

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 2/14/66

Week Ending 2/14/66

WEATHER Precipitation fell over the entire State early in the week. Snow fell west of a line from Hitchcock County to Keya Paha County. Snowfall was generally from one to three inches except in the northwest where it ranged up to six inches at Hemingford and 15 inches at Harrison. Rain and thundershowers were reported east of this line. Daily amounts ranging from 3/4 inch to over an inch were common in a belt from the south central to the northeast portions. A number of places had over two inches with 3.08 inches at Staplehurst, the largest reported amount. The rainfall, unusually heavy for this time of year, fell on a snow cover of 1 to 3 inches, melting it and then onto frost covered soil. The runoff was great, but in some areas considerable frost went out of the ground leaving the top soil saturated. An ice jam in the lower Platte late in the week caused overflowing with water covering an estimated 10,000 acres of low land.

Weekly temperatures averaged from one to six degrees below normal in the west but were from eight to thirteen degrees above normal in the east. There were several warm nights in the west early in the week but otherwise the cold was persistent. In the east both days and nights were warm until cold air spread over the area Saturday night and Sunday.

Light snow spread across the State over the weekend.

CROPS Rain and warmer temperatures melted the snow cover in the eastern half and along the southern border of the State. Elsewhere, a snow cover of one to more than 14 inches remains on the ground. The rainfall on Tuesday was generally described as beneficial to crops, although some serious erosion and flood damage occurred in those areas receiving heavy amounts of rain.

A snow cover remains on wheat fields in most areas of the west. Rain improved soil moisture conditions in the east, but some low lying areas are under water and some drowning of wheat and alfalfa is expected. Most of the wheat crop appears to be wintering quite well with adequate surface soil moisture supplies.

General farm and ranch chore activities took considerable amounts of time because of the snow and mud. In the northeast, feed lots have become very muddy. This has slowed feeding operations considerably. In the range area, winter pastures are generally covered with snow and have caused the high level of supplemental feeding to continue in those areas. Hay and roughage supplies appear to be adequate at this time. Grazing and foraging were limited to fields in the east, where they were not covered with snow, and in this area was generally restricted to only stalk fields. Most wheat and alfalfa fields were too muddy to permit livestock on them.

Water in reservoir storage for irrigation purposes for the Platte Valley in western Nebraska appears at this time to be adequate to handle crop needs for the 1966 growing season.

LIVESTOCK The normal seasonal increase of calving, farrowing, and lambing is beginning. Producers have generally been able to provide proper care and losses of new-born animals have been limited. Cattlemen in the range area are making preparations for spring calving, which will be underway soon. Gain and production rates of most classes of livestock improved under the more moderate temperatures.

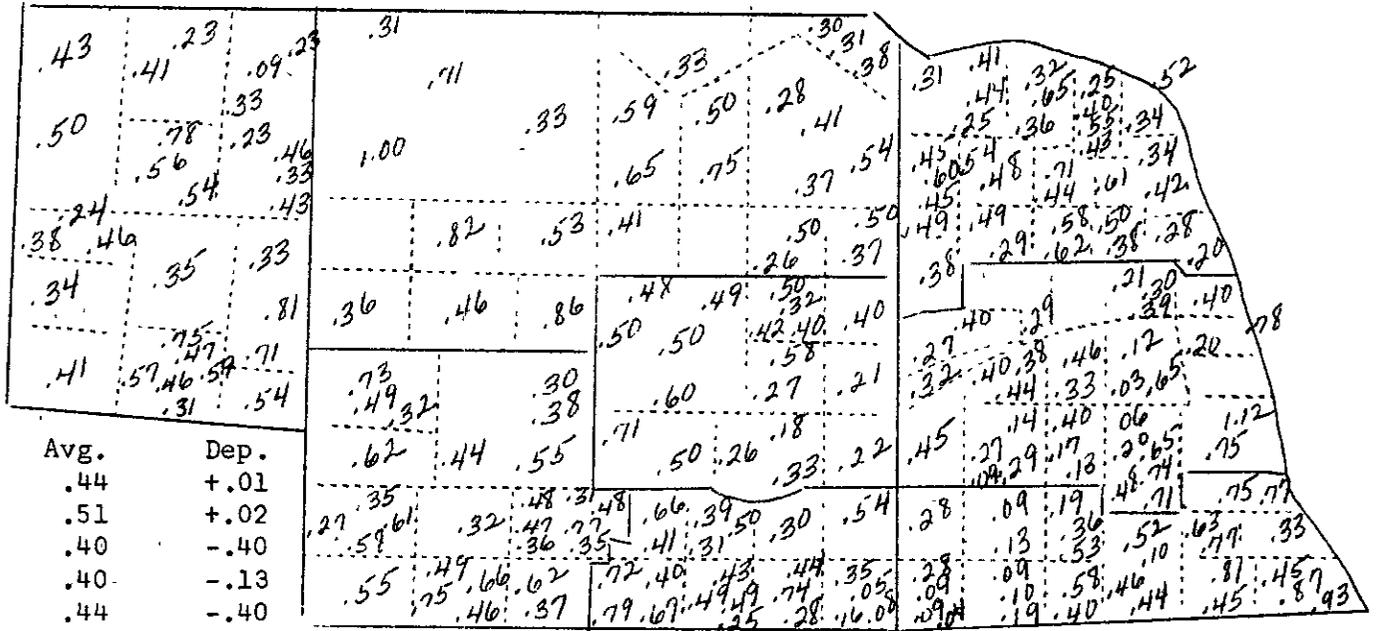
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 13, 1966

