

Issue NE-CW2905, released July 18, 2005, 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), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending July 17, 2005, generally above normal temperatures with limited precipitation accelerated crop development, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. These same conditions continued to cause dryland crops to deplete soil moisture supplies. Producer activities included irrigating, putting up hay, and rapidly progressing with wheat and oat harvest.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures ranged from 2 degrees below normal to 5 degrees above with most highs reaching the low to mid-nineties. Rainfall was absent across most of the state with only a handful of reporting stations receiving noticeable amounts. Precipitation since April 1 remained above normal for four of the eight districts, with the South Central District joining the Southwest, East Central, and Southeast Districts having below normal totals.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending July 17, 2005

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	8	6	9	27
Short	45	43	24	31
Adequate	46	51	64	41
Surplus	1	0	3	1
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	10	8	24	31
Short	38	29	27	34
Adequate	52	63	48	35
Surplus	0	0	1	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.8	6.6	5.2	6.1

**Field Crops Report:** Ninety-four percent of the wheat crop was ripe, ahead of 86 last year and 90 for the average. Seventy-four percent of the crop had been harvested, ahead of last year at 62 and equal to the average. Harvest is progressing rapidly and is more than 50 percent complete in every district.

Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 18 fair, 51 good, and 24 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 87 percent good or excellent while dryland fields continued declining to 53. Conditions continue behind last year's levels, but still ahead of average. Corn silked was at 60 percent, ahead of last year at 45 and the average at 41. Two percent of the crop was in the dough stage, just behind 3 last year and the average.

Sixty-eight percent of the soybean crop had bloomed, ahead of last year at 62 and the average at 51. Fifteen percent of the crop had set pods, ahead of 10 last year and average. Conditions declined and rated 2 percent very poor, 12 poor, 25 fair, 48 good, and 13 excellent. This is still above average but behind last year.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 7 poor, 31 fair, 53 good, and 8 excellent, behind last year but ahead of average. Two percent of the crop had headed, compared to 1 last year and 5 for the average.

Oat conditions rated 4 percent poor, 21 fair, 60 good, and 15 excellent. Sixty percent of the crop had been harvested, ahead of 22 last year and 44 for the average.

Dry Bean conditions rated 4 percent poor, 21 fair, 69 good, and 6 excellent. Twenty-six percent of the crop had bloomed, ahead of 10 last year but behind 29 for the average; 5 percent of the crop had set pods.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 8 poor, 27 fair, 46 good, and 16 excellent. Second cutting was 76 percent complete, ahead of 69 last year and 74 average. Wild hay conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 25 fair, 58 good, and 8 excellent.

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 17, 2005

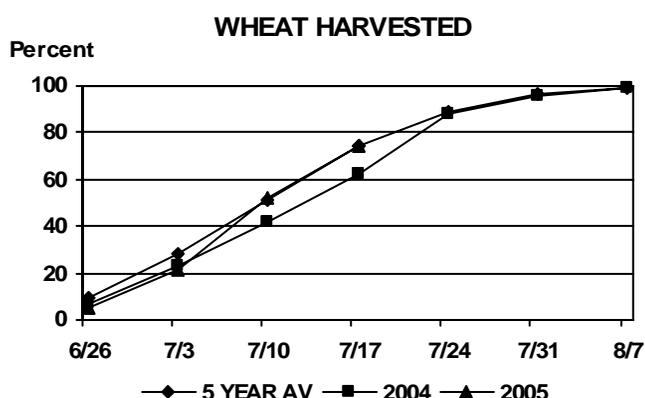
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	76	66	69	74
Corn Silked	60	26	45	41
Corn Dough	2	0	3	3
Sorghum Headed	2	0	1	5
Soybeans Blooming	68	52	62	51
Soybeans Setting Pods	15	7	10	10
Wheat Ripe	94	80	86	90
Wheat Harvested	74	52	62	74

### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 17, 2005

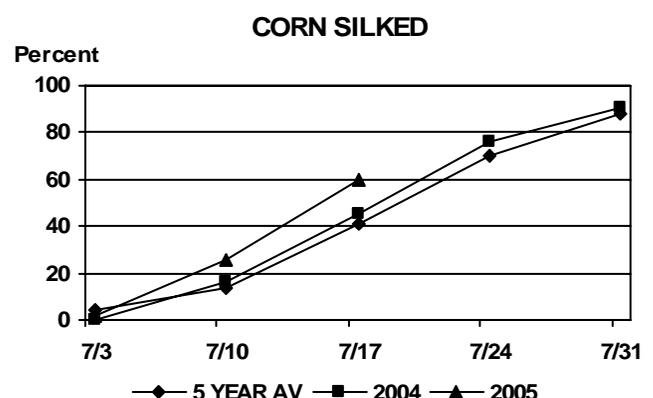
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	3	8	27	46	16
Corn	1	6	18	51	24
Dry Beans	0	4	21	69	6
Oats	0	4	21	60	15
Sorghum	1	7	31	53	8
Soybeans	2	12	25	48	13

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 11 poor, 25 fair, 52 good, and 9 excellent. Conditions continue well above last year and normal.

