

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
and

U. S. Department of Commerce  
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection  
Division of Agril. Statistics  
and

Agricultural Extension Service  
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 8-16-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 8-15-55

**WEATHER** Temperatures averaged near to, slightly below normal in the east and near to slightly above in the west. Days were warm but nights were very cool, particularly in the east. Light to locally heavy showers fell over much of the east during the afternoon of the 9th, and more general moderate to locally heavy rains over most of the west during the night of the 10-11th. The central third of the State received no rain of importance. Winds were light, humidity low, and there was practically full sunshine.

**CROPS** Deterioration of the Nebraska corn crop continued during the past week although locally light to heavy rains brought relief to some areas. About 88% of the crop has tasseled and there is some doubt if the remaining 12%, even under favorable weather conditions, could mature before normal frost date. While some corn was planted late, dry weather along with high temperatures delayed tasseling longer than usual.

Nearly all counties have some fields that have been burned beyond recovery. While the greatest damage occurred south of the Platte River, most of the corn in the area north of the Platte River which was holding a week ago, is now showing varying degrees of damage. Much of the corn south of the Platte River burned after reaching a height of two to four feet and some is being pastured.

Some corn under irrigation is not expected to yield up to average, as water from ditches has been short in some areas and many farmers have not been able to cover the entire fields with water fast enough to supply the needs of the corn plant. Despite the adverse conditions, irrigated corn has held on unusually well and this may be attributed to the development of more drought resistant hybrid varieties and to the cooler weather that prevailed last week. While some corn has been pastured and some out for feed, ensilage operations will start soon to salvage as much feed as possible.

The western area of the state has received more moisture throughout the summer months and the condition of all crops approaches normal. Harvest of small grains is practically over and summer fallow operations are in full swing. Sugar beets, dry beans, and potatoes are making favorable growth and the limited acreage of corn and sorghum shows considerable promise.

Sorghum, while more drought resistant than corn, is also showing considerable deterioration as a result of the dry weather and will need precipitation in the near future if a good crop is to be realized. Soybeans have been holding their own, but have now reached a critical development stage and rain is needed to prevent serious deterioration.

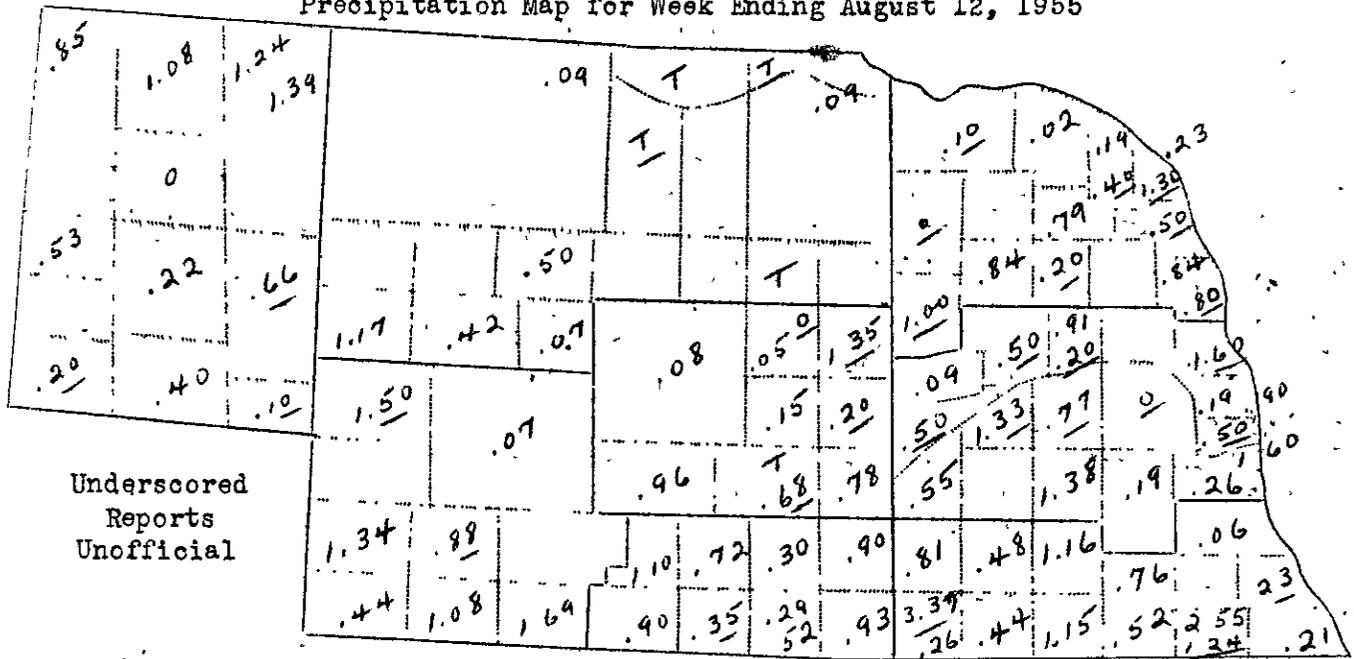
Except in the far western counties and some of the central sand hill areas, pasture feed is very short and some farmers in the eastern counties have been feeding born or hay to supplement pasture feeds. Wild hay harvest is well along and yields range from very good in the western area to very poor in the eastern counties. Dry land alfalfa has made very little plant growth and some farmers are hoping for a seed crop from the third cutting. Irrigated alfalfa is developing well but is not making the usual heavy growth that would be made under favorable weather conditions.

