

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending August 24, 1997

Issue: 25-97

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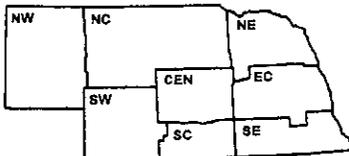
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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
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and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

The week was cool and mainly wet. Temperatures averaged one to seven degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation across the State ranged from none to over three inches.

GENERAL

Below normal temperatures last week slowed crop development, while precipitation was common across most of the State according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall averaged over one inch in the south central and southeast while the Panhandle and southwestern counties averaged less than half of an inch. Spraying for insects (such as leaf hoppers, spider mites, and second brood corn borers) continued active. Producers' activities also included putting up hay, weed control, preparations for fall wheat seeding and moving grain to market.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 3% very poor, 6% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, and 15% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 77% good to excellent, while 35% of the dryland corn was good to excellent. Corn in the dough stage was at 84%, ahead of 69% last year and 67% average. Denting progressed to 19% compared with 15% last year and 23% average. Some producers treated fields for insects.

Soybean condition rated at 2% very poor, 8% poor, 33% fair, 49% good, and 8% excellent. Pod set progressed to 98%, ahead of 93% last year and 88% average. Statewide, 2% of the

CROPS (Cont.)

acreage had begun to turn color, compared with 0% last year and 4% average. Chemical weed control continued last week.

Sorghum condition improved and rated 3% very poor, 10% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, and 4% excellent. Heading progressed to 94% as of Sunday, ahead of 92% last year and 86% average. The percent turning color was at 13%, same as last year but behind 16% average.

Dry bean condition rated 5% poor, 36% fair, 49% good, and 10% excellent. Pod set advanced to 98%, compared with 100% last year. As of Sunday, 20% of the acreage was turning color, compared with 27% last year. Reports in the Panhandle and southwest counties indicated that rust and blight was present in some fields.

Alfalfa condition rated 8% very poor, 23% poor, 39% fair, 28% good and 2% excellent. Third cutting activities were 49% complete, compared with 54% last year and 52% average. **Wild hay** condition rated 5% very poor, 25% poor, 36% fair, 32% good, and 2% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 11% very poor, 26% poor, 29% fair, 31% good, and 3% excellent. Pastures in the South Central District continued to be reported in the poorest condition statewide. Producers were supplemental feeding in many areas of the State. Some producers were haying or grazing CRP acres in the northeast and central parts of the State due to limited regrowth on pastures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 24, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% Corn Dough Stage	66	62	73	98	91	79	89	91	84	66	69	67	
% Corn Dented	6	4	7	37	18	13	35	32	19	9	15	23	
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	95	97	96	99	99	98	100	98	89	93	88	
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	5	1	4	4	9	2	1	2	1	0	4	
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	97	92	98	96	83	92	96	94	89	92	86	
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	17	0	2	10	6	9	17	13	1	13	16	
% Dry Beans Podded	99	95	68	100	n/a	98	n/a	n/a	98	89	100	n/a	
% Dry Beans Turning	9	8	0	6	n/a	39	n/a	n/a	20	2	27	n/a	
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	2	58	28	67	58	73	70	86	49	33	54	52	

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 22, 1997

	4.8	5.9	6.0	4.4	5.3	5.8	3.9	3.4	5.1	4.3	4.6
Days suitable	4.8	5.9	6.0	4.4	5.3	5.8	3.9	3.4	5.1	4.3	4.6
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	2	11	0	7	5	20	26	10	9	0
(Percent) - Short	10	21	58	16	30	34	20	36	31	31	10
- Adequate	73	77	31	83	63	57	60	25	56	55	83
- Surplus	17	0	0	1	0	4	0	13	3	5	7
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	2	15	20	9	4	30	32	14	15	0
(Percent) - Short	18	25	50	27	45	46	49	35	38	35	10
- Adequate	64	73	35	51	43	48	21	33	46	44	87
- Surplus	18	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	2	6	3

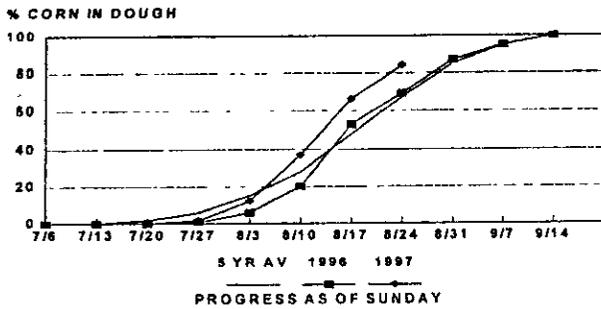
n/a = not available.

