

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 9-25-51 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 9-24-51

WEATHER Temperatures averaged considerably below normal, with scattered frosts Saturday morning, when temperatures fell low enough to kill vegetation over much of the Panhandle and at exposed localities in the central portion of the State. Skies were mostly clear until the end of the week, when cloudy weather set in. Several days were rather windy. Rainfall ranged from moderate over the northeastern portion of the State to light or none over most of the remainder of the State.

CROPS The outlook for corn is gloomy because of its lateness and the rapidly approaching average frost dates. Light to killing frosts occurred in parts of the Panhandle and southwestern Nebraska, with extremely light frosts reported as far east as Buffalo, Webster, York, Butler and Boyd counties.

An inspection trip last week through parts of central Nebraska, east as far as Highway 81 revealed that only half of the corn had advanced far enough that husks had started to dry. Such corn varied in maturity, with a certain percentage of the ears in the milk, but generally ranging from soft to very hard dent. Most of the balance ranged from milk to dough stages. Because of excessive moisture weeds have taken many of the fields and reduced the outlook. The cold weather slowed the development of nitrates. Fields in a satisfactory state of fertility showed splendid growth and would make excellent yields if the crop matures before frost.

Reports from northeastern counties east of Highway 81 and from southwestern and south-central counties indicate greater advancement toward maturity. Reports from extreme southeastern Nebraska indicate that corn is later than in extreme northeastern Nebraska. It is very apparent now that corn has not made its usual progress after silking due to six weeks of abnormally wet, cool weather and lack of sunshine and drying wind. Corn really needs two to four weeks before frost, but two weeks of hot, dry, windy, sunny weather would yet improve the outlook to a marked extent.

With few exceptions, the soil was dry enough last week to seed wheat. About 74% of the crop was seeded up to last weekend, the same as on this date a year ago. Some of the earlier seeded wheat is up.

Reports on beans and late potatoes from western Nebraska are very unfavorable due to disease and frost. Reports indicate severe damage from late blight on potatoes and some of the tubers have started to rot. Beans were damaged by rust. Reports indicate that some beans will only be fit for livestock feed and bring \$1.50 per 100 lbs.

Most of the third crop of alfalfa has been harvested, and where the alfalfa crops were harvested on time a fourth cutting is in prospect. Wild hay harvest continues. Hay crops are heavy but quality is reduced because of rain during harvest.

Sorghum made fair progress but is late. Some harvesting of sorghum forage has been done. Fall seeding of rye, alfalfa and grasses is about completed.

COUNTY CORN COMMENTS, SEPTEMBER 22

NORTHWEST DIST. Cheyenne: Corn damaged by frost. Dawes: Frost but most corn fairly mature, no general freeze. Garden: Hard freeze probably killed most of the corn. Morrill: A lot of soft corn will result from frost and 30° temperature. Sheridan: Killing frost, about 75% of corn dented but soft. Sioux: Much corn damaged by frost, low temperature 29°.

