

Issue NE-CW4702, released November 25, 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/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending November 24, 2002, another week of excellent fall harvest weather allowed rapid progress of harvest activities, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Subsoil moisture supplies have ended the crop year at 85 percent short and very short, a greater deficit than last year and a far greater deficit than the average. Producer activities also included fall tillage, fertilizer applications, and livestock care.

This release is based on reports and data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Current county specific comments plus current and historic PDF files of Weather and Crop reports can be found at: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged above normals for the week and ranged from three to ten degrees

above normals. Precipitation was very light, averaging under 0.1 inch, and was limited to western areas of the state.

Field Crops Report: Corn harvest made excellent progress last week with 95 percent complete, currently about a week behind last year which was complete and average at 98.

Sorghum harvest was virtually complete with 99 percent out of the field, near last year and average.

Wheat condition declined and rated 11 percent very poor, 11 poor, 34 fair, 42 good, and 2 excellent. A year ago conditions rated 74 percent good and excellent, compared to only 44 this year.

Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report: Cattle are gleaning stalk fields, grazing fall pastures, and/or receiving supplemental feedstuffs.

Last Weekly Weather & Crops

This is the last Weekly Weather and Crops report for the growing season. A special thank you to the dedicated FSA county directors and county extension educators who supplied the necessary information for these reports. For December through March, we will issue monthly reports. Weekly reports will begin April 7th for the 2003 season.

Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of November 24, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Harvested	77	95	96	97	99	87	99	99	95	88	100	98
% Sorghum Harvested	85	96	100	100	99	100	98	99	99	94	100	99
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	7.0	6.9	6.6	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.6	6.9	6.3	¹	¹
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	37	31	4	23	5	23	0	0	20	19	¹	¹
- % Short	37	49	28	35	26	30	43	16	34	32	¹	¹
- % Adequate	26	20	68	42	68	47	57	84	46	48	¹	¹
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	¹	¹
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	70	77	21	52	36	70	21	25	53	54	¹	¹
- % Short	23	12	40	40	44	24	62	49	32	30	¹	¹
- % Adequate	7	11	39	8	20	6	17	26	15	16	¹	¹
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	¹	¹

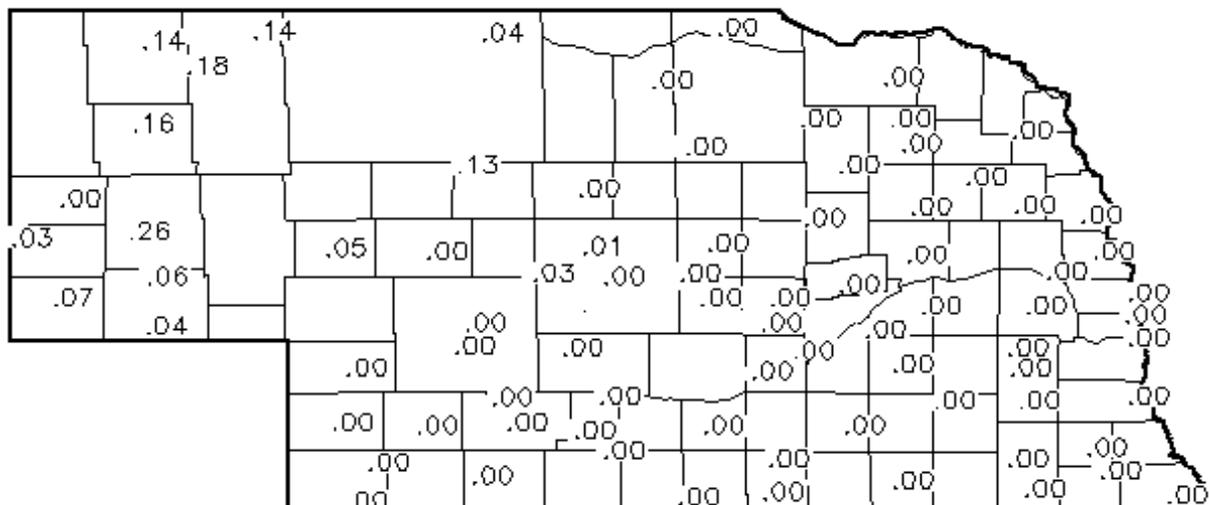
¹ Data not available.

2002 Census of Agriculture

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service is conducting the 26th Census of Agriculture. Forms will be mailed in mid-December. Please complete and return your Census form(s) by February 3, 2003. Detailed, accurate information is needed for the USDA and others to make informed decisions concerning agriculture.

"You Make it Known - Agriculture Counts"

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending November 24, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - November 24, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.09	.02	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Total since April 1	9.01	13.86	19.45	13.61	21.81	10.24	15.26	21.23
Normal since April 1	14.35	18.79	21.97	20.48	24.31	17.24	20.50	25.55
Total as % of normal	63%	73%	88%	66%	89%	59%	73%	83%

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

Temperature: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, November 24, 2002

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	70	8	39	6
	Scottsbluff	71	20	40	7
	Sidney	72	19	41	8
NC	Ainsworth	71	19	41	9
	Arthur	71	19	42	8
	O'Neill	64	17	40	7
NE	Concord	57	12	37	4
	Elgin	58	16	40	6
	West Point	59	11	38	3
C	Grand Island	63	14	40	5
	Lexington	71	18	42	8
	Ord	65	20	40	6
EC	Lincoln	62	19	42	5
	Central City	62	12	39	5
	Mead	61	16	40	4
SW	Champion	76	19	41	8
	North Platte	73	21	42	8
	Curtis	72	19	44	10
SC	Arapahoe	70	16	40	7
	Minden	64	18	41	7
	Red Cloud	64	18	42	7
SE	Beatrice	63	15	40	3
	Clay Center	63	16	40	5
	Nemaha	62	21	43	5

Source: High Plains Climate Center.