

Run 1400

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Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



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Environmental Science Services Admn.
National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
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Release 10/23/73

Week Ending 10/22/73

WEATHER

This has been one of the driest weekly periods during the 1973 growing season. Winds were fairly light which restricted the drying of the moist soil over most of the eastern two-thirds of the State. Temperatures were 5 to 10 degrees above normal most of the week except for a cool period on Tuesday.

CROPS

Farmers made excellent progress in harvesting sorghum and soybeans as weather conditions were near ideal even though some fields were still wet and muddy. Corn harvest progress was normal but many farmers are waiting for the crop to dry more. Farmers remain concerned about fuel shortages.

Corn for grain harvest is about 15% complete according to County Agents compared with 20% last year and 25% average. The most progress has been made in the East Central and the least in the Northeast. Average moisture content of corn being harvested is 23% compared with 24% a year earlier and 27% a week earlier. A hard freeze would be welcome to kill the stalk and promote faster drying.

Sorghum harvest is about 45% completed, the same as a year earlier and average. Greatest progress was made in the East Central. Moisture content is averaging 16%, the same as a year earlier and down from 19% a week earlier. Most late harvested sorghum is showing less damage than early harvested grain.

Soybean harvest is about 45% complete compared with 65% a year earlier and 70% average. The most progress has been made in the East Central and the least in the Northeast. Moisture content has declined to 14% compared with 13% a year earlier and 17% a week earlier. A small amount of moldy beans were found in early harvested beans but recent harvest appears better.

Wheat condition improved and continues good with 8% of counties excellent, 58% good, 29% fair and 5% poor. Condition averages highest in the Panhandle and lowest in the Southeast. Some farmers are still trying to finish wheat seeding.

Sugar beet harvesting is nearing the half way mark. Dry bean harvest is almost completed.

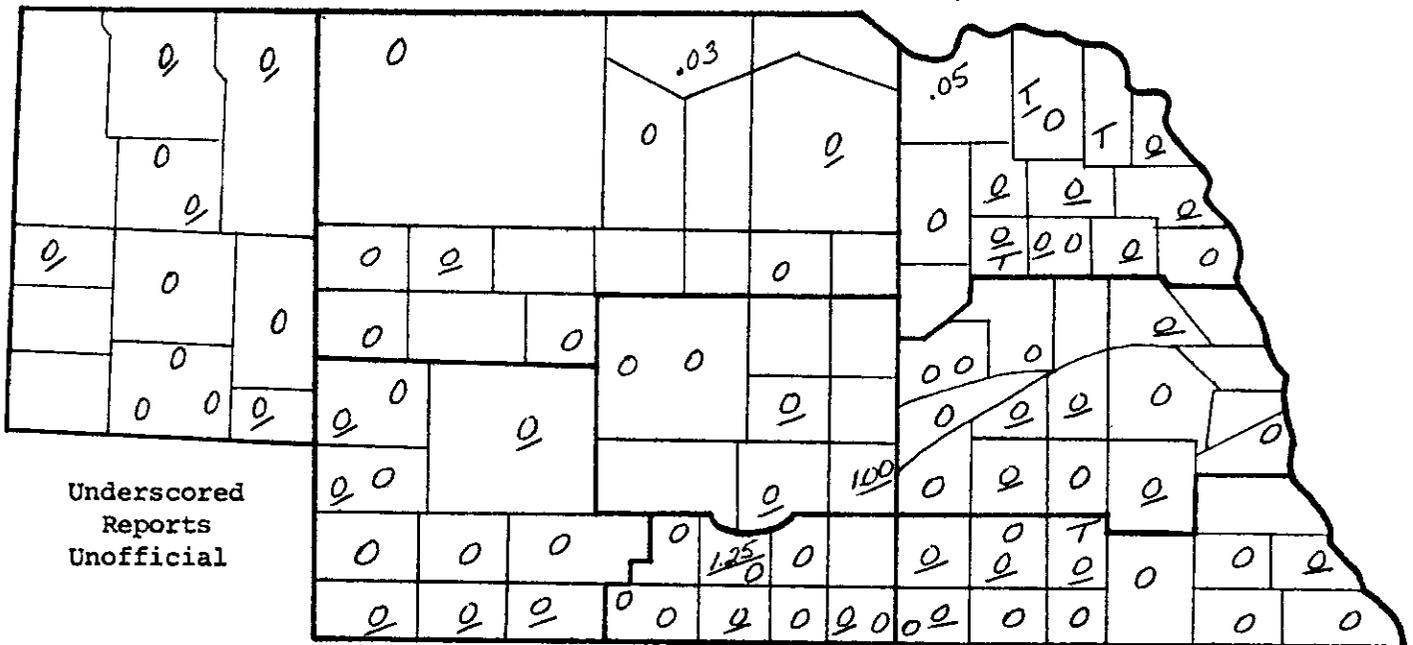
Soil moisture supplies declined during the week. Topsoil supplies were surplus in 24% of reporting counties and adequate in 76%. Subsoil supplies were rated surplus by County Agents for 33% of counties and adequate 67%.

Farmers have been busy harvesting row crops, haying, putting up silage, seeding wheat, and cleaning up from floods. An average of 6.5 days were suitable for field-work.

RANGE & LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture conditions are mostly average with 33% of counties rated above average, 63% average and 4% below average. Ranchers are moving cattle to fall and winter pastures. Feedlots are drying up following the heavy rains in early October.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1973



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1973

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches ^{1/}
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	81	34	57	--	0
Scottsbluff	80	36	56	+5	0
Sidney	80	34	54	--	0
NC Burwell	79	36	55	--	0
Valentine	83	37	56	+6	T
NE Norfolk	77	37	56	+2	T
Sioux City	81	36	57	+2	0
CEN Grand Island	79	36	57	+3	0
EC Lincoln	78	36	57	+2	0
Omaha	76	39	58	+3	0
SW Imperial	84	32	56	--	0
North Platte	77	33	54	+2	0

^{1/} Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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 Official Business