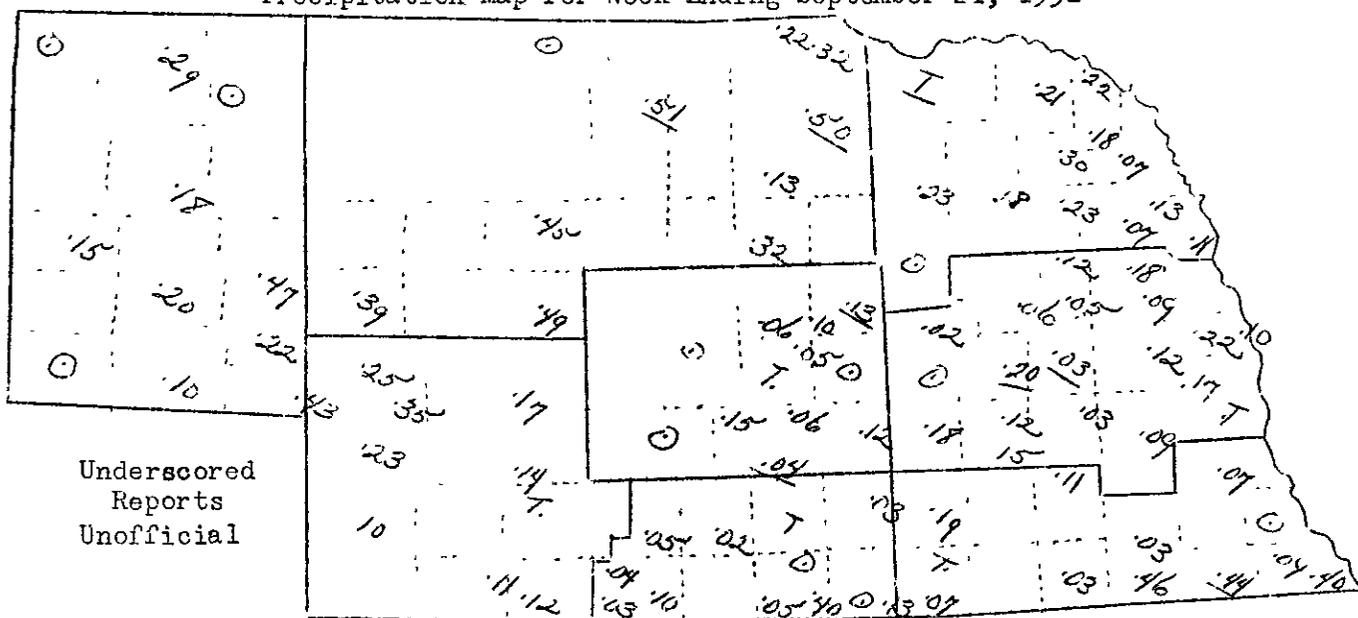
NORTH-CENTRAL DIST. Boyd: Light frost in spots, corn needs two weeks to mature. Brown: Corn ranges from milk to dough stages, small percent dented. Holt: Some corn dented, needs three weeks warm weather.

NORTHEAST DIST. Antelope: Corn three weeks behind normal, maturing slowly. Light frost would be beneficial but heavy frost and freeze would cause severe damage. Boone: Seventy-five percent of corn dented. Burt: About 65% of corn in middle dent, 25% early dent, 10% dough stage, needs two weeks drying weather. Dakota: Some corn will not mature, majority will with two weeks drying weather. Knox: Corn improved but needs 2 weeks without frost. Stanton: Corn denting, most of it would withstand light frost. Wayne: Corn making slow progress.

CENTRAL DIST. Buffalo: Spotted, light frost and corn lacks maturity. Custer: Corn late. Greeley: Most corn immature but good crop if frost holds off a few days. Howard: Warm weather improved corn. Light frost September 15 and Sept. 21, frost may result in greater damage to corn. Sherman: Corn needs 2 weeks frost-free weather, perhaps more, otherwise promising, stalk rot and root rot. Valley: About 50% of corn could withstand frost now, remainder needs ten days.

EAST-CENTRAL DIST. Butler: Light frost, corn needs warm weather. Cass: Corn progressing rapidly. Colfax: Cool weather delaying maturity but much corn still not well dented and frost within 2 weeks could cause serious damage. Dodge: Fifty percent of corn could withstand light frost, some blight and some corn very late. Hamilton: Mostly dented but 2 weeks frost-free weather needed. Lancaster: Some corn hasn't reached roasting ear stage. Merrick: Corn maturing rapidly. Polk: Corn improved during week. Nance: Corn outcome depends upon frost. Sarpy: Thirty-five percent of corn could withstand frost. Saunders: Fifteen percent corn past danger of frost. Seward: Most corn needs 2 weeks before frost, all stages of maturity. Also, variable within fields. Washington: Much corn dented, needs warm, dry weather and most fields will mature if frost holds off until October 1. York: Corn coming fine, no damage from September 1 frost.