All counties in the state report a shortage of both surface and subsoil moisture except a few western counties and a couple counties in central Nebraska. The western third of the state has had about normal moisture since April 1 while the balance of the state has had considerably below normal. July rainfall was about 45% of normal and the percentage has run about the same to date this month except for the western third of the state.

**LIVESTOCK** Condition of cattle and calves is holding up well despite dry pasture feed conditions. While there has been no forced liquidation of herds to date, it is possible that continued dry weather will force some cattle to market that would normally be held on farms.

The June slaughter of cattle at 153,000 head exceeded that of June a year ago by 14,000 head. The total slaughter for the first half of the year numbered 902,000 head against 839,000 head during the first half of 1954. The national slaughter at 12,298,700 head for the first six months of the year was up 404,000 head. Hog slaughter in Nebraska totaled 1,654,000 head for the first half of the year which is up nearly a half million head from a year ago. The national slaughter of hogs was up 17% during the first half of the year. Milk cows in June totaled 407,000 head, down 4% from a year ago and down 33% since 1940. The preliminary estimate of pigs raised on farms in Nebraska totaled 16.8 million head, down 18% from last year. Nationally, pigs raised on farms are down 15%.

Precipitation Map for Week Ending August 12, 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													
		9th		10th		11th		12th		13th		14th		15th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	92	59	86	53	87	60	90	64	93	70	97	64	76	58
	Scottsbluff	89	60	87	60	80	56	85	57	90	65	93	63	81	62
	Sidney	88	56	90	56	80	58	83	58	88	62	92	56	89	64
N-C	Burwell	89	65	94	62	82	58	87	58	90	59	92	58	97	60
	Valentine	90	60	85	51	89	64	..	..	90	66	92	64	87	64
NE	Norfolk	88	68	94	65	83	57	82	60	86	60	87	64	94	62
	Sioux City	86	67	88	65	84	56	85	59	85	57	85	57	94	62
Cent.	Grand Island	88	69	94	63	83	62	82	61	87	62	89	62	93	62
E-C	Lincoln	87	70	85	66	86	60	84	62	85	60	87	60	92	63
	Omaha	86	66	85	63	82	55	82	60	82	58	83	59	89	63
SW	Imperial	90	59	93	57	88	63	83	59	90	61	93	63	93	66
	North Platte	88	60	93	62	80	61	80	57	88	64	91	61	92	64

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 1955.

Eastern Division	Central Division	Western Division
Grand Island .78	Burwell 0	Chadron 1.08
Lincoln .19	North Platte .07	Imperial 1.21
Norfolk .76	Valentine .08	Scottsbluff .0
Omaha .90		Sidney .40

Precipitation, April 1-August 12, 1955

	Eastern Div.	Central Div.	Western Div.
Total past week	.72	.40	.87
Total since April 1	11.36	9.84	11.39
Normal since April 1	15.99	13.90	11.22

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