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U. S. Department of Agriculture
Statistical Reporting Service
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Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 12/19/61

Week Ending 12/18/61

WEATHER Temperatures climbed above the freezing point in the west during the afternoons of the final three days and in the east on Sunday afternoon. It was very cold most of the period with 25 below at Wakefield, 23 below at Lexington, 22 below at Red Cloud and 21 below at Harrison, Culbertson and Curtis.

Snow on Saturday afternoon and night totaled 1 to 4 inches in the southern portion of Nebraska. Snow cover of 2 to 12 inches remained in the southeastern half of Nebraska.

There was considerable cloudiness, fog and various periods of freezing drizzle during the period.

CROPS Field work was largely at a standstill over most of the State during the week. A very small acreage of corn and milo was harvested and this was mostly in the western part of the State where they had light snow cover. Harvest of these crops is about ended. There is still 6 percent of the corn and around 2 percent of the milo remaining in the fields mostly in the southeastern counties. The delay is serious in a few localities in the southeast where there is a heavy snow cover with wet soil under the snow. It is almost impossible to get into the fields with heavy equipment. In these areas, losses from ear dropping will be serious.

The heavy snow cover on winter grain fields in the eastern two-thirds of the State will be beneficial to the crops. In the western area, fields have little if any snow on them and are exposed to wind erosion and low temperatures.

Pasture and range feed is generally available in the western part of the State but elsewhere is covered with snow. Low temperatures during the week caused heavier feeding of hay and other forage crops, making an early inroad into feed supplies. Farmers were forced to take livestock from corn and milo fields and provide them with supplemental feed. Some cattle were moved into feedlots.

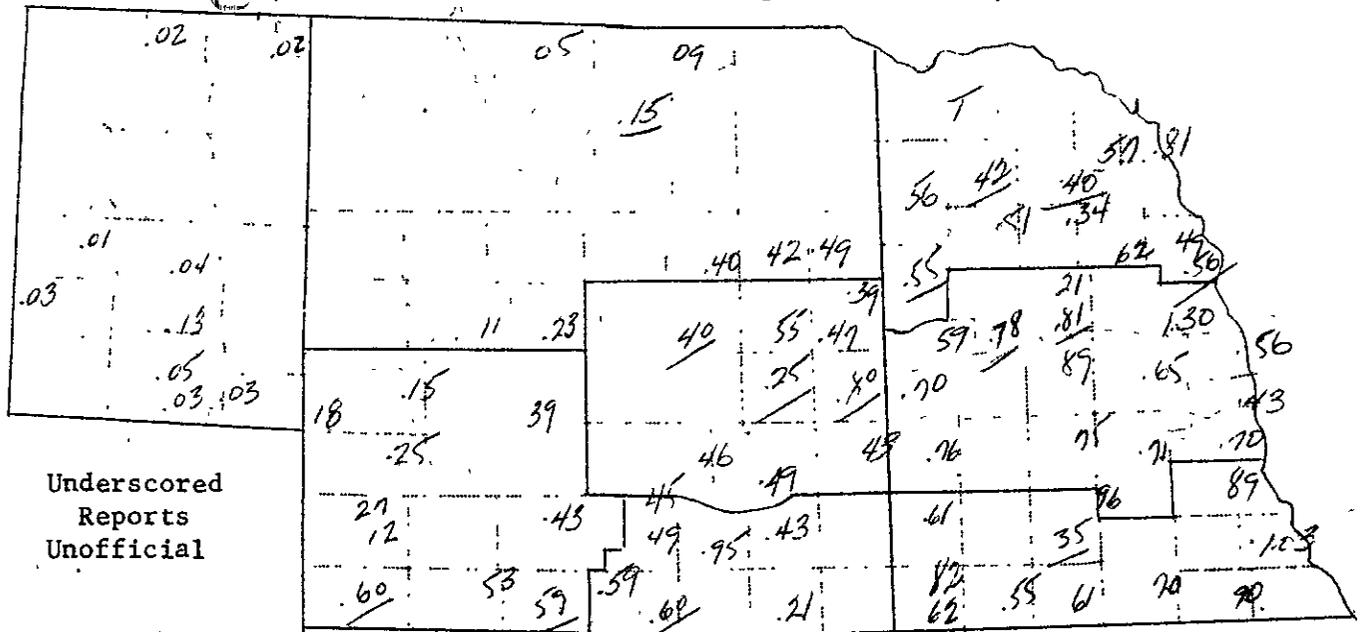
LIVESTOCK The extremely bitter, cold weather was rather hard on all livestock. The drop in temperature was rather sudden and cattle and calves had not become conditioned to the low temperatures. However, losses were few and supplemental feeding maintained the good condition of animals. The gain rate of animals in feedlots was slowed by low temperatures and snow in the eastern part of the State. Muddy feedlots made it difficult to get rations to livestock.

Shipments of cattle into Nebraska for November were 141,000 head, 6 percent above last year. Sheep and lamb inshipments totaled 44,000 head for November, 2 percent above last year. For the July-November period, cattle inshipments were up 24 percent compared with the same period last year while sheep were down 42 percent.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 18, 1961

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	.75	Burwell	.41	Chadron	.01
Lincoln	.56	North Platte	.14	Imperial	.05
Norfolk	.69	Valentine	.05	Scottsbluff	T
Omaha	.63			Sidney	.02
Sioux City	.80				

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 15, 1961



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 a.m. CST)

		December													
		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th		18th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	13	-6	15	-3	28	2	32	16	42	12	37	13	43	23
	Scottsbluff	13	-10	17	-1	36	4	32	7	36	15	40	11	45	27
	Sidney	12	-12	17	-4	36	0	28	0	41	16	40	15	39	25
NC	Burwell	7	-14	7	-21	22	5	9	-9	15	2	26	7	31	--
	Valentine	7	+8	12	-11	33	2	14	2	33	9	32	7	40	24
NE	Norfolk	7	1	7	-18	17	-4	10	-10	10	6	23	12	32	21
	Sioux City	7	3	8	-17	14	-1	11	-9	--	2	22	19	30	24
CEN	Grand Island	10	-9	7	-9	17	-2	14	-11	14	11	24	7	26	4
EC	Lincoln	7	2	8	-8	17	6	17	-2	15	12	27	12	32	22
	Omaha	6	0	6	-14	15	1	13	-5	17	10	26	14	30	23
SW	Imperial	7	-18	15	-6	27	1	26	4	24	3	32	16	40	17
	North Platte	8	-19	16	-14	20	-6	20	-3	17	6	27	2	33	17

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 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE