of the state continued to take its toll on dryland crops and pastures, according to USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service, Nebraska Field Office. Beneficial rains at mid-week improved dryland prospects in central and southeastern counties. However, the high temperatures at the end of the week quickly depleted soil moisture supplies.

Oat conditions rated 12 percent very poor, 31 poor, 38 fair, 18 good and 1 excellent, well below last year. Oats harvested was 51 percent complete, behind last year's 54 but ahead of the average of 39.

Weather Summary: It was a hot and steamy end of the week in Nebraska. While temperatures averaged only 2 degrees above normal, many record highs were set at week's end. The southeast and portions of central Nebraska received the most precipitation with accumulations of 1 to 2 inches common. These storms also produced wind and hail damage.

Sorghum conditions held steady and rated 2 percent very poor, 11 poor, 34 fair, 45 good, and 8 excellent, which is below last year. Four percent of the sorghum planted had begun to head. This is ahead of last year and the average of 2.

Dry beans were blooming on 24 percent of the acreage planted, ahead of last year's 22 and 19 average. Two percent of the dry beans planted were setting pods, behind last year's 4 but even with the average. Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 6 poor, 40 fair, 49 good, and 5 excellent.

Proso millet planted was 96 percent complete. This is behind last year's 100 and 98 average.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending July 16, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	36	30	8	18
Short	48	39	45	32
Adequate	16	31	46	49
Surplus	0	0	1	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	43	37	10	22
Short	46	39	38	34
Adequate	11	24	52	44
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	6.0	6.4	6.8	6.0

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 16, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	87	74	75	71
Corn Silked	60	27	55	38
Corn Dough	4	0	2	1
Dry Beans Blooming	24	8	22	19
Dry Beans Setting Pods	2	0	4	2
Oats Harvested	51	36	54	39
Proso Millet Planted	96	90	100	98
Sorghum Headed	4	0	2	2
Soybeans Blooming	67	51	66	48
Soybeans Setting Pods	18	5	14	8
Wheat Harvested	91	80	71	66

Field Crops Report: Wheat harvest continued to draw closer to completion with 91 percent of the acres for harvest cut, ahead of last year's 71 and 66 average.

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 16, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	12	26	34	25	3
Corn	2	7	30	44	17
Dry Beans	0	6	40	49	5
Oats	12	31	38	18	1
Sorghum	2	11	34	45	8
Soybeans	2	10	35	46	7
Wild Hay	19	26	34	21	0

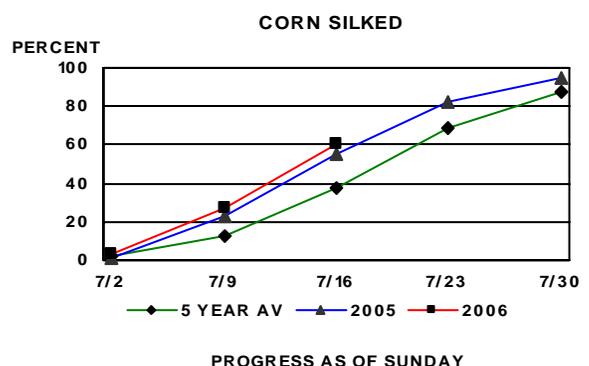
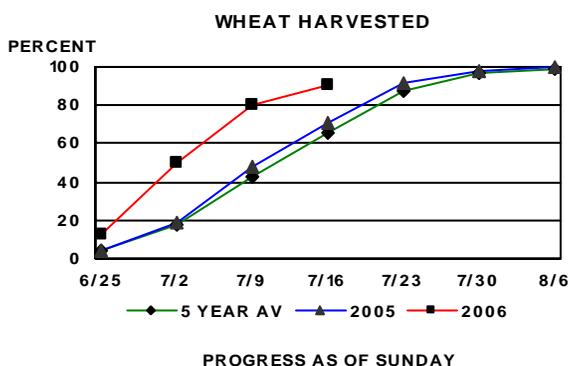
Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 30 fair, 44 good, and 17 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 73 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 41, both below year ago levels. Sixty percent had silked, ahead of last year's 55 and average of 38. Four percent of the corn was in the dough stage, ahead of 2 last year and 1 average.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions declined and rated 27 percent very poor, 31 poor, 32 fair, 10 good, and 0 excellent. Producers with livestock in confined areas were monitoring animals for heat stress.