*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). For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>*

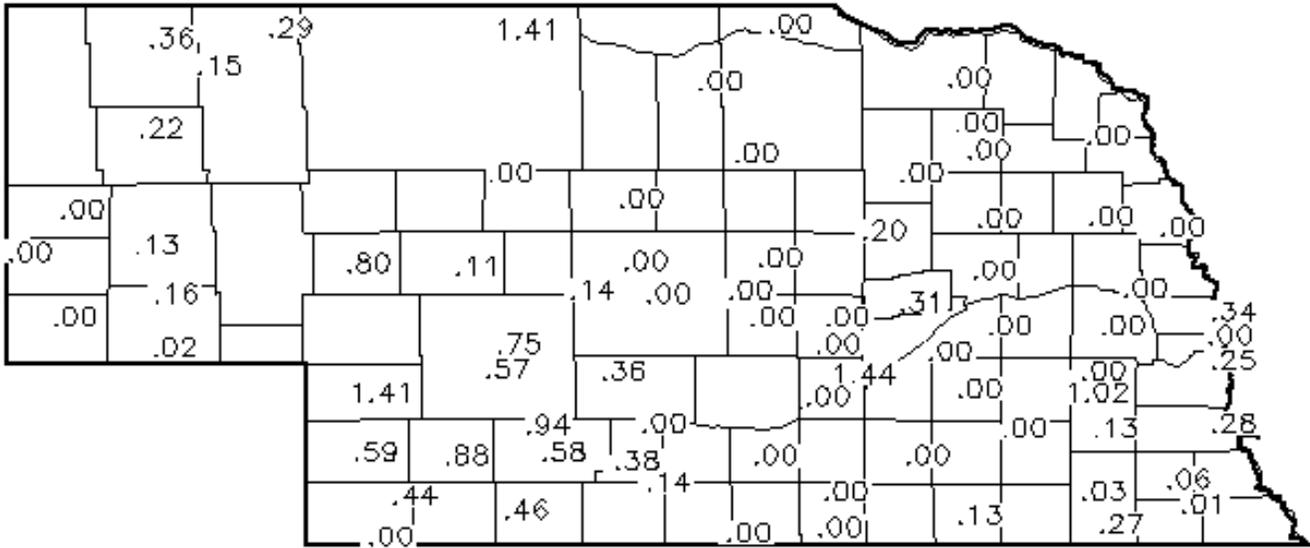


PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY



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**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 17, 2005**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 17, 2005**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.14	.18	.06	.18	.12	.47	.08	.14
Total since April 1	11.94	16.59	14.72	13.46	11.88	10.03	10.95	10.93
Normal since April 1	9.05	10.75	12.43	11.72	12.90	10.43	11.42	13.09
Total as % of normal	132%	155%	119%	114%	92%	96%	96%	83%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, July 17, 2005**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	96	59	77	+3	163	1164	1280
	Scottsbluff	96	60	78	+5	168	1263	1276
	Sidney	97	56	76	+2	159	1154	1321
NC	Ainsworth	94	58	78	+2	175	1310	1474
	Arthur	92	57	75	0	160	1233	1414
	O'Neill	93	59	78	+1	178	1379	1500
NE	Concord	91	65	78	+1	181	1466	1565
	Elgin	93	63	78	+1	178	1438	1534
	West Point	93	63	78	0	179	1571	1624
C	Grand Island	91	60	76	0	172	1567	1514
	Lexington	92	62	78	+2	178	1539	1480
	Ord	93	59	77	+1	174	1464	1500
EC	Lincoln	95	66	81	+2	190	1766	1669
	Central City	89	60	75	-2	167	1563	1541
	Mead	94	60	78	-1	172	1660	1660
SW	Champion	97	58	77	+2	160	1362	1431
	North Platte	92	60	76	+1	169	1403	1453
	Curtis	93	59	77	+1	167	1435	1456
SC	Smithfield	89	62	75	-1	171	1473	1485
	Minden	91	61	77	0	171	1557	1495
	Red Cloud	93	63	79	+2	178	1661	1530
SE	Beatrice	95	63	79	0	177	1700	1669
	Clay Center	92	60	76	0	169	1580	1529
	Nemaha	92	68	80	+2	193	1797	1686

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office