

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
and  
U. S. Department of Commerce  
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection  
Division of Agr'l Statistics  
and  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 1-24-50 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 1-23-50

WEATHER A rather severe cold wave overspread the State during the 17th, and the cold remained for three days, but unseasonably warm weather prevailed during the remainder of the week, when afternoon temperatures reached the low 70's over the south-central and southwestern portions of the State. Light to locally moderate snow, which did not drift, fell over the northern and east-central portions of the State, but the drought continued without any moisture over the south-central and southwestern portions of the State. High winds raised considerable dust during the afternoon of the 17th over these dry areas.

CROPS The wheat crop is still in need of moisture. There was a light moisture in the northern 1/3 of the State and the eastern portion but no precipitation in the wheat belt. Comments from counties generally indicate there is no evidence of damage to wheat yet but in some fields close pasturing has reduced the protection from top growth, giving wind a chance to do a little damage. In some western counties reports indicate that wheat is beginning to show signs of severe drought but the extent of damage, if any, may not show until spring. Potatoes are now moving in volume from the commercial potato area.

Some of the first cutting of alfalfa damaged by rain last spring is selling at farm auctions from \$5.00 to \$12.00 per ton while good second baled crop alfalfa is selling for \$15.00 a ton. Generally, a surplus of farm labor is reported. Oats for spring seeding are in demand, selling as high as \$1.00 per bushel on several farm sales. One county reports the decline in the economic condition of farming is reflected in increased farm sales. The FHA is closing out many of the loans of the less efficient operators which have been running during the past few favorable years and have not yet paid off. Farm machinery is selling considerably lower at the farm sales. The dry fall and winter is stimulating interest in some type of irrigation.

LIVESTOCK Cattle in the feed lots are making good gains due in part to the highly favorable winter feeding season. Stocker cattle have also made gains and are available for the feed lots if the future market justifies. Numbers from feed lots on January 1 were 7% below numbers on feed January 1, 1949. Because of the favorable fall and winter weather, so far, a considerable surplus of hay and forage is expected.

The estimated lambs on feed released last week show a 24% reduction in lambs and sheep on feed but the North Platte Valley area showed a slight increase. There is an increasing interest in port production. Bidding at the farm auction sales indicates a varying demand for bred gilts and sows.

Comments from counties indicate an increasing interest in milk production. Dairy cows and dairy calves are bringing high prices at the farm sales. There is also an increased interest in producing Grade A milk near centers of good demand. Comments also indicate that a reduced demand for baby chicks is expected due to the unsatisfactory price level for eggs.

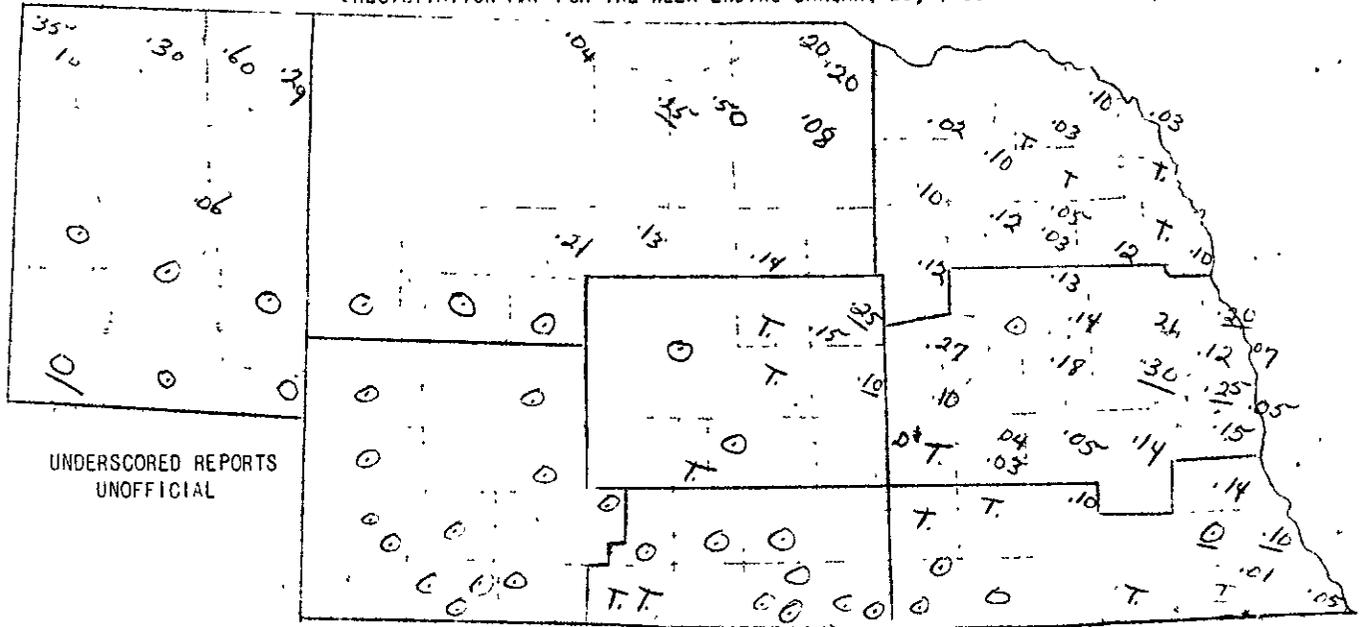
Weather Bureau Telegraphic Report of Precipitation for Week Ending January 23, 1950

<u>Eastern Division</u>		<u>Central Division</u>		<u>Western Division</u>	
Grand Island	.01	Burwell	.13	Chadron	.30
Lincoln	.14	North Platte	0	Hayes Center	0
Norfolk	.11	Valentine	.04	Scottsbluff	0
Omaha	.07			Sidney	0
Sioux City	.03				

1450

1-24-50

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 20, 1950



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (FOR 24 HOURS ENDING 6:30 A.M.)

		JANUARY						
		17TH	18TH	19TH	20TH	21ST	22ND	23RD
		MAX MIN						
NW	CHADRON	40 -6	3 3	23 5	38 13	51 40	51 30	51 20
	SCOTTSBLUFF	45 28	46 5	23 8	48 16	65 41	67 34	60 24
	SIDNEY	50 25	46 -1	-- 10	-- 19	66 30	68 38	65 26
N-C	BURWELL	41 15	16 -4	20 5	26 11	56 22	61 26	57 17
	VALENTINE	15 -3	2 -5	21 6	25 16	46 22	59 30	43 13
NE	NORFOLK	34 27	27 -1	16 3	17 10	43 19	50 24	49 16
	SIOUX CITY	23 14	28 -2	13 3	16 5	42 17	44 20	45 18
CEN.	GRAND ISLAND	42 30	31 -2	18 6	27 15	51 26	70 28	70 19
E-C	LINCOLN	41 27	39 2	16 13	23 13	46 28	49 29	59 22
	OMAHA	41 26	37 2	15 12	24 14	43 27	47 25	48 25
SW	HAYES CENTER	46 20	60 -3	18 4	32 16	69 37	74 29	69 22
	NORTH PLATTE	43 16	28 -2	20 6	30 20	68 26	71 27	64 22

(ISSUED BY THE WEATHER BUREAU AND THE STATE AND FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE).

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
203 P. O. BLDG., BOX 1911  
LINCOLN 1, NEBRASKA  
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