

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



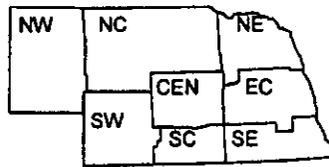
For Week Ending May 5, 1996

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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

Temperatures for the week averaged well below normals ranging from three degrees below normals in the northwest to six to eight degrees below normals over the remainder of the state. Precipitation was widespread ranging from a few hundredths in the Panhandle to nearly three inches in the east.

GENERAL

Rainfall last week occurred statewide, improving wheat prospects and aiding germination of spring planted small grains and row crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn planting neared two-thirds complete with soybean and sorghum planting just underway. Fieldwork activities were slowed in the northeast and east central parts of the State due to wet field conditions. While in the west, hard freezing temperatures early in the week damaged stands of sugar beets. Producer activities consisted of fertilizer and herbicide applications, spring planting, grain marketing and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition improved from last week and rated 10% very poor, 26% poor, 46% fair, 18% good. By week's end, 25% of the crop had jointed, eight days behind average. This compares with 55% last year, and 51% for the five-year average. Disease and insect damage have been light.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn planting advanced to 60% complete, eleven days ahead of the average, and compares with last year's 5% and five-year average at 30%. Planting was over 80% complete in southeastern and south central counties.

Soybean planting had begun with 2% planted as of Sunday. This is the same as the five-year average. Planting activities were the most advanced in the south central fields.

Sorghum planting got underway last week with 2% planted to date.

Oats emergence rated 79%, greatly helped by last week's rain. Germination and growth has been slow this spring due to cool temperatures and dry soil conditions.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 6% very poor, 21% poor, 40% fair, 31% good, and 2% excellent. Reports of winter kill continued to be received from the north central, northeast, and east central districts.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 4% very poor, 32% poor, 46% fair, 15% good and 3% excellent. Supplemental feeding continued. Some reports indicated that hay supplies were getting short due to slow growth of pastures. The southwest, central and southeast districts indicated producers were moving cattle to pastures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF May 5, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Planted	46	26	41	73	59	60	83	82	60	26	5	30
% Wheat Jointed	7	17	9	9	22	38	39	25	25	9	55	51
% Sorghum Planted	0	0	4	2	2	0	6	1	2	n/a	0	0
% Soybean Planted	0	0	1	2	2	1	6	3	2	n/a	0	2
% Oats Emerged	57	70	80	60	84	87	72	93	79	38	n/a	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 3, 1996												
Days suitable	4.9	3.6	4.3	4.2	2.6	4.1	4.7	1.8	3.7	6.1	1.5	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	14	11	5	8	2	23	8	10	9	22	0	
(Percent) - Short	38	23	12	35	25	54	40	19	29	51	2	
- Adequate	48	66	82	57	72	23	52	71	62	27	29	
- Surplus	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	69	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	2	0	7	1	15	13	29	40	13	14	2	
(Percent) - Short	25	42	22	56	63	58	62	38	45	51	1	
- Adequate	73	58	70	42	22	29	9	22	42	35	61	
- Surplus	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	

n/a = not available.

