

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
 Agricultural Marketing Service  
 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 1-18-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 1-17-55

WEATHER Days were generally mild and sunny during the week, but several nights were cold in the west and central. There was only one cold night in the east. There was only one windy day. Absence of wind tempered the effect of the cold nights on men and livestock. Light snow was falling at the close of the week over much of the northwestern, central and southeastern portions of the State. There was no precipitation in the southwestern and northeastern portions.

CROPS The outlook for winter wheat has improved greatly since the snows covered the entire wheat belt of the State. January snows up to the present date should average between 8 and 10 inches. Reports indicate that very little of the snow blew off the fields, except in northwestern counties. The moisture from the rain and snow to date this month brings precipitation above the January normal. The total of November and December precipitation was the lowest since 1896.

Winter wheat was needing moisture badly at the beginning of the year. The heavy growth had taken most of the surface moisture and the top soil was loose and dry. This unfavorable condition has been remedied by the January rain and snow and the present condition is ideal for wheat, rye, fall sown grasses and alfalfa. The snow will also be of real benefit to pasture and alfalfa fields.

More hay has been used since the snow storms. Hay stocks at the beginning of the year totaled 4.9 million tons, about 37% above last year's stocks and about 35% above the 10-year average. Consumption of hay was light up to January 1 due to mild weather. Range is still open in the north-central and northeastern portions of the State, which have received very little moisture to date this month.

LIVESTOCK January numbers of cattle on feed in Nebraska estimated at 619,000 head were up 2% from a year ago. The present number on feed is the second largest of record. Shipments of cattle to the country for the last half of 1954 were 38% greater than for the same period in 1953.

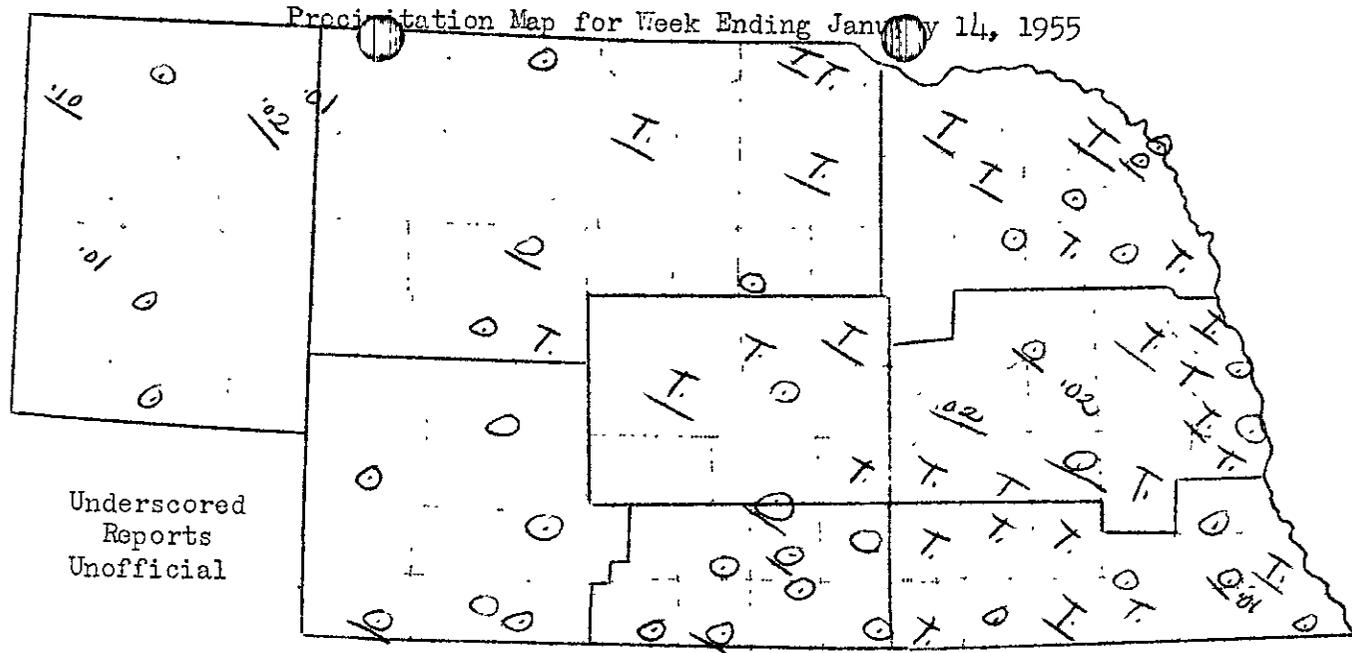
The number of sheep and lambs on feed estimated at 500,000 head is down 10% from the number on feed a year ago. This gives Nebraska second place in sheep feeding with the smallest January 1 number on food since 1937, except for 1950.

Chicks hatched in Nebraska commercial hatcheries in 1954 exceeded 27 million chicks, up 1 million chicks from 1953. A recent survey of turkey crop intentions indicated an increase of 5% in the turkey crop for 1955.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 17, 1955

<u>Eastern Division</u>		<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>
Grand Island	.20	Burwell	.08
Lincoln	.03	North Platte	T
Norfolk	0	Valentine	0
Omaha	0		
Sioux City	0		
		Chadron	.11
		Imperial	0
		Scottsbluff	.03
		Sidney	0

Precipitation Map for Week Ending January 14, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (High for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and low for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		January													
		11th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	41	7	30	6	24	4	55	27	35	22	41	12	31	24
	Scottsbluff	19	2	36	3	24	1	37	20	40	1	30	6	32	20
	Sidney	37	7	35	6	25	6	50	25	37	8	39	9	34	18
NC	Burwell	--	--	--	--	16	-1	51	22	47	13	45	12	33	16
	Valentine	40	20	33	6	20	4	55	33	--	--	42	17	32	20
NE	Norfolk	38	21	29	16	24	4	39	27	48	19	45	21	31	11
	Sioux City	40	25	29	21	26	5	39	24	47	19	43	21	31	11
CEN.	Grand Island	31	18	27	8	24	0	--	--	44	17	35	18	36	16
E-C	Lincoln	32	22	31	22	28	8	36	29	46	23	41	30	40	19
	Omaha	32	18	28	18	28	5	34	26	47	19	41	26	39	14
SW	Imperial	28	6	37	5	24	-1	36	15	37	0	37	6	32	13
	North Platte	26	9	33	1	15	-5	35	15	36	4	35	11	32	20

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
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 Lincoln 1, Nebraska

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