

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

For Week Ending September 8, 1991

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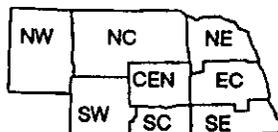
Phone: (402) 437-5541

Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

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Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
and U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.  
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Division of Agr'l Statistics  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Agriculture  
and Natural Resources--UNL

## WEATHER

The week was warm and mild. Temperatures averaged from seven to eight degrees above normals. Precipitation occurred the latter half of the week. Amounts varied from none in parts of the western portion up to .70 inch in Omaha.

## GENERAL

Nebraska farmers and ranchers, for the most part, experienced still another week of above normal temperatures and little or no rainfall, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Dryland crops and pastures continued to deteriorate further by the dry weather conditions. Additionally, the dry conditions are hastening maturity and dry down of all fall maturing crops. Limited harvesting of corn, sorghum and soybeans began last week while dry edible bean harvest was well underway. Other farm activities included livestock care and harvest preparations.

## CROPS

Corn condition was rated at 4% very poor, 9% poor, 27% fair, 56% good, and 4% excellent. Dryland corn was rated at 13% good or better while irrigated corn was rated at 80% good or better. Silage harvesting activities continued in full swing. Reports indicate some dryland corn continues to be cut for silage due to low grain yield potential. Harvest for grain has begun across the State, except for the Panhandle. At week's end, 4% had been harvested, about one week ahead of normal.

## CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition was rated at 8% very poor, 35% poor, 43% fair, and 14% good. The crop continued toward maturity at a faster than normal pace. Harvest has begun in a few areas, about a week ahead of normal. In areas where plants are still growing, moisture is needed in order to limit yield losses.

Sorghum condition was rated at 22% very poor, 15% poor, 44% fair, and 19% good. Continued dry weather allowed crop maturity to progress at a faster than normal pace. Harvesting has begun in several areas with 2% harvested to date, about one week ahead of normal.

Alfalfa was rated at 9% very poor, 36% poor, 27% fair, 27% good, and 1% excellent. Third cutting activities slowed a little last week as some producers will not take a third cutting due to reduced growth. Overall, harvest remained ahead of last year and average.

Wheat seeding made limited progress last week due to the dry soil conditions. Most producers are awaiting rainfall before sowing wheat. At week's end, 8% of the intended acreage had been planted, behind last year at 10% and the 5-year average at 15%.

## LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 62% of normal, down slightly from last week. Some producers are moving cattle off pastures into dry lots while others are supplementing what grazing was available with hay, green chop corn, or forage sorghum. Even in areas where grass has sustained cattle this summer, the pastures need rain to limit early weanings.

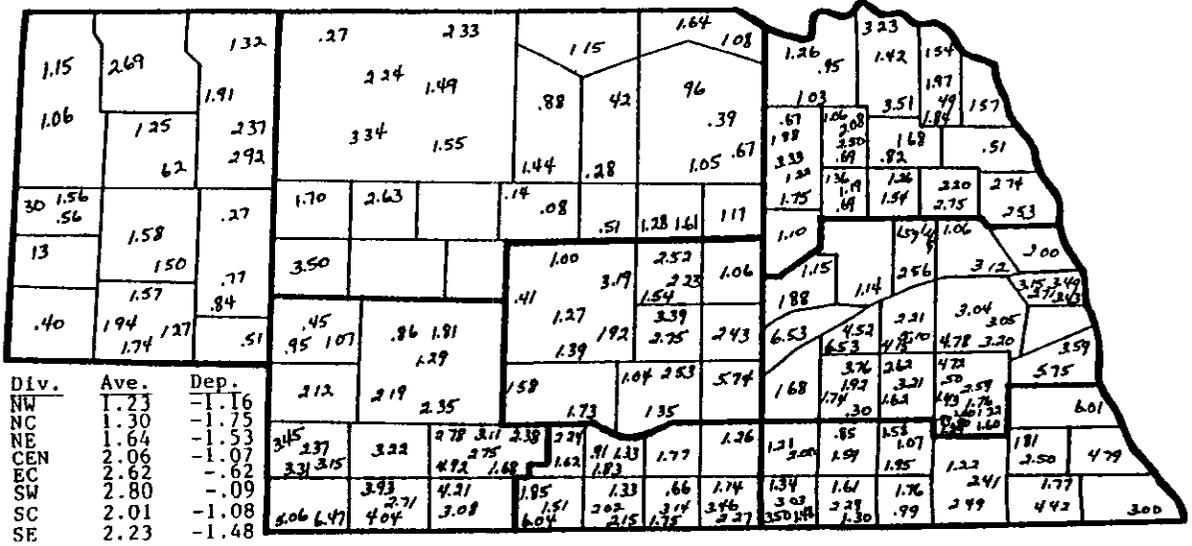
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn dented	90	100	99	99	98	97	95	100	98	85	75	86
% corn mature	14	14	48	48	54	29	23	71	44	18	13	27
% corn harvested	0	1	4	8	6	1	1	7	4	0	0	0
% sorghum turning color	100	94	78	87	95	80	73	84	86	76	68	78
% sorghum mature	0	12	42	11	42	21	3	48	36	15	9	18
% sorghum harvested	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	4	2	0	0	0
% soybeans turning color	0	75	72	60	64	70	61	67	67	40	44	53
% soybeans dropping leaves	0	32	31	15	33	29	9	34	30	10	12	17
% soybeans harvested	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
% alfalfa third cutting	55	87	93	100	94	95	94	84	88	79	85	85
% wheat sown	14	25	7	5	5	2	14	0	8	0	10	15
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 1991												
Days suitable	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.8	
Topsoil moisture - Short	93	83	100	100	96	100	91	100	96	98	88	
(Percent) - Adequate	7	17	0	0	0	0	9	0	3	2	12	
Surplus	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Subsoil moisture - Short	64	75	100	92	89	71	82	100	87	86	74	
(Percent) - Adequate	36	25	0	8	7	29	18	0	12	14	26	
Surplus	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	

