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3/3/86

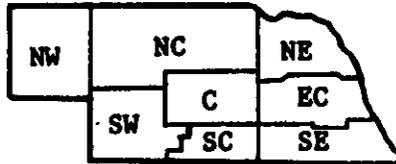
# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Period Ending 3-2-86

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## WEATHER

It was a mild and dry week with only scattered light precipitation midweek. Nearly all reports showed only traces. Average temperatures ranged from 8 to 15 degrees above normal.

## GENERAL

Temperatures fluctuated widely during February averaging about one degree below normal. Precipitation was widespread during the middle of the month predominantly in the form of snow, but by month's end, warming temperatures melted the snow cover across the State. Producers continued to harvest corn in the few remaining unharvested fields. Many farmers spent their time on tax preparation, planning and ordering supplies for the new crop year, soil testing and evaluating the 1986 farm program. Other activities included attending meetings and farm sales, machinery upkeep and livestock care.

## WINTER WHEAT

Nebraska's winter wheat crop condition rated 7% poor, 34% fair, 51% good and 8% excellent, showing a slight decline from a month ago. Poorest conditions still exist in the southeastern counties. Precipitation received during February improved topsoil moisture condition and should be beneficial to spring growth. Recent warm weather has allowed some western wheat acreage to break dormancy and begin growing. This has caused some concern for susceptibility to late freeze damage if cold weather returns.

## LIVESTOCK

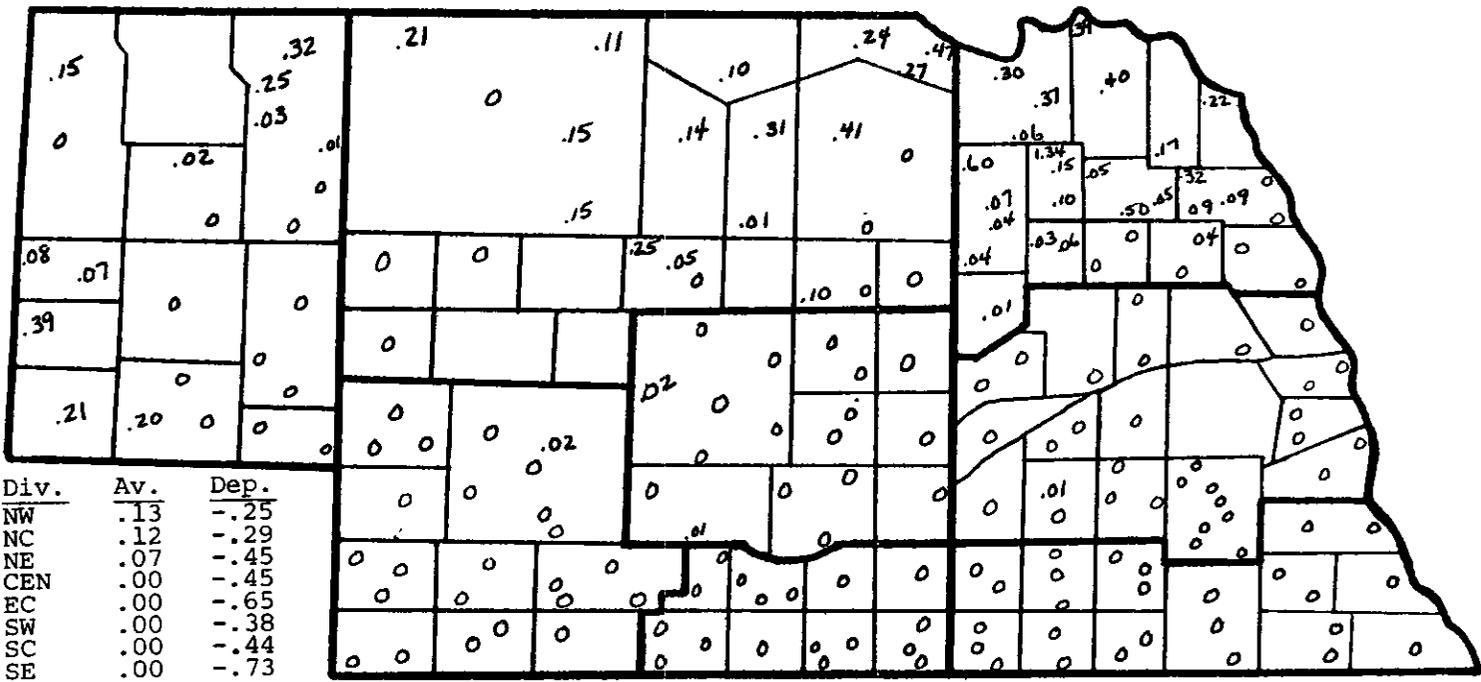
Mild conditions through most of February allowed continued grazing of stalks. Reduced demand for supplemental feed continued to benefit ranchers in the Panhandle and north central Nebraska where hay supplies were extremely short. Elsewhere across the State, feed grain, hay and forage supplies rated average or above. Calving and lambing activities kept many ranchers busy.