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	.54	Burwell	.44	Chadron	.30
Lincoln	.93	North Platte	.13	Imperial	.11
Norfolk	1.39	Valentine	.23	Scottsbluff	.16
Omaha	.28			Sidney	.31
Sioux City	1.14				

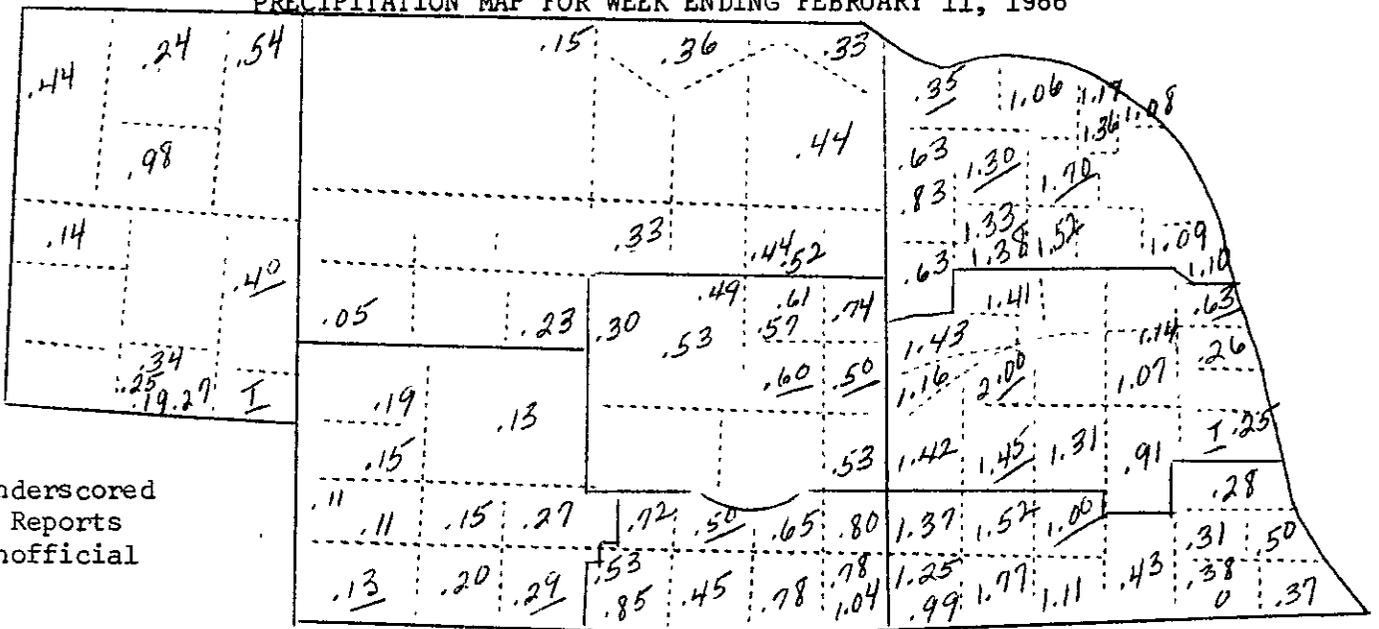
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH JANU 1966



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 1966



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)

		February													
		7th		8th		9th		10th		11th		12th		13th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	42	23	33	26	32	-3	29	6	31	13	32	7	23	3
	Scottsbluff	35	22	32	20	31	1	29	5	31	20	34	5	23	1
	Sidney	33	24	33	21	31	6	29	6	35	12	38	10	28	6
NC	Burwell	40	--	38	30	35	19	37	16	38	24	44	8	24	--
	Valentine	36	22	31	24	30	6	32	9	29	14	34	-3	19	1
NE	Norfolk	41	37	39	43	44	24	41	22	39	30	45	14	18	6
	Sioux City	43	38	45	41	50	26	34	24	39	27	48	23	23	10
CEN	Grand Island	45	37	46	36	43	21	44	22	42	28	50	17	24	10
EC	Lincoln	51	44	59	45	53	27	44	24	43	31	51	25	23	14
	Omaha	48	42	58	50	50	25	41	25	39	28	49	24	23	10
SW	Imperial	40	24	33	25	34	13	30	13	38	13	42	15	23	11
	North Platte	36	30	34	28	34	11	34	10	33	13	38	13	21	10