

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending April 21, 1996

Issue: 06-96

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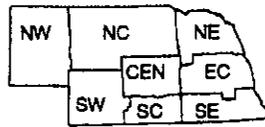
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.  
National Weather Service



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

## WEATHER

The week was relatively warm with much needed precipitation. Temperatures averaged near normals across the entire state. Precipitation was widespread with amounts averaging from two tenths in the southwest to near an inch in the east.

## GENERAL

Much needed precipitation early last week slowed fieldwork activities, however, producers welcomed the moisture and by mid-week spring fieldwork activities were moving at a rapid pace, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Though significant moisture was received in many areas, more is needed in virtually all districts particularly the Panhandle and Southwest wheat districts. Producer activities across the State consisted of fertilizer applications, seedbed preparations, corn and oats planting, grain marketing, and livestock care.

## CROPS

Winter wheat condition improved slightly from last week and was rated 11% very poor, 25% poor, 43% fair, and 21% good. A few fields of wind damaged wheat have been abandoned in the west. Wheat jointed was at 3%, compared to 14% last year, and 11% average. Some winter

## CROPS (Cont.)

kill loss was apparent in the south and east with the extent of acreage lost to be determined soon. Signs of infestation from army cutworms were seen in some western fields.

Last week oats seeded advanced to 80% complete. This compares to 33% last year and 62% for the five-year average. To date, 22% of the crop had emerged.

Corn planting was 4% complete as of Sunday. This is ahead of last year's 1%, that was slowed by wet conditions, but equal to the five-year average. Planting activities were the most advanced in the southeast part of the State.

Sugar beet planting continued in the Panhandle district.

## LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated 2% very poor, 25% poor, 52% fair, 18% good, and 3% excellent. Pastures were beginning to green up about a week later than normal due to cool conditions and short moisture supplies. Spring calving progressed with 89% complete. Calf losses during the spring season rated mostly average. Reports indicate that producers were making preparations to move cattle to spring pastures as soon as conditions permit.

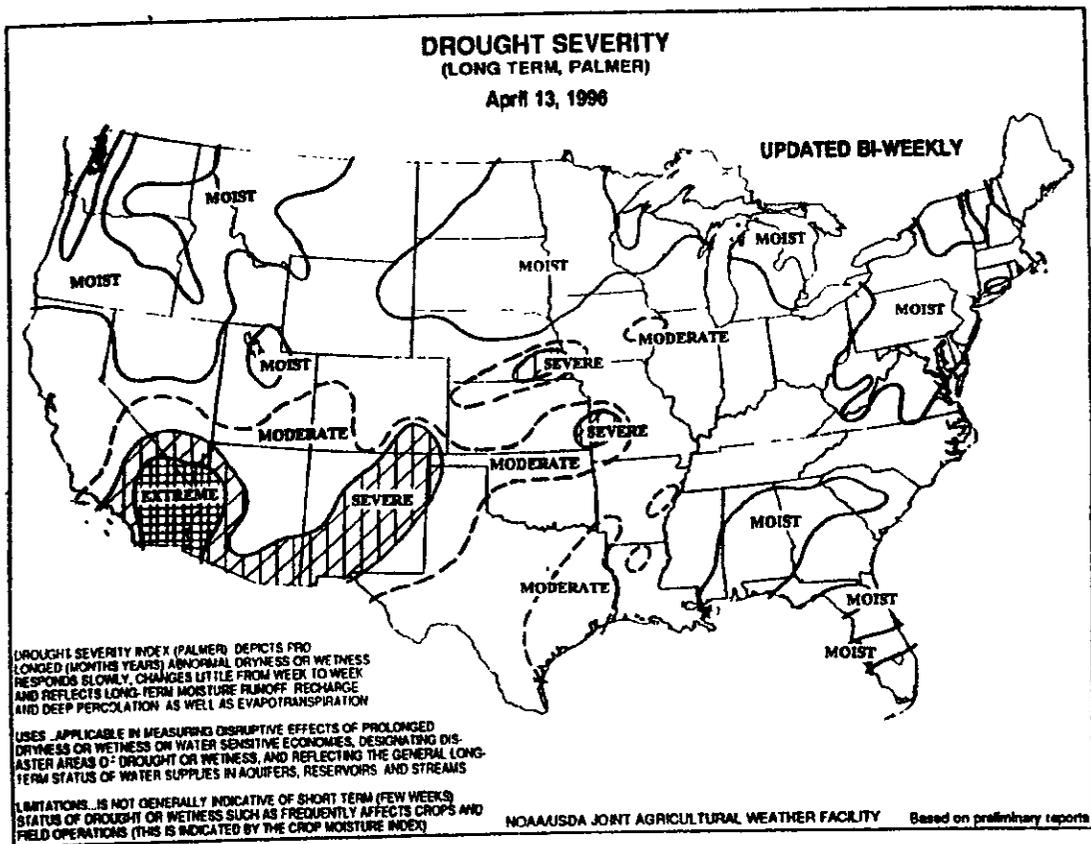
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 20, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% Oats Sown	54	79	82	80	74	95	93	94	80	51	32	60	
% Oats Emerged	7	17	18	28	17	45	30	58	22	6	n/a	n/a	
% Wheat Jointed	0	3	0	0	9	7	3	1	3	0	14	11	
WINTER REPORTING AS OF APRIL 19, 1996													
% Cows Calved	95	86	84	86	93	89	93	90	89	82	88	n/a	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 19, 1996													
Days suitable	46	52	40	46	37	50	30	39	43	63	13		
Topsoil Moisture - Very Short	17	17	13	14	11	45	31	28	21	28	0		
(Percent) - Short	39	53	31	47	52	47	41	50	45	51	1		
- Adequate	44	30	55	39	36	8	28	22	34	21	44		
- Surplus	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	55		
Subsoil Moisture - Very Short	3	5	4	3	21	19	36	46	17	15	0		
(Percent) - Short	23	28	42	46	63	66	50	34	42	43	5		
- Adequate	74	63	53	50	16	15	14	20	40	41	58		
- Surplus	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	27		

