

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending September 8, 1996

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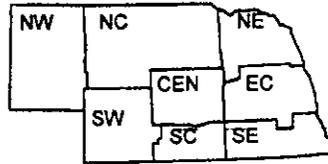
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Lincoln, NE 68501

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



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

WEATHER

Temperatures across the State averaged three to six degrees above normals for the week. Precipitation was widespread with averages ranging from a quarter of an inch in the south central to over an inch in the northeast.

GENERAL

Above normal temperatures last week continued to boost crop development toward maturity, however, row crops remained one to two weeks behind average, according to Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall averaged less than a inch in most areas with locally heavy rainfall amounts occurring in east central Nebraska over the weekend. Producer activities included preparing equipment for harvest, silage cutting, soil preparation for fall seeded wheat and livestock care.

CROPS

The all corn condition rated 3% poor, 14% fair, 56% good, and 27% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 83% good or excellent and dryland corn rated 80% good or excellent. A total of 96% of the acreage had reached the dough stage or beyond, compared with 91% last year and 96% for the five-year average. Acreage having reached the full dent stage advanced to 55% compared with 55% last year and 70% average. Fields reaching maturity were at 1%, same as last year but behind the average of 16%. Grey leaf spot continued to be reported in some fields in the South and East.

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 17% fair, 50% good, and 31% excellent. Statewide, 14% of the acreage had

CROPS (Cont.)

turned color, compared with 17% last year, and 40% average. One percent of the acreage was dropping leaves by week's end, compared to 2% last year and 15% average.

Sorghum condition rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 55% good, and 30% excellent. The amount of acreage turning color was at 45%, ahead of 38% last year, but still behind 57% average.

Dry bean condition rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 21% fair, 58% good, and 5% excellent. Statewide, 92% of the crop had turned color and 52% of the crop was dropping leaves. Harvest was just beginning with 8% harvested as of Sunday, compared with 4% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, and 13% excellent. Third cutting was 88% harvested as of Sunday, compared with 85% in 1995 and 83% average. Fourth cutting began last week with 6% harvested to date. This compares to 4% last year.

Winter wheat seeding progressed to 11% statewide, same as last year and 13% average. Wet soil conditions have slowed planting progress in some western counties.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 7% poor, 24% fair, 52% good and 16% excellent. A mild summer with adequate moisture has kept pastures green and cattle in good condition. However, some areas of the northeast have missed out on beneficial rains causing short pastures and supplemental feeding.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dough Stage	89	93	95	94	95	100	97	100	96	89	91	96
% Corn Dented	30	40	37	51	60	47	60	65	55	35	55	70
% Corn Mature	0	0	1	3	1	0	1	2	1	n/a	1	16
% Soybean Turning Color	n/a	9	15	29	14	29	28	7	14	2	17	40
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	n/a	0	1	4	0	2	4	1	1	n/a	2	15
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	25	37	50	83	50	44	36	45	26	38	57
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	75	81	90	87	85	100	96	98	88	69	85	83
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	0	1	6	4	10	12	1	14	6	n/a	4	n/a
% Dry Beans Turning Color	93	71	60	70	n/a	93	n/a	n/a	92	77	74	n/a
% Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	55	41	23	10	n/a	49	n/a	n/a	52	22	23	n/a
% Dry Beans Harvested	8	12	0	0	n/a	7	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	4	n/a
% Wheat Sown	17	15	44	10	3	6	0	13	11	2	11	13

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 1996

	5 5	5 6	5 5	6 9	6 6	5 4	6 0	6 4	6 0	5 6	6 3
Days suitable											
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	16
(Percent) - Short	7	39	34	56	30	4	25	9	27	18	61
- Adequate	90	59	47	40	64	86	74	91	67	78	23
- Surplus	3	2	14	4	3	10	1	0	5	4	0
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
(Percent) - Short	12	23	21	36	16	9	5	5	17	12	51
- Adequate	88	74	76	56	82	86	93	95	81	84	38
- Surplus	0	3	1	8	2	5	2	0	2	4	0

