

8-9-55
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NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 8-9-55

Week Ending 8-8-55

WEATHER Very hot weather prevailed during the first four days of the week, but the last two days were rather cool. Moderate to locally heavy rains fell over much of the panhandle, the north central, and central portions of the state, and more locally in the southeast, but much of the corn growing region received no precipitation of consequence. Highest temperatures early in the week ranged upward to 109° at Syracuse. Winds were generally light, and humidity rather high.

CROPS Corn has been damaged severely by heat and drought during the past two weeks. July precipitation was less than half of normal and subsoil moisture was short due to the dry spring. However, corn held up quite well until the arrival of extremely high temperatures the last week of July. About 71% of the corn had tasseled by August 6 as compared with 88% for the same date a year earlier.

Most of the panhandle received substantial rain last week, but there is very little corn grown in that area. Several of the central Nebraska counties north of the Platte River received rain last Saturday, but elsewhere there were only a few local showers of substantial rainfall. Nearly all of the southern and eastern counties report varying amounts of damage to corn. The deterioration has been severe during each of the past two weeks. Cooler weather of the past few days has enabled some of the late tasseled corn to hold out a little longer. The areas which received showers last week and northeastern Nebraska have the best chance, but even in the latter area most of the counties report damage.

Corn under irrigation has been holding up well, but in a number of cases farmers were unable to get the water up fast enough. Some lowering of the water table in the wells in the Platte Valley was reported, but there is still ample water. Heavy runs have been made on water in the reservoirs.

About 96.5% of Nebraska's corn was planted with hybrid seed this year. The percentages planted by districts are as follows: Northwest, 60%; North, 80%; Northeast, 99.5%; Central, 95%; East, 100%; Southwest, 95.5%; South, 98%; and Southeast, 99.5%.

Winter wheat harvest has been completed. Reports continue to show yields far above expectations. While there were a number of low yields, the higher yields more than offset the low yields resulting in a high state average yield. Dry soil has made plowing for fall seeding very difficult.

Yields of oats and barley, as in the case of winter wheat, have exceeded earlier expectations. While yields vary greatly, the average is good.

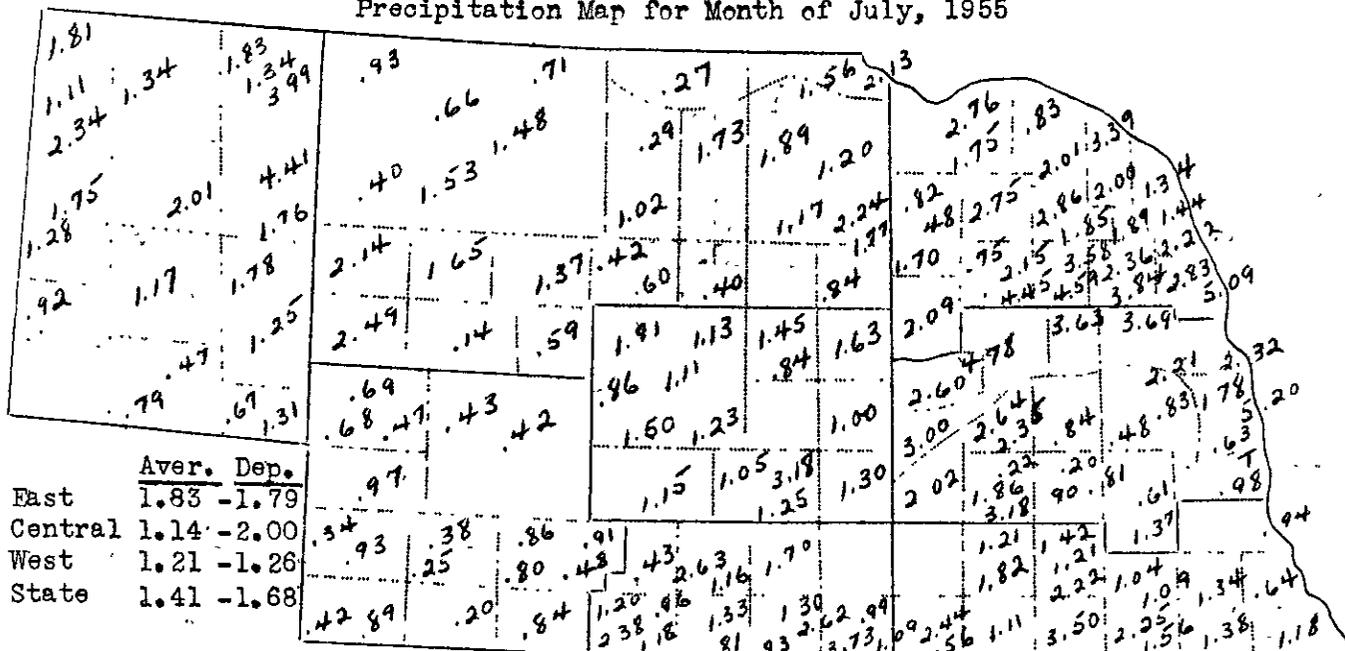
The sorghum crop showed some deterioration during the past two weeks. A little of the crop was damaged badly, but most of it is still holding out well. Some of the sorghum started to head about a week ago. Soybeans have made good progress but are needing moisture badly.