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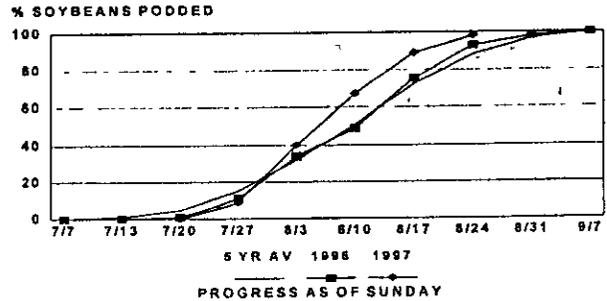
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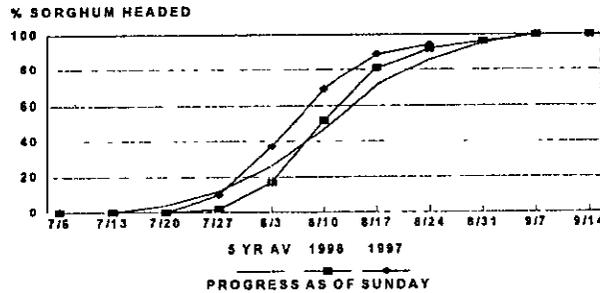
CORN DOUGH



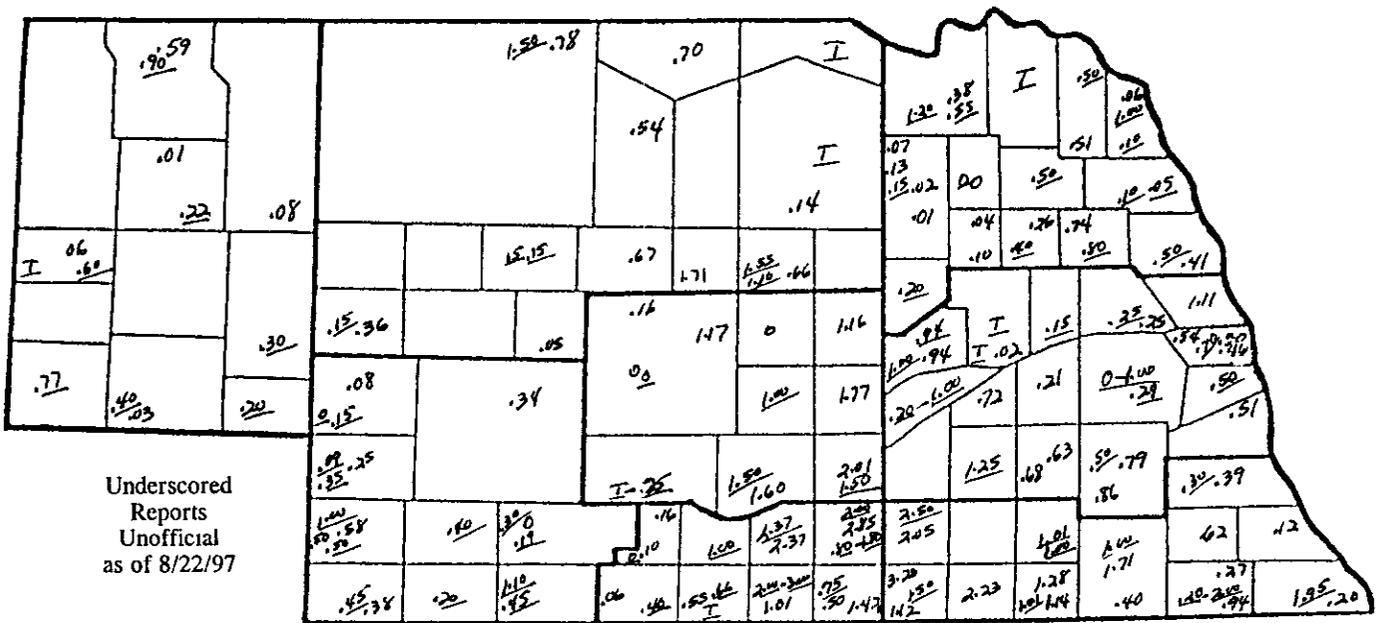
SOYBEANS PODDED



SORGHUM HEADED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1997



Underscored Reports
Unofficial
as of 8/22/97

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 23, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	15	.62	21	.98	59	.30	1 00	1.12
Total since April 1	13.54	15 20	13 88	12.13	15.32	13 24	11 84	16.83
Normal since April 1	11 46	14 08	15 79	15.47	16.99	13.20	15.42	17.39
Total as % of normal	118%	108%	88%	78%	90%	100%	77%	97%

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1997**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Total Inches	Last Week	Current
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	98	50	71	---	59	---	---
	Scottsbluff	93	51	69	---	06	1865	2010
	Sidney	93	52	70	---	.03	1817	1968
NC	Valentine	94	51	70	-1	.78	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1818	1976
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1933	2082
NE	Norfolk	89	51	68	-4	.04	---	---
	Sioux City	88	47	65	-7	06	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1948	2081
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1949	2096
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	2057	2197
CEN	Grand Island	87	56	70	-3	2 01	2037	2192
	Ord	89	57	70	---	0	1976	2131
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	2087	2240
EC	Lincoln	87	56	69	-5	.79	2222	2388
	Omaha	85	53	68	-5	.50	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	2028	2179
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2151	2304
SW	Imperial	92	56	72	---	.58	---	---
	North Platte	89	53	70	-1	.34	1972	2126
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2127	2301
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2041	2203
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2242	2430
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2132	2294
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2072	2233

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.