n/a = not available

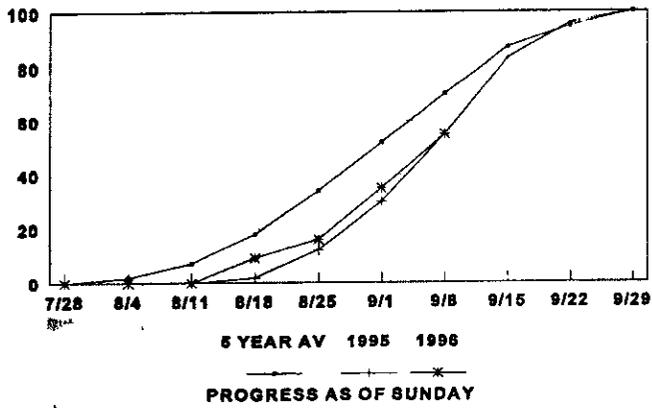
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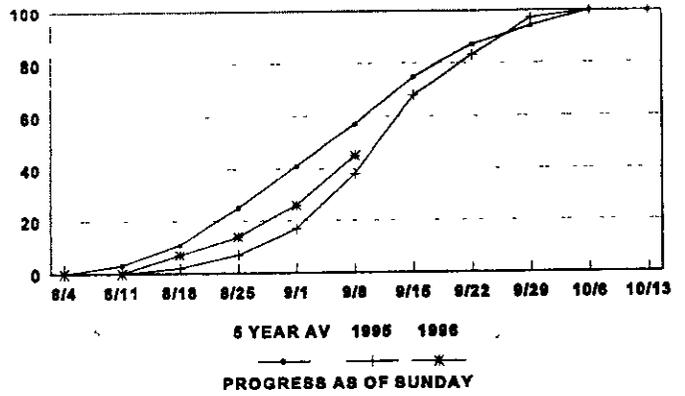
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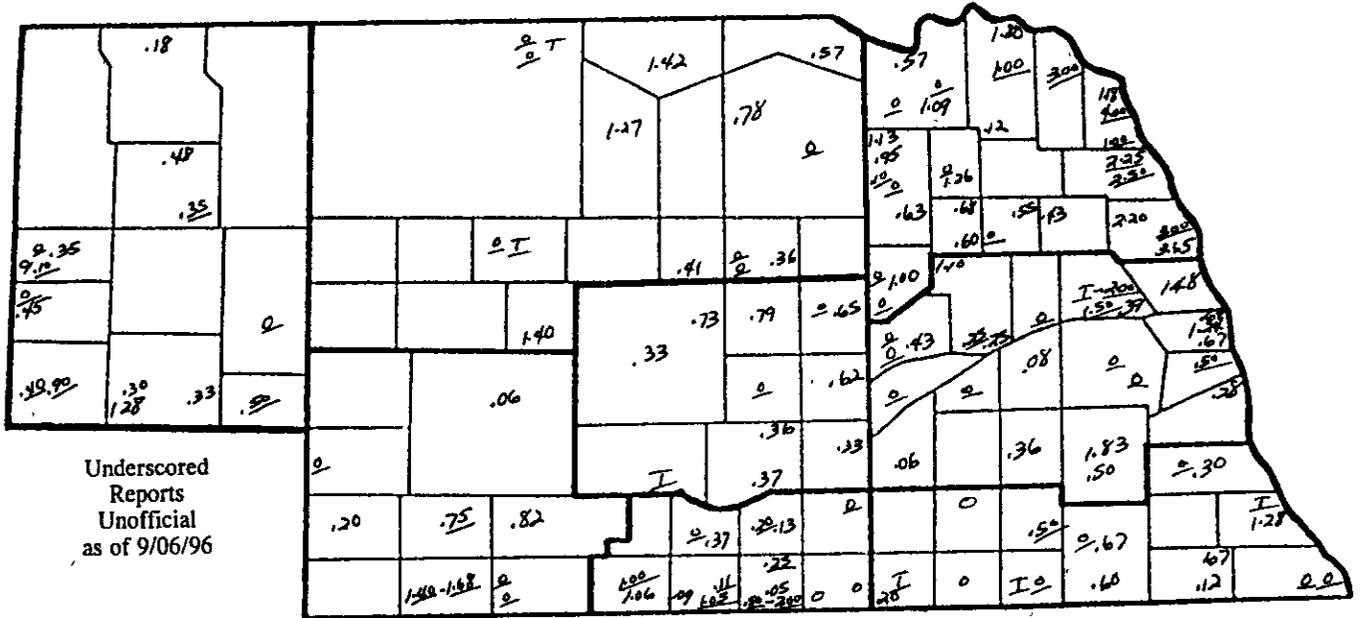


SORGHUM TURNING

% SORGHUM TURNING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 7, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.48	.78	1.12	.52	.67	.36	.24	.43
Total since April 1	12.26	14.07	18.78	18.89	23.59	17.43	25.93	20.85
Normal since April 1	12.21	15.21	17.14	16.76	18.70	14.13	16.77	19.25
Total as % of normal	100%	93%	110%	113%	126%	123%	155%	108%

**TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1996**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	98	42	69	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	94	47	69	+3	.35	2174	2317
	Sidney	90	52	69	---	.30	2078	2222
NC	Valentine	95	51	72	+6	T	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	2065	2204
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	2106	2280
NE	Norfolk	86	60	72	+5	.68	---	---
	Sioux City	85	59	72	+4	1.18	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2158	2327
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2206	2375
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	2307	2487
CEN	Grand Island	89	62	74	+6	.33	2292	2469
	Ord	89	60	72	---	.79	2234	2402
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	2364	2534
EC	Lincoln	88	63	75	+6	1.83	2540	2738
	Omaha	87	61	74	+5	1.24	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	2320	2497
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2455	2639
SW	Imperial	88	58	70	---	.20	---	---
	North Platte	88	53	70	+4	.06	2233	2382
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2407	2569
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2403	2566
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2481	2660
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2544	2734
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2291	2458

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