NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

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NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending May 10, 1992

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
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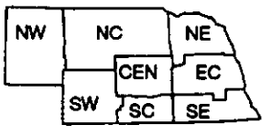
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources–UN-L

WEATHER

Warm temperatures continued during the week although a few areas of below freezing temperatures were reported in the east. Average temperatures ranged from three to nine degrees above normal. Rainfall remained on the light side except for a few reports between a half and one and a half inches in widely scattered thunderstorms on Sunday.

GENERAL

Fieldwork activities were in full swing last week with no rain delays reported, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork activities included corn, soybean, and sorghum planting with related seedbed preparations. Also, irrigation systems were operating to aid germination of corn and sugar beet plantings. Dry soil conditions, as a result of the recent days with no precipitation and windy conditions, have caused some producers to delay some planting activity and some producers to hold cattle off summer pastures at this time.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 6% very poor, 23% poor, 54% fair, and 17% good. The dry, windy conditions along with above normal temperatures continued to stress wheat in various areas of the State. Presence of chinch bugs in the Southeast District were reported.

CROPS (Cont.)

Spraying for army cutworms and pale western cutworms continued in the Panhandle.

Corn planting last week once again made excellent progress. As of Sunday, 81% of the intended acreage was planted. This completion rate was well ahead of last year at 44% and the 5-year average at 63%. Emergence has been slow except where irrigation systems were providing water. Reports also indicate that emergence on earlier dryland plantings was also hindered by "crusting."

Spring planting of soybeans and grain sorghum has begun in most areas of the State. Some producers are waiting for moisture before planting. Soybeans are slightly ahead of average plantings and sorghum was at the average.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 2% poor, 33% fair, 59% good, and 6% excellent. Wild hay condition was rated at 8% poor, 52% fair, 39% good, and 1% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 80% of normal. Cattle continue to be moved onto summer pastures. In some areas, grass growth was at a standstill due to the lack of rainfall, topsoil drying winds, and low nighttime temperatures. Even with good grass growth in some areas, moisture is needed for pastures to provide adequate summer grazing. Some supplemental feeding of hay continued. Producers continued to brand and work calves.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 10, 1992	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn planted	80	62	69	92	75	88	98	96	81	38	44	63
% corn emerged	5	5	1	18	13	42	40	19	17	0	3	16
% sorghum planted	0	5	1	13	6	5	8	9	8	0	3	8
% soybeans planted	0	8	6	19	7	9	19	17	10	0	3	9
% wheat jointed	89	75	70	59	80	100	90	100	92	67	58	72
% wheat headed	0	0	1	2	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	4
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 8, 1992												
Days suitable	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.9	7 0	7.0	7.0	5.8	3.6	
Topsoil moisture - Short	100	77	63	71	68	93	100	39	74	34	9	
(Percent) - Adequate	0	23	37	29	32	7	0	61	26	63	78	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	13	
Subsoil moisture - Short	87	15	11	14	4	27	23	39	26	19	47	
(Percent) - Adequate	13	85	89	86	92	73	77	61	73	79	53	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	2	0	

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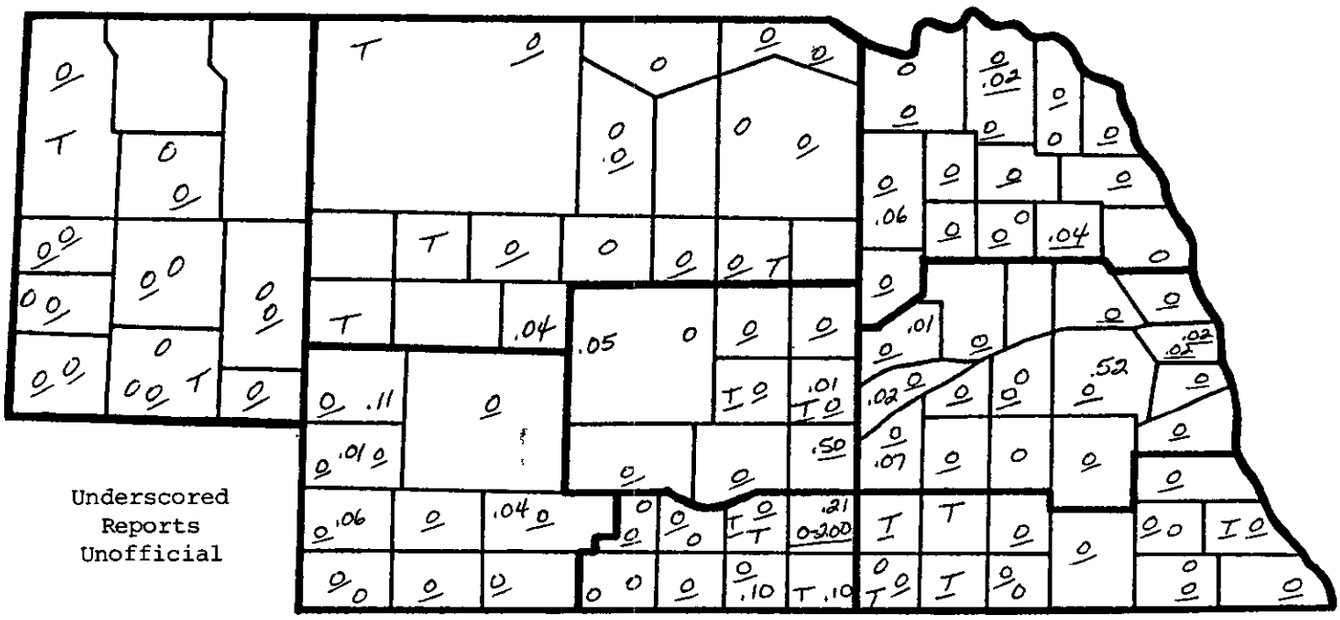
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1992



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 8, 1992

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.01	.01	.02	.10	.04	.05	.00
Total since April 1	.58	.45	1.24	.48	1.09	.13	.43	1.79
Normal since April 1	2.53	2.99	3.42	3.27	3.82	2.57	2.99	3.78

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 10, 1992

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	89	34	64	---	1.06	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	87	38	63	+9	.54	194	305	184
	Sidney	---	---	---	---	---	175	276	193
NC	Valentine	90	34	62	+8	.01	163	269	177
NE	Norfolk	88	34	63	+6	.05	---	---	---
	Sioux City	87	34	63	+5	T	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	118	223	223
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	132	229	210
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	129	236	229
CEN	Grand Island	85	35	62	+4	.31	162	264	214
	Ord	83	32	61	---	.07	153	255	227
EC	Lincoln	86	29	62	+3	.09	164	268	232
	Omaha	85	43	64	+5	.07	113	213	206
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	150	253	218
	York	---	---	---	---	---	142	247	233
SW	Imperial	87	41	64	---	0	---	---	---
	North Platte	83	40	61	+6	.04	**174	**272	**220
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	178	285	241
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	158	260	264
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	161	264	245

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.