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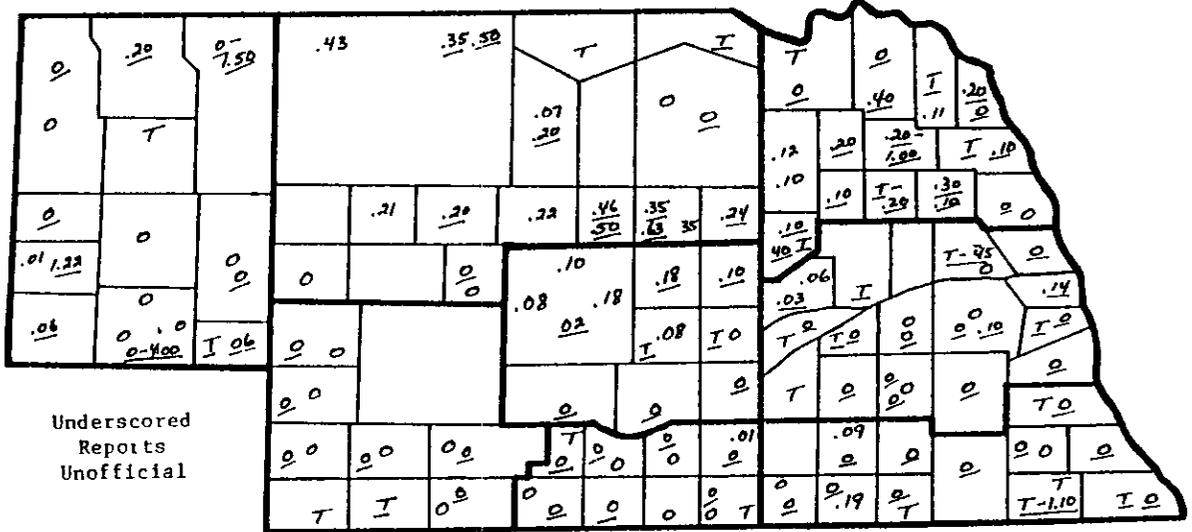
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF JULY 1991 1/



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

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1991



Precipitation, April 1 - September 6, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.01	.14	.07	.09	.01	.00	.01	.04
Total since April 1	12.69	13.49	15.07	13.29	17.83	13.72	15.12	13.84
Normal since April 1	12.15	14.96	17.30	16.20	18.60	13.62	16.44	19.45
Total as % of normal	104%	90%	87%	82%	96%	101%	92%	71%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1991

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches 1/	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	95	54	74	---	0	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	93	50	72	+7	.41	2272	2417	2412
Sidney	93	51	70	---	0	2219	2358	2361
NC Valentine	100	47	74	+8	.36	2401	2554	2448
NE Norfolk	95	50	75	+8	.06	---	---	---
Sioux City	92	48	75	+7	.25	---	---	---
Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2548	2710	2720
Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2573	2741	2654
West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	2677	2834	2781
CEN Grand Island	93	56	76	+8	T	2721	2901	2784
Ord	92	50	74	---	0	2589	2754	2743
EC Lincoln	95	51	76	+7	.17	2909	3089	2890
Omaha	91	55	75	+7	.70	2864	3042	2776
Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	2846	3029	2836
York	---	---	---	---	---	2800	2964	2916
SW Imperial	90	52	71	---	0	---	---	---
North Platte	92	50	74	+8	.09	**2418	**2571	**2608
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2635	2799	2835
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2866	3026	2922
Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2706	2865	2880

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. \* Automated weather station \*\* North Platte Experiment Station

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln