

Issue NE-CW3703, released September 15, 2003, 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 or e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov). Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending September 14, 2003, widespread rains slowed harvest and wheat seeding but should improve pasture condition and growth prospects for fall planted crops, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Crop maturity remains about a week to 10 days behind average.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normals to 1 degree above for the week. Precipitation was statewide with several stations in the eastern third of the state reporting in excess of four inches.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending September 14, 2003**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	30	57	32	26
Short	30	30	34	33
Adequate	36	13	34	40
Surplus	4	0	0	1
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	45	54	67	33
Short	43	34	24	29
Adequate	12	12	9	37
Surplus	0	0	0	1
<b>Days Suitable</b>	4.3	6.8	5.4	6.1

**Field Crops Report:** Corn condition rated 16 percent very poor, 14 poor, 22 fair, 33 good, and 15 excellent, above last year but below average. Irrigated fields rated 76 percent good and excellent while dryland fields rated 10. This compares to 53 and 5, respectively, a year ago. Eighty-nine percent of the fields had reached the dent stage, behind last year at 93 and average at 95. Twenty-five percent of the acreage was mature, behind last year and average at 47. The first fields were being harvested with 2 percent picked to date, behind last year at 7 and average at 6.

Soybean condition rated 19 percent very poor, 24 poor, 30 fair, 22 good, and 5 excellent, above last year but below average. Sixty-five percent of the acreage had turned color, behind last year at 82 and average at 76. Nineteen percent of the crop had dropped leaves, behind 40 of a year ago and 35 average.

Sorghum condition declined and rated 22 percent very poor, 33 poor, 33 fair, 12 good, and 0 excellent, above last year but below average. Heads had turned color on 63 percent

of the acreage, behind last year at 78 and average at 85. The crop was mature on 12 percent of the acreage, behind 33 last year and 32 average.

Dry bean condition rated 6 percent very poor, 12 poor, 29 fair, 43 good, and 10 excellent. Eighty-eight percent of the acreage had turned color, ahead of last year at 72 but behind average at 90. Sixty-two percent had dropped leaves, ahead of last year at 46 but behind average at 71. Harvest had progressed to 20 percent complete, behind 24 last year and 33 average.

Wheat planting progressed to 31 percent sown, ahead of last year at 27 and average at 30.

Proso millet harvest advanced to 36 percent complete, the same as last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 19 percent very poor, 22 poor, 37 fair, 19 good, and 3 excellent, above last year but below average. Third cutting activities were nearing completion with 96 percent harvested, close to last year at 95 and average at 97. Fourth cutting activities continued where growth permitted with 24 percent harvested, behind 40 last year and 31 average.

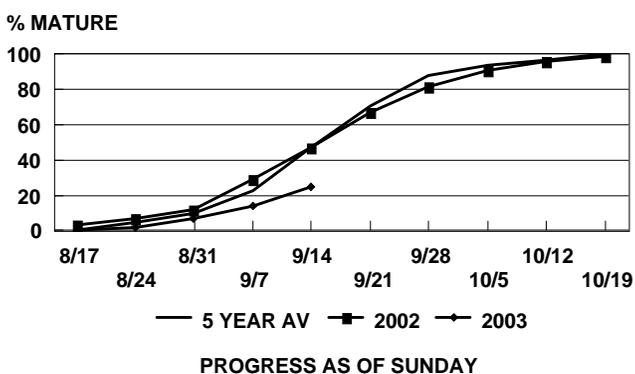
**Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending  
September 14, 2003**

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Dent	89	78	93	95
Corn Mature	25	14	47	47
Corn Harvested	2	0	7	6
Soybeans Turning Color	65	39	82	76
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	19	10	40	35
Sorghum Coloring	63	52	78	85
Sorghum Mature	12	2	33	32
Wheat Planted	31	12	27	30
Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	96	94	95	97
Alfalfa 4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	24	13	40	31

**Crop Condition: Nebraska,  
Week Ending September 14, 2003**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Corn	16	14	22	33	15
Soybean	19	24	30	22	5
Sorghum	22	33	33	12	0
Dry Bean	6	12	29	43	10
Alfalfa	19	22	37	19	3