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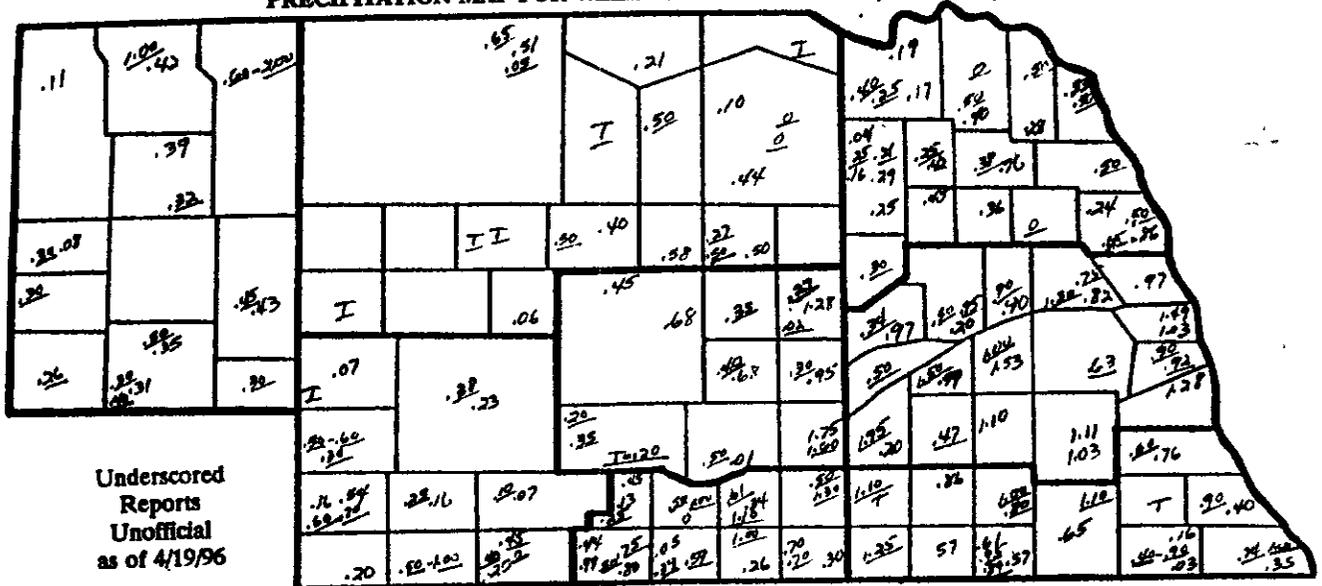
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**PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1996**



**Precipitation, April 1 - April 20, 1996**

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week .....	.30	.35	.36	.83	.98	.21	.41	.41
Total since April 1 .....	.74	.47	.51	.89	1.24	.45	1.03	.88
Normal since April 1 .....	1.17	1.40	1.60	1.59	1.80	1.20	1.37	1.80

**TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1996**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <sup>1/</sup>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	78	28	48	---	.42
Scottsbluff	74	26	47	0	.08
Sidney	73	26	45	---	.31
NC Valentine	79	24	47	0	.51
NE Norfolk	80	27	49	-2	.45
Sioux City	83	27	49	-2	.53
CEN Grand Island	79	28	49	-2	1.75
Ord	77	29	48	---	---
EC Lincoln	82	27	53	+1	1.11
Omaha	84	31	53	0	1.49
SW Imperial	77	28	48	---	.54
North Platte	80	24	48	-1	.23

<sup>1/</sup> Precipitation totals not included in map above.