

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending August 18, 1996

Issue: 23-96

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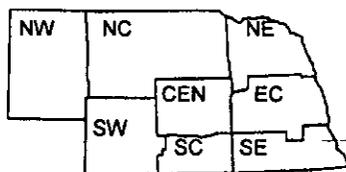
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WEATHER

Temperatures in the northwest and north central averaged near normals while the remainder of the State averaged six degrees below normals. Precipitation was again widespread across the State with averages ranging from a quarter of an inch to one and a half inches.

GENERAL

Adequate moisture and below normal temperatures during the week encouraged good crop development, although more heat units would be helpful, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall averaged near one inch in most areas, with irrigation systems shut down in parts of the State. High grasshopper populations continued to be noted in many areas as well as concerns over second generation corn borer. Producer activities included irrigating crops, windup of oats harvest, cutting alfalfa and soil preparation for fall seeded wheat.

CROPS

The all corn condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 13% fair, 52% good, and 31% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 84% good or excellent and dryland corn rated 81% good or excellent. As of Sunday, acreage in the dough stage or beyond advanced to 58%, compared with 22% last year and 57% for the five-year average. Denting had occurred on 9% of the acreage, compared to 2% last year and 18% average, putting

CROPS (Cont.)

the crop about a week behind normal development. Treatment of fields for second generation corn borer was noted in the east and south.

Soybean condition rated 3% poor, 16% fair, 59% good, and 22% excellent. Statewide, 79% of the acreage was setting pods, compared with 59% last year and the average of 76%.

Sorghum condition rated 2% poor, 14% fair, 58% good, and 26% excellent. Sorghum headed moved to 85% last week, compared with 53% last year and 74% for the five-year average. The percent turning color was at 7% compared with 2% last year and 11% average.

Dry bean condition rated 3% very poor, 9% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, and 5% excellent. As of Sunday, setting pods advanced to 97%, compared with 75% last year. The crop was beginning to turn color in a few fields.

Alfalfa condition rated 8% poor, 31% fair, 50% good, and 11% excellent. Third cutting progressed to 34% harvested as of Sunday, compared with 31% last year, and 39% average. Some producers had difficulty baling downed hay due to continued wet conditions. **Wild hay** condition rated 4% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, and 15% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition was rated 3% poor, 20% fair, 61% good and 16% excellent. Pastures continued to benefit from the cool and moist conditions and are providing abundant feed.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 18, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dough Stage	25	46	38	60	59	68	69	78	58	22	22	57
% Corn Dented	0	3	7	5	6	5	14	20	9	n/a	2	18
% Soybean Setting Pods	n/a	75	70	86	81	94	81	87	79	51	59	76
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	58	53	64	78	85	77	93	85	57	53	74
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	1	0	0	8	9	3	8	7	n/a	2	11
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	16	28	18	47	28	54	51	59	34	18	31	39
% Dry Beans Setting Pods	96	93	78	n/a	n/a	99	n/a	n/a	97	86	75	n/a
% Dry Beans Turning Color	2	20	10	n/a	n/a	18	n/a	n/a	9	n/a	0	n/a

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 16, 1996

	5 3	5 2	5 7	4 6	5 3	4 5	4 8	5 2	5 1	3 9	6 1
Days suitable	5 3	5 2	5 7	4 6	5 3	4 5	4 8	5 2	5 1	3 9	6 1
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	20
(Percent)											
- Short	19	16	3	10	21	8	0	9	11	13	55
- Adequate	77	77	92	88	68	88	84	91	83	73	25
- Surplus	3	7	5	2	10	4	16	0	6	14	0
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	1	0	11
(Percent)											
- Short	24	15	6	16	32	11	2	30	17	17	46
- Adequate	75	79	92	84	55	89	88	67	78	75	43
- Surplus	0	6	2	0	10	0	9	0	4	8	0

n/a = not available.