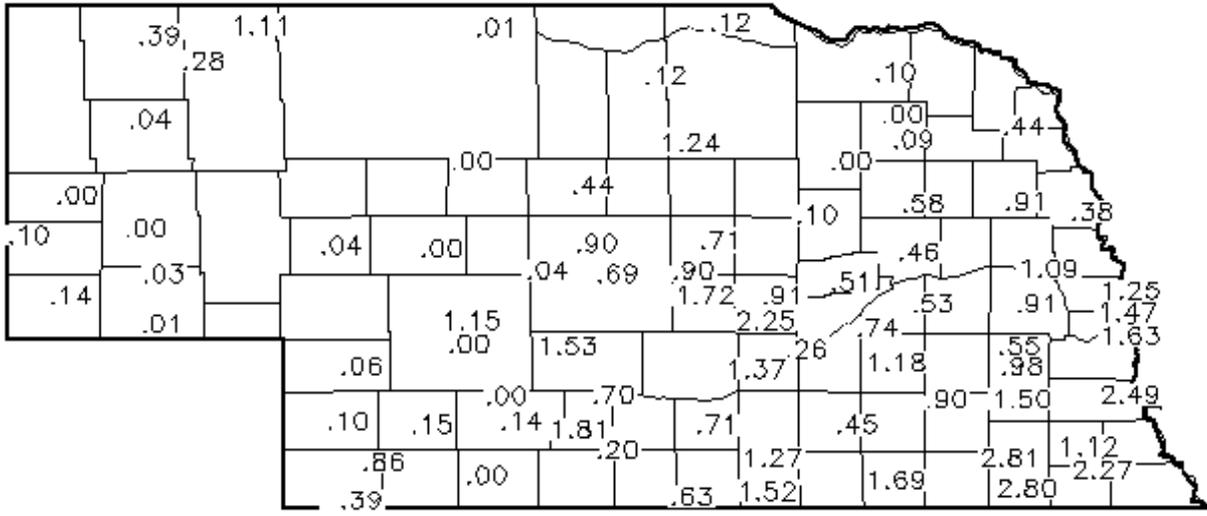
Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 10 poor, 35 fair, 46 good, and 7 excellent, below last year. Sixty-seven percent of the fields had bloomed, near last year's 66 but well ahead of the 48 average. Eighteen percent were setting pods, ahead of last year's 14 and 8 average.

Alfalfa second cutting was 87 percent complete, ahead of last year's 75 percent and 71 average. Alfalfa conditions declined and rated 12 percent very poor, 26 poor, 34 fair, 25 good, and 3 excellent. This rating continues to be well below last year. Wild hay conditions declined and rated 19 percent very poor, 26 poor, 34 fair, 21 good, and 0 excellent.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional 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 8:00 a.m. July 16, 2006



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 16, 2006

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.25	.20	.25	.89	1.00	.52	.80	2.01
Total since April 1	5.73	7.17	8.17	7.13	9.11	6.96	7.91	11.53
Normal since April 1	8.97	10.64	12.33	11.61	12.79	10.33	11.32	12.98
Total as % of normal	64%	67%	66%	61%	71%	67%	70%	88%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 16, 2006**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	106	53	77	+4	153	1387	1269
Scottsbluff	105	57	77	+4	156	1479	1265
Sidney	107	57	79	+4	163	1404	1313
NC Ainsworth	107	57	80	+4	174	1489	1454
Arthur	108	58	79	+4	168	1449	1412
O'Neill	108	58	79	+3	171	1480	1479
NE Concord	98	62	77	0	171	1521	1534
Elgin	101	60	77	+1	170	1520	1510
West Point	98	60	77	-2	170	1569	1600
C Grand Island	98	61	78	+2	177	1632	1488
Lexington	104	64	80	+4	180	1675	1458
Ord	103	60	79	+3	170	1570	1478
EC Central City	97	61	77	0	172	1612	1516
Lincoln	102	65	80	+1	185	1733	1642
Mead	95	61	76	-2	169	1646	1637
SW Champion	102	56	77	+2	159	1559	1421
Dickens	105	57	79	+3	165	1581	1437
McCook	110	62	82	+7	180	1650	1448
SC Minden	99	63	78	+2	176	1647	1470
Red Cloud	105	64	81	+5	186	1692	1504
Smithfield	97	63	77	+1	174	1630	1462
SE Beatrice	99	62	79	0	178	1674	1642
Clay Center	97	60	77	0	169	1595	1503
Nemaha	100	66	80	+1	189	1772	1655

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