

Issue NE-CW3105, released August 1, 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 31, 2005, cooler temperatures and unexpected rainfall aided crop development and slowed stress on dryland crops, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producer activities included irrigating, weed control, putting up hay, and finishing wheat and oat harvest.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures ranged from 1 to 6 degrees below normal but highs above 100 degrees were recorded in some areas. Beneficial rainfall was recorded early in the week across the southeastern portion of the state and the Panhandle but was sporadic across the rest of the state. Precipitation since April 1 was above normal for five of the eight districts with the Southeast District benefiting the most from the recent rainfall.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending July 31, 2005

|                      | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i>       |           |           |           |         |
| <b>Topsoil</b>       |           |           |           |         |
| Very Short           | 24        | 19        | 11        | 31      |
| Short                | 33        | 43        | 27        | 31      |
| Adequate             | 43        | 38        | 59        | 37      |
| Surplus              | 0         | 0         | 3         | 1       |
| <b>Subsoil</b>       |           |           |           |         |
| Very Short           | 18        | 16        | 26        | 37      |
| Short                | 40        | 37        | 31        | 33      |
| Adequate             | 42        | 47        | 43        | 30      |
| Surplus              | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0       |
| <b>Days Suitable</b> | 5.7       | 6.4       | 5.6       | 6.1     |

**Field Crops Report:** Ninety-nine percent of the wheat crop had been harvested, ahead of last year at 96 and the average at 98.

Corn conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 8 poor, 24 fair, 48 good, and 17 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 81 percent good or excellent while dryland fields continued declining to 40. Conditions continued below last year but still above average. Corn silked was at 96 percent, ahead of last year at 91 and the average at 88. Thirty percent of the crop was in the dough stage, ahead of 14 last year and the average at 21.

Ninety-six percent of the soybean crop had bloomed, ahead of last year at 83 and the average at 86. Sixty-one percent of the crop had set pods, well ahead of 43 last year and the average at 40. Conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 11 poor, 32 fair, 44 good, and 10 excellent. This is below last year but still above average.

Sorghum conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 12 poor, 35 fair, 45 good, and 4 excellent, lower than last year but better than average. Forty-six percent of the crop had headed, ahead of 25 last year and the average at 35.

Oat harvest neared completion at 94 percent, ahead of 82 last year and 85 for the average.

Dry Bean conditions rated 5 percent poor, 27 fair, 59 good, and 9 excellent. Seventy percent of the crop had bloomed, ahead of 44 last year but equal to the average; 41 percent of the crop had set pods, ahead of last year at 13 and the average at 32.

Alfalfa conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 16 poor, 31 fair, 41 good, and 7 excellent. Second cutting was 95 percent complete, ahead of 92 last year and equal to the average. Third cutting was 23 percent complete, ahead of last year at 9 and the average at 19. Wild hay conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 8 poor, 29 fair, 51 good, and 8 excellent.

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 31, 2005

| Crop                            | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i>                  |           |           |           |         |
| Alfalfa 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting | 95        | 90        | 92        | 95      |
| Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting | 23        | 9         | 9         | 19      |
| Corn Silked                     | 96        | 86        | 91        | 88      |
| Corn Dough                      | 30        | 9         | 14        | 21      |
| Sorghum Headed                  | 46        | 13        | 25        | 35      |
| Soybeans Blooming               | 96        | 88        | 83        | 86      |
| Soybeans Setting Pods           | 61        | 40        | 43        | 40      |
| Wheat Harvested                 | 99        | 95        | 96        | 98      |

