

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending July 12, 1998

Issue: 19-98

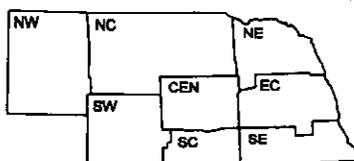
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged from normals for this time of year to three degrees above normal. Precipitation across the State averaged from just over a half inch in the north central to over two and one-half inches in the south central.

GENERAL

Warm, humid conditions last week coupled with rainfall in many areas of the State provided excellent row crop growing conditions but slowed wheat harvest, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The warm, humid temperatures also boosted grass growth of native pastures. Moisture received slowed irrigation activities and helped dryland crops find some relief from stressful, dry conditions, particularly in the South Central and Southwest Districts.

CROPS

Winter wheat acreage considered ripe or already harvested, at 71%, compared with 51% last year and 56% average. Harvest progress, at 36% was slowed by showers but remained ahead of last year's 23% and 29% average.

Corn condition rated 4% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, and 16% excellent. Dryland corn rated 78% in good or excellent condition and 82% of the irrigated corn rated in those categories. Silking made excellent progress with 24% of the crop having reached that stage, well ahead of 2% last year and 10% average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition rated 2% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 63% good, and 16% excellent. Blooming was underway on 25% of the acreage, compared to 16% last year and 17% average. Chemical and mechanical weed control activities remained active.

Sorghum condition rated 2% poor, 23% fair, 68% good, and 7% excellent.

Dry bean condition rated 4% poor, 26% fair, 61% good and 9% excellent. Blooming had begun on 2% of the acreage.

Oats condition rated 3% very poor, 4% poor, 18% fair, 46% good, and 29% excellent. Oat harvest was underway and complete on 7% of the acreage and compares to 7% last year and 10% for the average.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 60% good and 9% excellent. The second cutting activities progressed to 35% complete, ahead of 20% last year and 30% average. Wild hay condition rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 60% good, and 10% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, and 14% excellent. Pastures in southwestern and south central areas continued in need of moisture with some producers providing supplemental feed. Areas receiving moisture have good grass growth and good grazing potential.

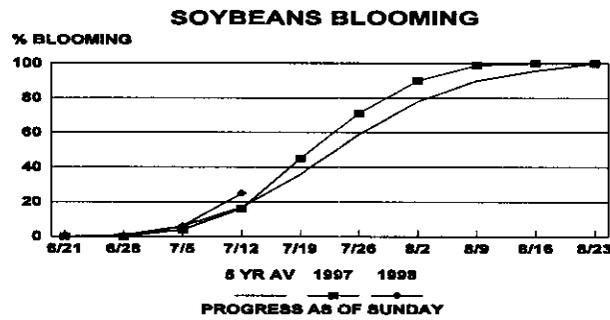
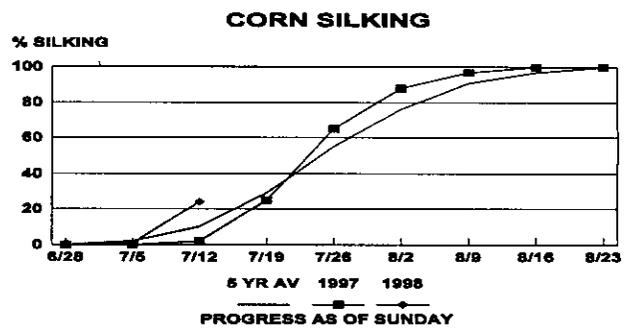
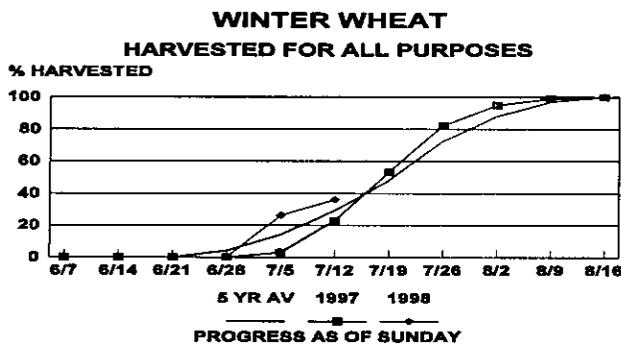
CROP PROGRESS AS OF JULY 12, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Ripe	47	100	88	96	97	92	100	100	71	46	51	56
% Wheat Harvested	3	30	8	17	87	52	96	99	36	26	23	29
% Corn Silked	1	8	9	6	37	16	31	56	24	1	2	10
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	30	9	20	27	12	61	43	25	6	16	17
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	2	20	36	34	52	52	62	71	35	17	20	30
% Oats Harvested	0	2	5	31	9	8	7	21	7	n/a	7	10
% Dry Beans Blooming	0	0	1	n/a	0	10	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	24	10
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 10, 1998												
Days suitable	4	2	5	4	3	1	3	2	3	8	6	2
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	3	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	7	6	6
- Short	8	21	8	6	13	26	15	18	14	23	32	32
- Adequate	64	78	83	78	72	57	74	65	72	68	59	59
- Surplus	28	1	9	16	15	9	11	17	13	2	3	3
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	0	0	0	16	3	0	2	6	2	2
- Short	8	25	6	5	11	24	30	16	15	17	24	24
- Adequate	92	75	86	80	83	58	63	76	78	75	73	73
- Surplus	0	0	8	15	6	2	4	8	5	2	1	1

n/a = not available

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PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 11, 1998

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	79	59	1 59	68	1 52	95	2 53	2 19
Total since April 1	8 41	14 47	17 13	12 31	18 61	9 13	9 99	12 71
Normal since April 1	8 65	10 13	11 58	11 22	12 30	9 59	10 96	12 23
Total as % of normal	97%	143%	148%	110%	151%	95%	91%	104%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1998

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Total Inches	Last Week	Current
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	98	59	77	---	1 13	---	---
	Scottsbluff	95	60	76	+2	1 67	168	1148
	Sidney	94	52	74	---	39	154	1057
NC	Valentine	89	59	75	+1	01	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	166	1119
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	179	1245
NE	Norfolk	90	66	78	+3	2 30	---	---
	Sioux City	88	64	76	+1	1 21	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	176	1330
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	175	1284
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	180	1393
CEN	Grand Island	95	66	77	+1	86	181	1389
	Ord	92	67	77	---	T	177	1312
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	175	1386
EC	Lincoln	96	68	78	0	1 02	187	1527
	Omaha	92	67	77	+1	3 09	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	182	1395
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	182	1505
SW	Imperial	97	62	78	---	83	---	---
	North Platte	93	62	76	+3	34	171	1278
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	181	1352
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	174	1397
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	197	1590
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	186	1471
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	183	1436

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.