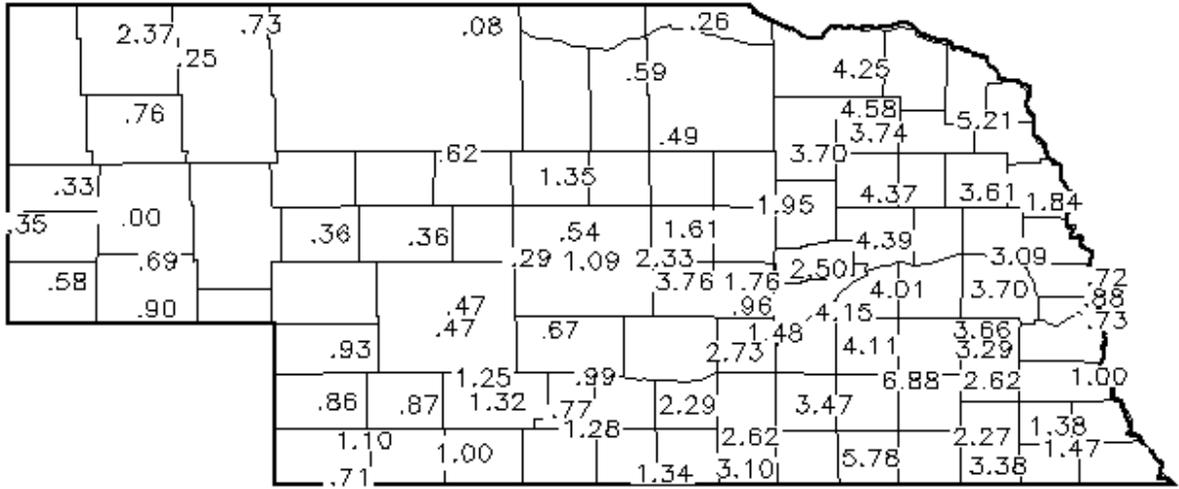
**CORN**



**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range condition rated 35 percent very poor, 32 poor, 29 fair, 4 good, and 0 excellent, above last year but below average. In many areas, producers continued to provide supplemental feed.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm)

**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending September 14, 2003**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - September 14, 2003**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.79	.50	3.70	1.42	3.11	.86	1.86	3.40
Total since April 1	11.71	13.71	19.80	16.12	18.45	15.03	15.92	21.72
Normal since April 1	12.38	15.55	17.95	17.07	19.34	14.78	17.05	20.22
Total as % of normal	94%	88%	110%	94%	95%	100%	93%	108%

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

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, September 14, 2003**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	81	37	58	-3	81	2296	2383
	Scottsbluff	83	37	59	-3	86	2515	2378
	Sidney	82	39	59	-3	84	2381	2438
NC	Ainsworth	85	41	64	+1	108	2538	2612
	Arthur	82	40	60	-3	87	2390	2565
	O'Neill	85	39	64	-1	103	2518	2720
NE	Concord	82	43	62	-3	87	2514	2772
	Elgin	82	44	63	-2	92	2557	2781
	West Point	84	43	63	-3	97	2637	2935
C	Grand Island	83	42	64	-1	104	2682	2818
	Lexington	86	41	65	0	109	2811	2772
	Ord	83	39	63	-2	102	2598	2796
EC	Lincoln	85	48	66	-2	111	2910	3092
	Central City	82	43	63	-2	100	2686	2859
	Mead	86	43	64	-3	110	2717	3043
SW	Champion	85	38	61	-3	94	2531	2622
	North Platte	85	36	62	-2	102	2602	2647
	Curtis	87	36	63	-1	108	2757	2686
SC	Arapahoe	84	38	60	-3	89	2347	2556
	Minden	84	41	64	-1	104	2743	2781
	Red Cloud	87	44	66	0	115	2832	2852
SE	Beatrice	85	45	65	-3	109	2820	3093
	Clay Center	83	42	63	-2	102	2657	2844
	Nemaha	86	52	68	0	127	3022	3107

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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