Pasture has been damaged severely by the hot, dry weather of the past two weeks. In some counties pasture is so short that some cattle are being moved. Pasture got a late start due to the dry spring and while it greened up nicely during June, July heat and drought were too much for it. Grass in the sand hills which so far has held up well, is also being checked by hot, dry weather.

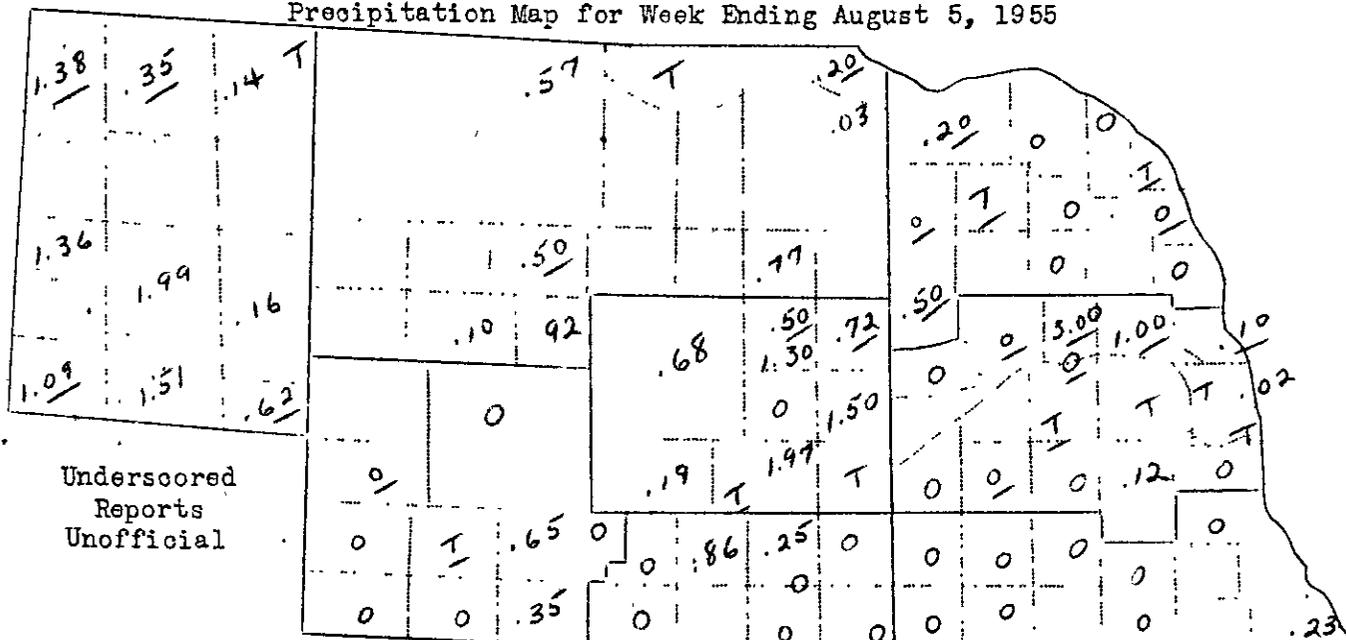
The condition of alfalfa in most of the counties is very low due to high temperatures and lack of moisture. Grasshoppers are also damaging the crop. Wild hay harvest was postponed in an effort to get more growth before cutting. The crop got a late start and while it was quite promising up to the past two weeks, the crop will fall below expectations.

Rains in the panhandle have improved the outlook for dry edible beans, sugar beets, and potatoes in the North Platte Valley. This is fortunate because the supply of water for irrigation is short.

Precipitation Map for Month of July, 1955



Precipitation Map for Week Ending August 5, 1955



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

		August													
		2nd		3rd		4th		5th		6th		7th		8th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	103	69	97	65	102	63	88	60	89	63	86	62	82	68
	Scottsbluff	99	68	95	68	95	67	84	62	85	62	84	63	81	60
	Sidney	98	64	98	61	97	69	94	61	88	62	82	60	79	62
N-C	Burwell	105	102	71	102	65	91	68	88	58	85	54
	Valentine	105	79	104	66	105	73	92	62	82	65	84	59	85	66
NE	Norfolk	99	77	101	77	99	73	97	73	93	73	84	59	83	54
	Sioux City	101	73	98	79	99	72	95	73	96	71	84	62	82	57
Cen.	Grand Island	101	75	98	76	98	70	94	71	93	72	88	64	83	57
E-C	Lincoln	98	78	100	78	97	75	93	73	93	73	92	66	85	59
	Omaha	91	72	96	72	95	73	91	70	90	70	90	63	83	57
SW	Imperial	101	67	101	70	100	70	99	63	97	66	88	57	86	63
	North Platte	100	71	100	69	98	73	97	68	92	70	88	60	84	56

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 8, 1955

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	0	Burwell	.77	Chadron	.35
Lincoln	.12	North Platte	0	Imperial	.12
Norfolk	.07	Valentine	.58	Scottsbluff	1.88
Omaha	.02			Sidney	1.67
Sioux City	0				

Precipitation, April 1-August 5, 1955

	Eastern Div.	Central Div.	Western Div.
Total past week	.01	.45	.58
Total since April 1	10.64	9.44	10.52
Normal since April 1	15.20	13.22	10.70