

Issue NE-CW2102, released May 28, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

GENERAL: For the week ending May 26, 2002, rains in the southeast area of the State delayed planting and caused some replanting, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Other areas of the State continued to experience limited rainfall. This coupled with cooler than normal temperatures again delayed germination and crop growth.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center.

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged three to eight degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation was scattered and light over most of the State, except for the southeast area of the State which had reports ranging from .5 inch to over 2 inches.

CROPS: Corn planting neared completion with 97 percent finished, the same as last year and average. Cool temperatures continued to delay germination with 71 percent of the acreage emerged to date, behind last year's 80 percent and the average of 79. Condition of the crop rated 3 percent very poor, 8 poor, 35 fair, 46 good, and 8 excellent, lower than last year and average.

Soybean planting progressed to 72 percent complete, near last year's 71 and average at 74. Twenty-five percent of the crop was emerged, behind 36 last year and 35 average.

Sorghum planting reached 45 percent complete but lagged behind last year at 49 and average at 57. Emergence was noted

on 9 percent of the acreage, behind last year at 20 and average at 21 percent.

Wheat condition declined again last week and rated 18 percent very poor, 29 poor, 35 fair, 16 good and 2 excellent. Ninety-six percent of the crop was jointed, ahead of 90 percent last year and 92 average. Statewide, 36 percent of the acreage had headed, behind the 50 percent of last year and 46 for average.

Oat fields were headed on 3 percent of the acreage. Condition was rated 9 percent very poor, 11 poor, 26 fair, 49 good, and 5 excellent.

Dry bean planting progressed to 12 percent complete, ahead of 8 last year and 14 average.

Proso millet planting had begun in the Panhandle, Central, and Southwest Districts with 4 percent completed to date.

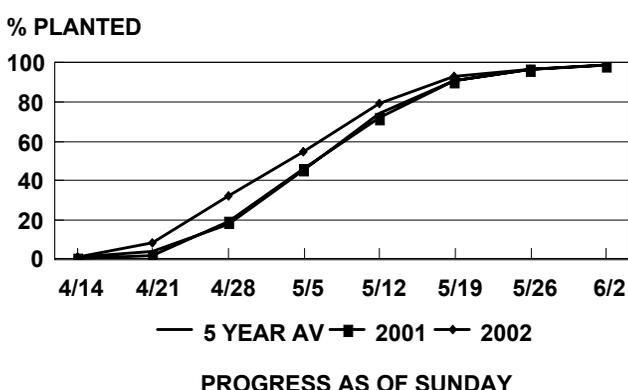
Alfalfa condition rated 2 percent very poor, 12 poor, 34 fair, 48 good, and 4 excellent. Statewide, 11 percent had been cut by week's end, behind the 26 percent last year and 19 average.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture and range conditions continued below average and rated 13 percent very poor, 24 poor, 34 fair, 27 good, and 2 excellent. Poorest conditions continued in the Panhandle and Southwest Districts, where nearly two-thirds of the pastures were in poor or very poor condition. Timely rains and warmer temperatures remain a necessity to obtain good grass growth.

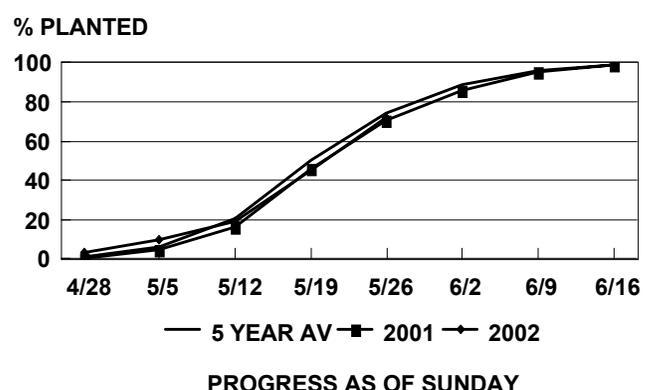
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of May 26, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% Corn Planted	98	96	98	99	98	93	99	98	97	93	97	97	
% Corn Emerged	47	63	52	78	79	60	84	87	71	50	80	79	
% Soybeans Planted	0	53	62	70	74	70	86	79	72	45	71	74	
% Soybeans Emerged	0	5	9	55	24	12	23	39	25	9	36	35	
% Sorghum Planted	0	28	21	19	73	45	38	43	45	20	49	57	
% Sorghum Emerged	0	3	25	0	9	3	0	13	9	3	20	21	
% Wheat Jointed	80	95	87	82	82	97	98	98	96	82	90	92	
% Wheat Headed	3	3	7	10	24	41	82	56	36	17	50	46	
% Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	1	1	11	19	11	4	10	27	11	4	26	19	
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	6.3	6.1	6.2	5.6	5.1	6.3	4.9	3.2	5.4	5.1	5.7	5.1	
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	45	11	3	16	1	57	10	0	23	16	1	6	
- % Short	27	25	27	55	13	25	19	0	23	21	22	25	
- % Adequate	28	48	69	29	81	17	71	91	49	61	75	61	
- % Surplus	0	16	1	0	5	1	0	9	5	2	2	8	
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	43	13	4	25	15	57	43	2	27	20	1	9	
- % Short	38	58	25	64	37	34	39	21	39	35	18	18	
- % Adequate	19	29	71	11	46	9	18	74	33	44	80	69	
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	1	1	4	

