

Issue NE-CW4203, released October 20, 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. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending October 19, 2003, soybean harvest continued to make good progress while corn lagged the normal pace, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producer's harvest activities focused on soybeans as high grain moisture content continued to delay picking corn.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged from 1 degree below normals to 5 degrees above normals for the week. Precipitation was scattered and light with areas of the east central and southeast receiving amounts nearing an inch.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending October 19, 2003**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	34	28	27	23
Short	32	39	36	29
Adequate	34	33	37	48
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Subsoil				
Very Short	50	46	58	34
Short	38	40	30	26
Adequate	12	14	12	40
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	6.0	6.7	5.9	6.4

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 14 percent very poor, 13 poor, 22 fair, 31 good, and 20 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 77 percent good and excellent while

dryland fields rated 15. Harvest reached 42 percent, slightly behind last year at 44 and a week behind average at 58.

Soybean harvest progressed to 85 percent complete, ahead of last year at 75 and average at 82.

Sorghum condition rated 20 percent very poor, 30 poor, 37 fair, 13 good, and 0 excellent. Harvest was 49 percent completed, behind last year at 54 and average at 59.

Dry bean harvest was virtually complete with 99 percent finished, ahead of 94 last year and 96 average.

Wheat seeding was virtually complete at 99 percent, the same as last year and average. Ninety-one percent had emerged, ahead of last year and average at 90.

Proso millet harvest advanced to 97 percent complete, ahead of 91 last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 15 percent very poor, 21 poor, 34 fair, 27 good, and 3 excellent. Fourth cutting activities were nearing the end as 98 percent were harvested, ahead of both last year and average at 95.

**Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending
October 19, 2003**

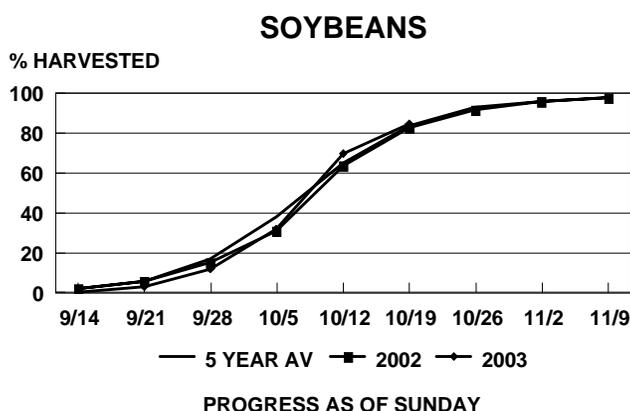
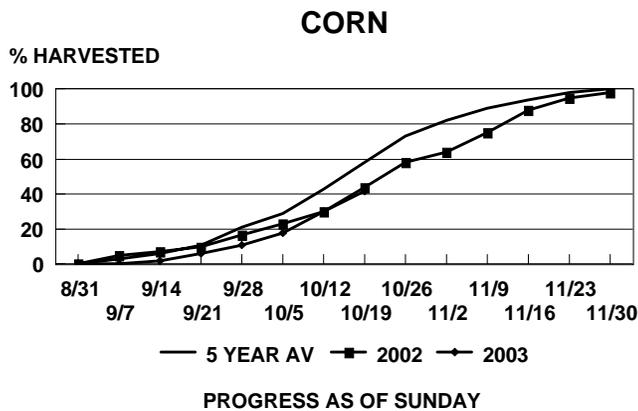
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Harvested	42	30	44	58
Soybeans Harvested	85	70	75	82
Sorghum Harvested	49	34	54	59
Wheat Planted	99	96	99	99
Wheat Emerged	91	82	90	90
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	98	92	95	95

**Crop Condition: Nebraska,
Week Ending October 19, 2003**

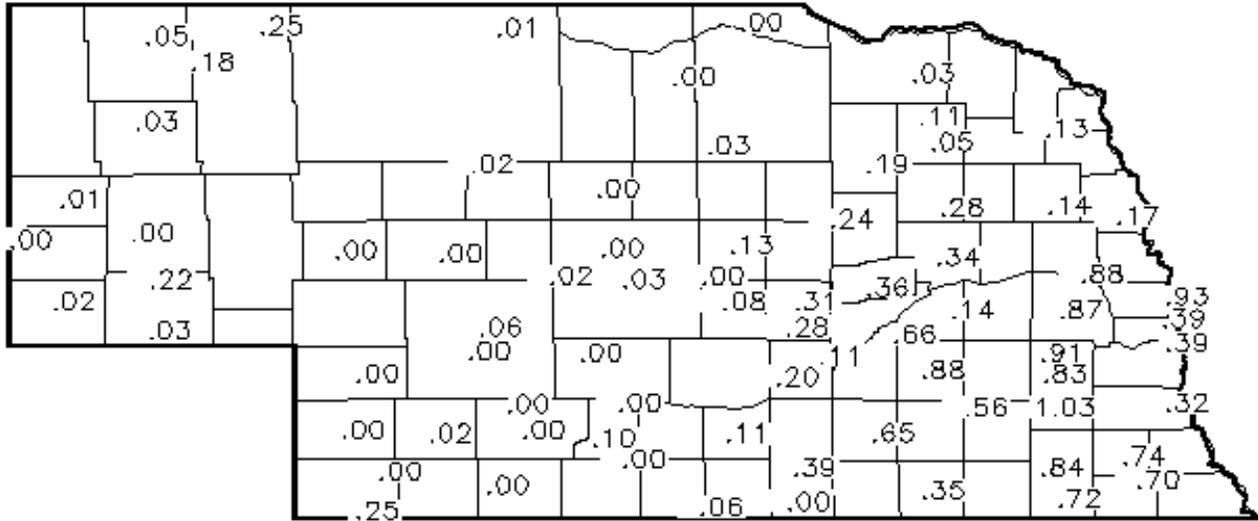
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Corn	14	13	22	31	20
Sorghum	20	30	37	13	0
Alfalfa	15	21	34	27	3

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 35 percent very poor, 32 poor, 25 fair, 8 good, and 0 excellent, above last year but below average. Cattle were being moved to stalk fields for gleaning as fields became available.

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



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending October 19, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - October 19, 2003

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.06	.02	.15	.12	.66	.04	.10	.61
Total since April 1	12.41	14.29	21.50	17.25	20.51	15.10	16.91	23.35
Normal since April 1	13.59	17.46	20.45	19.22	22.45	16.27	19.29	23.58
Total as % of normal	91%	82%	105%	89%	91%	92%	87%	99%

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

**Temperature: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, October 19, 2003**

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	87	26	52	+4
	Scottsbluff	84	25	51	+3
	Sidney	90	25	53	+4
NC	Ainsworth	91	36	56	+5
	Arthur	89	31	55	+5
	O'Neill	91	34	55	+3
NE	Concord	85	31	53	+2
	Elgin	91	34	55	+4
	West Point	88	29	51	-1
C	Grand Island	90	32	54	+2
	Lexington	89	34	56	+4
	Ord	91	30	53	+1
EC	Lincoln	89	32	54	0
	Central City	92	31	53	+1
	Mead	89	29	52	-3
SW	Champion	93	25	54	+3
	North Platte	92	31	55	+4
	Curtis	92	29	55	+4
SC	Arapahoe	90	25	54	+4
	Minden	90	32	55	+3
	Red Cloud	90	30	55	+3
SE	Beatrice	88	30	54	-1
	Clay Center	89	29	53	+1
	Nemaha	90	34	57	+2

Source: High Plains Climate Center.