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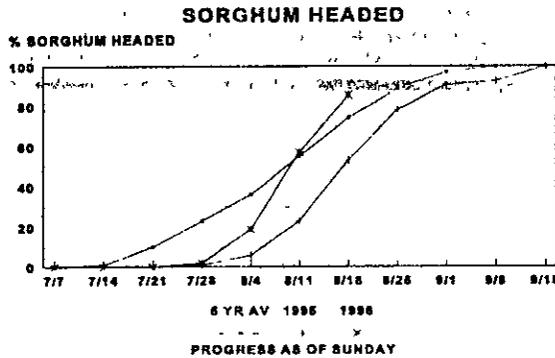
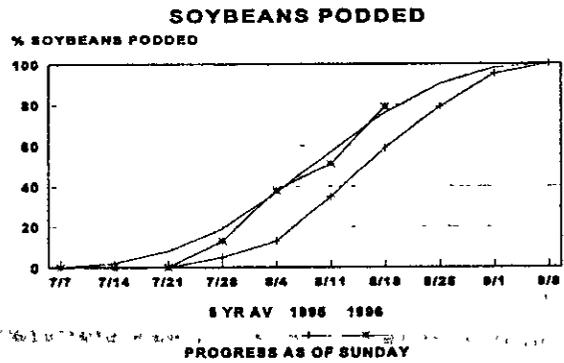
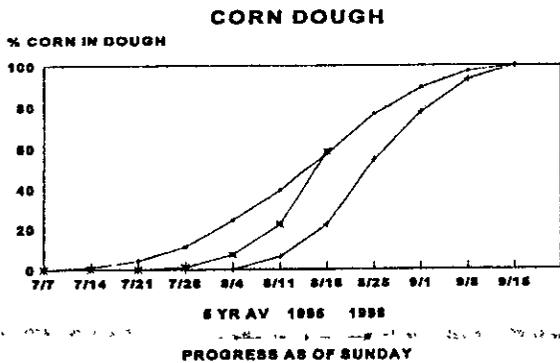
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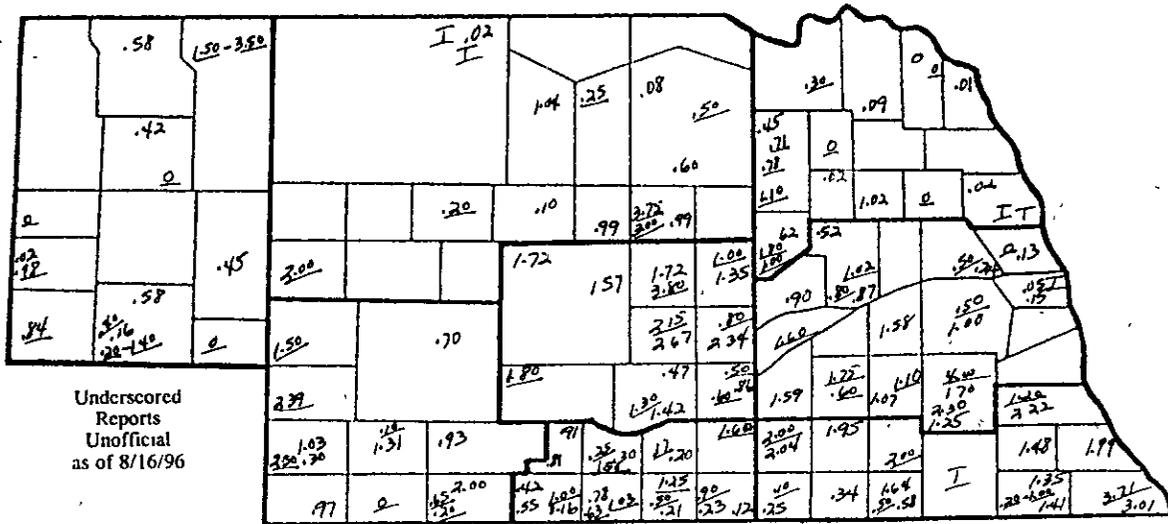
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 17, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	37	55	25	1.57	95	.87	52	1.52
Total since April 1	10.58	12.69	17.12	17.90	21.49	15.54	23.98	18.55
Normal since April 1	11.16	13.60	15.25	14.93	16.33	12.78	14.86	16.67
Total as % of normal	95%	93%	112%	120%	132%	122%	161%	111%

**TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 1996**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	90	52	73	---	.58	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	98	51	73	+1	---	1747	1913	1967
Sidney	95	52	72	---	16	1670	1837	1906
NC Valentine	96	51	73	0	02	---	---	---
Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1675	1828	2009
O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1697	1853	2156
NE Norfolk	84	54	68	-6	.02	---	---	---
Sioux City	83	53	68	-6	01	---	---	---
Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1752	1900	2264
Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1780	1934	2294
West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1878	2032	2292
CEN Grand Island	85	56	69	-6	.86	---	---	---
Ord	87	58	71	---	1.72	1823	1976	2235
Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1942	2093	2296
EC Lincoln	96	57	70	-6	1.70	2074	2236	2538
Omaha	87	59	70	-5	.05	---	---	---
Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1906	2050	2388
Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1998	2160	2410
SW Imperial	90	53	72	---	.30	---	---	---
North Platte	89	51	67	-6	70	1833	1989	2113
McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1961	2126	2296
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1971	2123	2302
Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2045	2193	2340
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2087	2248	2308
Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1889	2031	2373

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.