Precipitation Map for Week Ending September 21, 1951



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (For 24 hours ending in a.m.)

		SEPTEMBER													
		18th		19th		20th		21st		22nd		23rd		24th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	80	55	79	47	80	51	65	38	54	31	64	39	43	39
	Scottsbluff	81	45	73	49	80	52	65	39	53	33	67	45	57	39
	Sidney	79	44	80	51	78	50	70	39	53	32	66	42	58	38
N-C	Burwell	77	40	77	57	73	50	80	44	52	35	69	41	53	38
	Valentine	80	48	78	59	79	50	65	42	52	34	65	38	44	37
NE	Norfolk	77	48	80	55	75	50	88	48	51	35	69	43	53	42
	Sioux City	79	50	81	56	76	52	85	52	57	34	66	43	55	38
CEN.	Grand Island	78	47	74	58	73	52	90	49	59	35	70	49	62	43
	Lexington	78	44	78	57	81	45	90	46	55	32	70	46	67	39
E-C	Lincoln	78	50	77	60	76	57	85	56	62	40	70	49	66	49
	Omaha	78	49	80	59	78	58	84	56	60	41	69	48	66	48
SW	Imperial	79	41	81	54	81	48	88	42	53	35	70	43	69	40
	North Platte	79	49	78	58	80	46	78	43	52	34	70	43	58	41

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 24, 1951

Eastern Division	Eastern Div., Contd.	Central Division	Western Division
Albion 0	Hastings .03	Broken Bow .12	Alliance .18
Ashland .27	Lincoln .09	Burwell .46	Chadron .52
Auburn 0	Norfolk .44	Cambridge .04	Culbertson .09
Beatrice .03	Oakdale .51	Holdrege .02	Imperial 0
Columbus .15	Omaha .15	Lexington .07	Kimball .13
Fairbury .08	Red Cloud 0	North Loup .12	Scottsbluff .15
Fairmont .01	St. Paul .02	North Platte .17	Sidney .09
Falls City .10	Tekamah .14	O'Neill .25	
Fremont .13	Wakefield .46	Ravenna .06	
Grand Island .03	York .12	Valentine .01	
Hartington .82			
Average this week	0.17	0.13	0.17
Total since April 1	29.96	23.10	16.76
Normal since April 1	20.12	16.90	13.46

(Issued by the Weather Bureau and the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture)

**SOUTHWEST DIST.** Chase: Two thousand acres of corn damaged by hail, 20% of crop is immature and 30% of corn is frosted. Dundy: All corn dented and a little will withstand killing frost. Frontier: Corn very late. Hitchcock: Needs more time before frost. Keith: Corn needs 3 weeks warm weather followed by mild, drying weather. Perkins: Corn needs 2 weeks of growing weather. Red Willow: Most fields of corn could withstand a light frost. Another week or 10 days of warm weather would help much.

**SOUTH-CENTRAL DIST.** Adams: Husks turning brown and ears starting to droop in some fields. Franklin: 80 to 85% of corn dented or starting to dent prospects good. Gosper: Corn needs at least 10 days to mature. Harlan: Most corn slightly dented, 55% past damage from killing frost. Kearney: Nearly all fields could withstand light frost. Phelps: Most corn dented and some out of danger from frost, but larger percentage of corn would be damaged. Webster: Light frost, 75% of corn dented, balance in hard dough stage.

**SOUTHEAST DIST.** Clay: Some corn ears dead, probably blight. Fillmore: About 1/3 of crop still in danger from frost. Gage: Spotted, late maturity. Nemaha: Needs at least a month without frost to save late corn. Otoe: Late corn developing but needs 2-3 weeks frost-free weather. Pawnee: Corn in all stages of growth and maturity, needs warm weather. Richardson: Only small percent of corn safe from frost. Saline: About 75% of corn safe from frost. Thayer: 60% of corn dented balance ranging from just past roasting ear to dent stage.