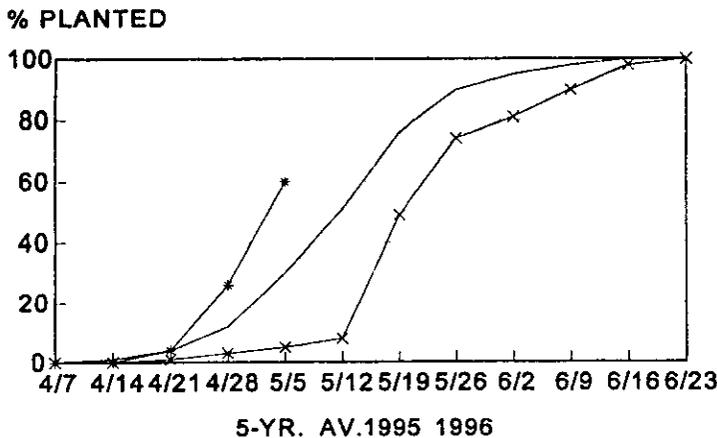
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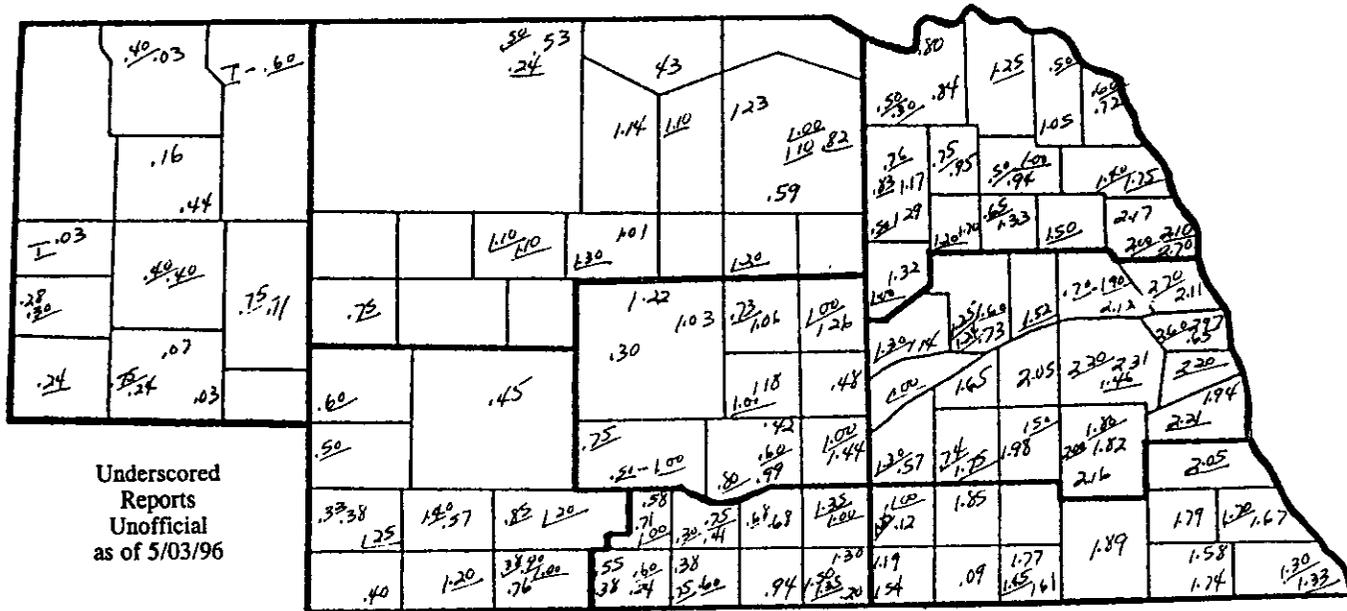
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CORN PLANTED



Progress as of Sunday

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1996



Underscored Reports
Unofficial
as of 5/03/96

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 4, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.12	.88	1.30	.94	1.73	.48	.66	1.43
Total since April 1	1.35	1.52	2.00	2.00	3.14	1.35	1.80	2.37
Normal since April 1	2.17	2.56	2.94	2.87	3.22	2.27	2.55	3.29

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1996**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	67	23	46	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	71	21	48	.03	90	137	150
	Sidney	69	22	45	.24	85	122	132
NC	Valentine	63	26	46	.53	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	94	131	130
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	88	114	155
NE	Norfolk	67	28	48	1.27	---	---	---
	Sioux City	66	26	48	.72	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	92	121	166
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	89	114	151
	West Point	---	---	---	---	108	140	161
CEN	Grand Island	70	33	50	1.44	9	28	0
	Ord	68	29	47	1.06	106	137	166
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	120	159	178
EC	Lincoln	73	32	51	1.82	129	170	184
	Omaha	69	33	51	2.97	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	122	158	190
	Mead	---	---	---	---	128	165	180
SW	Imperial	71	29	49	.38	---	---	---
	North Platte	69	28	47	.45	117	155	162
	McCook	---	---	---	---	124	170	192
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	129	175	180
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	137	188	197
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	139	190	191
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	124	165	179

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.