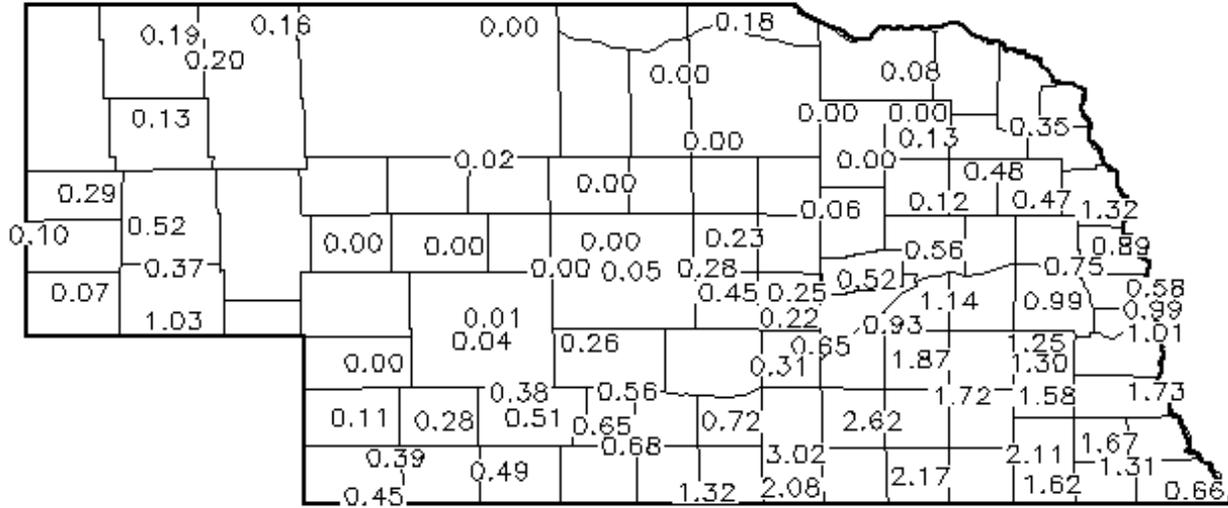
**CORN
PLANTED**



**SOYBEANS
PLANTED**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending May 26, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 26, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.19	.02	.25	.22	1.13	.36	1.24	2.07
Total since April 1	1.62	3.28	4.72	3.14	6.00	1.99	3.82	6.62
Normal since April 1	4.29	4.87	5.71	5.47	6.13	4.67	5.29	6.19
Total as % of normal	37%	67%	81%	57%	97%	42%	72%	107%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, May 26, 2002

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	79	32	53	-5	62	282	350
Scottsbluff	82	33	55	-3	113	333	351
Sidney	81	32	54	-5	96	316	360
NC Ainsworth	83	31	55	-6	78	298	381
Arthur	82	31	55	-6	76	296	378
O'Neill	82	34	56	-7	91	311	398
NE Concord	81	36	56	-8	115	335	404
Elgin	82	33	57	-6	113	333	407
West Point	80	38	57	-8	139	359	429
C Grand Island	84	36	59	-4	159	379	416
Lexington	82	35	59	-4	169	389	411
Ord	81	31	57	-6	133	353	411
EC Lincoln	80	35	58	-8	196	416	452
Central City	80	38	58	-6	160	380	420
Mead	82	34	58	-8	189	409	446
SW Champion	86	34	58	-3	151	371	391
North Platte	84	31	58	-3	138	358	393
Curtis	82	32	58	-4	149	369	400
SC Arapahoe	85	32	55	-5	107	327	375
Minden	82	38	59	-4	162	382	412
Red Cloud	81	39	61	-3	246	466	421
SE Beatrice	79	40	58	-8	206	426	452
Clay Center	80	36	58	-6	154	374	419
Nemaha	78	43	58	-8	240	460	487

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (USPS 679-770; ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March in Lincoln, Nebraska, and from other additional offices, by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$20.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE & at additional entry offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.