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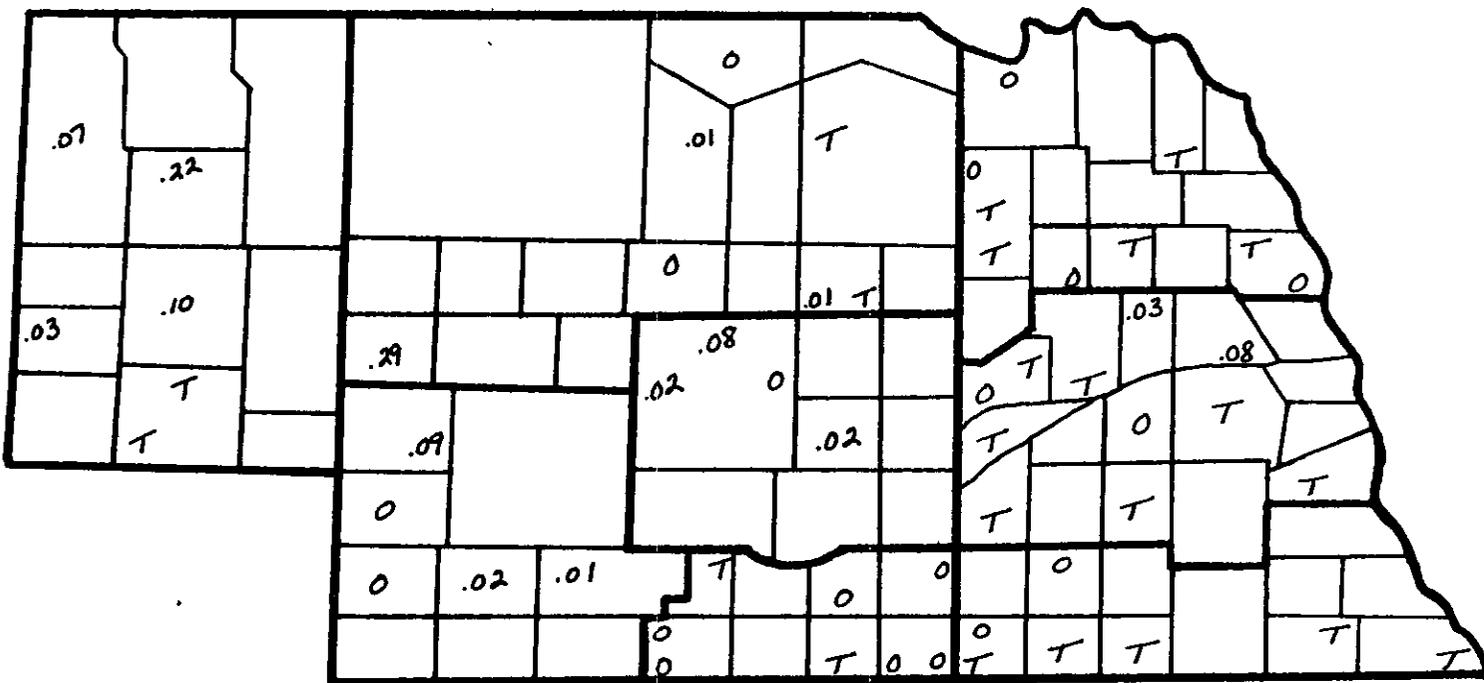
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF JANUARY 1986 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1986



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 1986

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	66	23	44	--	0
Scottsbluff	72	21	45	+13	T
Sidney	72	21	46	--	T
NC Ord	72	17	43	--	0
Valentine	69	18	42	+15	T
NE Norfolk	68	18	40	+13	T
Sioux City	63	12	36	+9	T
CEN Grand Island	75	20	44	+13	T
EC Lincoln	67	20	40	+10	T
Omaha	57	19	37	+8	T
SW Imperial	74	27	47	--	0
North Platte	75	25	45	+15	.02

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.