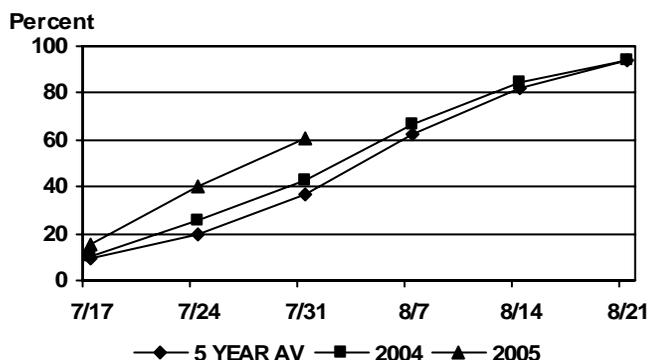
### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 31, 2005

| Crop           | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| <i>Percent</i> |           |      |      |      |           |
| Alfalfa        | 5         | 16   | 31   | 41   | 7         |
| Corn           | 3         | 8    | 24   | 48   | 17        |
| Dry Beans      | 0         | 5    | 27   | 59   | 9         |
| Sorghum        | 4         | 12   | 35   | 45   | 4         |
| Soybeans       | 3         | 11   | 32   | 44   | 10        |

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 16 poor, 33 fair, 43 good, and 3 excellent. Conditions are in line with last year but above normal.

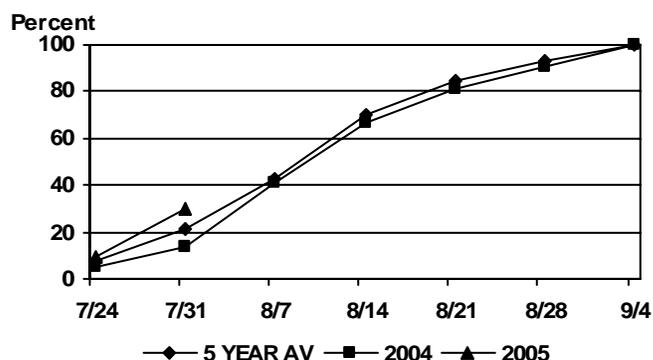
*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm). For those receiving an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

### SOYBEANS SETTING PODS



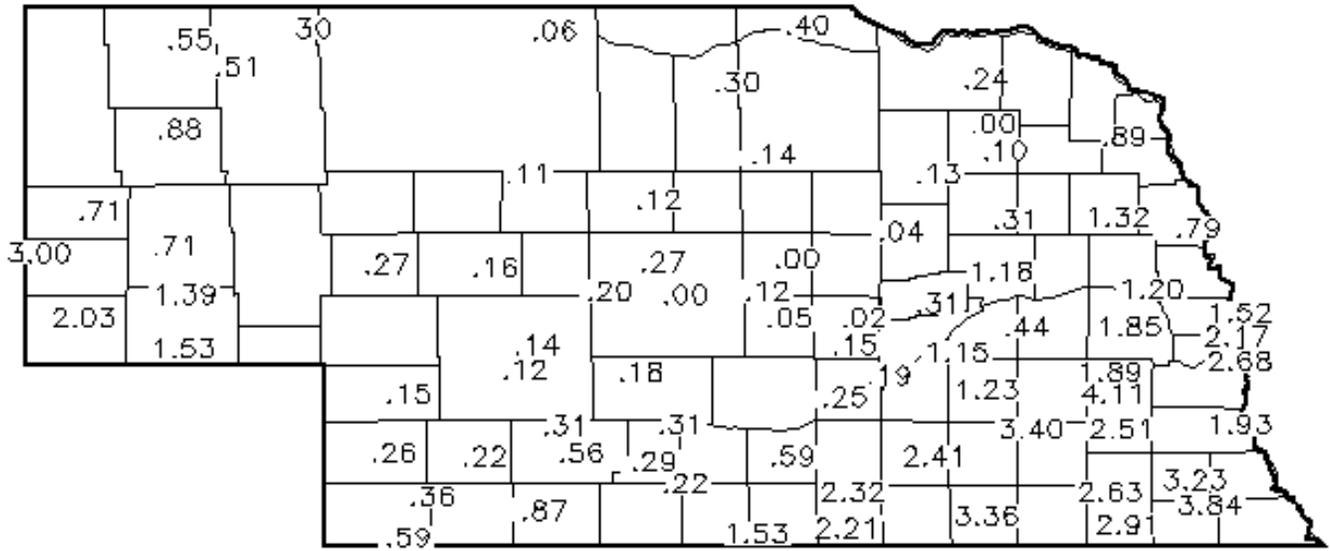
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

### CORN DOUGH



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 31, 2005**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 31, 2005**

| Item                 | NW    | NC    | NE    | CEN   | EC    | SW    | SC    | SE    |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total past week      | 1.35  | .16   | .46   | .13   | 1.73  | .47   | .88   | 2.76  |
| Total since April 1  | 13.41 | 16.89 | 16.04 | 13.60 | 14.52 | 10.74 | 11.68 | 14.35 |
| Normal since April 1 | 10.13 | 12.14 | 13.81 | 13.10 | 14.34 | 11.77 | 12.83 | 14.71 |
| Total as % of normal | 132%  | 139%  | 116%  | 104%  | 101%  | 91%   | 91%   | 97%   |

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, July 31, 2005**

| Station | Temperature  |     |         |           | Growing Degree Days Since April 15 |         |        |      |
|---------|--------------|-----|---------|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|--------|------|
|         | Extremes     |     | Average | Departure | Last Week                          | Current | Normal |      |
|         | High         | Low |         |           |                                    |         |        |      |
| NW      | Alliance     | 96  | 44      | 69        | -4                                 | 123     | 1433   | 1588 |
|         | Scottsbluff  | 96  | 46      | 71        | -2                                 | 133     | 1555   | 1583 |
|         | Sidney       | 95  | 47      | 71        | -2                                 | 138     | 1451   | 1637 |
| NC      | Ainsworth    | 96  | 48      | 73        | -3                                 | 144     | 1632   | 1816 |
|         | Arthur       | 99  | 42      | 72        | -3                                 | 139     | 1533   | 1747 |
|         | O'Neill      | 98  | 45      | 72        | -3                                 | 143     | 1702   | 1847 |
| NE      | Concord      | 90  | 47      | 71        | -6                                 | 143     | 1796   | 1922 |
|         | Elgin        | 93  | 50      | 73        | -3                                 | 148     | 1774   | 1886 |
|         | West Point   | 90  | 48      | 71        | -6                                 | 145     | 1909   | 1861 |
| C       | Grand Island | 95  | 47      | 73        | -3                                 | 152     | 1911   | 1992 |
|         | Lexington    | 99  | 47      | 75        | -1                                 | 156     | 1891   | 1821 |
|         | Ord          | 98  | 44      | 73        | -3                                 | 146     | 1792   | 1846 |
| EC      | Lincoln      | 101 | 51      | 75        | -3                                 | 163     | 2147   | 2044 |
|         | Central City | 95  | 46      | 72        | -4                                 | 147     | 1909   | 1893 |
|         | Mead         | 98  | 50      | 73        | -5                                 | 149     | 2012   | 2033 |
| SW      | Champion     | 101 | 48      | 73        | -2                                 | 136     | 1658   | 1766 |
|         | North Platte | 101 | 45      | 73        | -2                                 | 142     | 1723   | 1791 |
|         | Curtis       | 102 | 46      | 74        | -2                                 | 142     | 1760   | 1795 |
| SC      | Smithfield   | 94  | 46      | 72        | -4                                 | 144     | 1797   | 1828 |
|         | Minden       | 94  | 47      | 72        | -3                                 | 147     | 1896   | 1840 |
|         | Red Cloud    | 102 | 48      | 75        | -1                                 | 157     | 2024   | 1880 |
| SE      | Beatrice     | 98  | 50      | 73        | -5                                 | 144     | 2053   | 2044 |
|         | Clay Center  | 97  | 49      | 73        | -3                                 | 148     | 1922   | 1879 |
|         | Nemaha       | 97  | 53      | 74        | -4                                 | 158     | 2167   | 2057 |

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