

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
and

U. S. Department of Commerce  
Weather Bureau

U. S. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection  
Division of Agr. Statistics  
and

Agricultural Extension Service  
of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 3/1/49 11:00 a.m.

Week Ending 2/28/49

WEATHER The week was considerably warmer than normal over the western portion of the State, where the snow cover has melted except for drifts. The eastern portion was colder than normal, and considerable snow remains except in the extreme south. There has been practically no run-off in the northeastern portion of the State, yet. The snow has thawed a little on the surface a few times, but froze again before the water could run off, and this has merely made the snow more compact, with very little loss of moisture.

CROPS Wheat has started to green-up in southern Nebraska, particularly the southwestern portion. Some further damage from winds was reported from southern Panhandle and southwestern counties because of dry top soil, since all of the snow blew off of the summer fallow fields. More moisture is needed. In Chase County the chisel is being used to prevent blowing on some fields. Water standing in low places in lagoons from the flat areas from Holdrege eastward may cause some loss of wheat in spots. There is still some fear that the ice coating may have damaged wheat. Husking of corn is being resumed in some counties.

Hay shortage has eased somewhat since western ranges are mostly open and farmers are feeding much larger quantities of concentrates. With decreased demand, hay prices are lowering, but in Washington Co. farmers paid up to \$50 for alfalfa hay at an auction. Sioux Co. reports no takers at \$35 per ton. Brown Co. reports hay plentiful.

"Snowbound" is rapidly changing to "mudbound". Many side roads are impassable and will remain so for a long time because of the large drifts along roadsides. In Chase County, the January storm is now spoken of as the "Blizzard of '49" and signs of spring are present. Intermittent freezing and thawing has apparently enabled the soil to absorb much of the water from the melting snow, thereby preventing what might have been disastrous floods. This is generally true with few exceptions throughout most of the State. In northeastern Nebraska where snowfall was so heavy, thawing has been light. A number of reports indicate that the ground is unfrozen under the snow and unless thawing is rapid the soil should absorb much of the water and may prevent floods. However, a rapid thaw might cause serious floods.

LIVESTOCK Comments are generally more optimistic as far as the feed supply is concerned, since the range is open and farmers are using more concentrates. The hay shortage is easing. Cattle lost considerable weight, but are improving. Reports on losses still vary greatly, as do reports on losses of calves. Reports of abortion and still-born calves continue with some reports indicating 50 to 60% calf crop. Others report a much more favorable calf outlook. Side roads are muddy and some serious losses to feeders from the price drop are reported. A few counties report increasing interest in dairying and also poultry. (Issued by the Weather Bureau and the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture.)

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1949

1400  
149  
Eastern Division

Grand Island	.14
Lincoln	.04
Norfolk	0
Omaha	.09
Sioux City	0

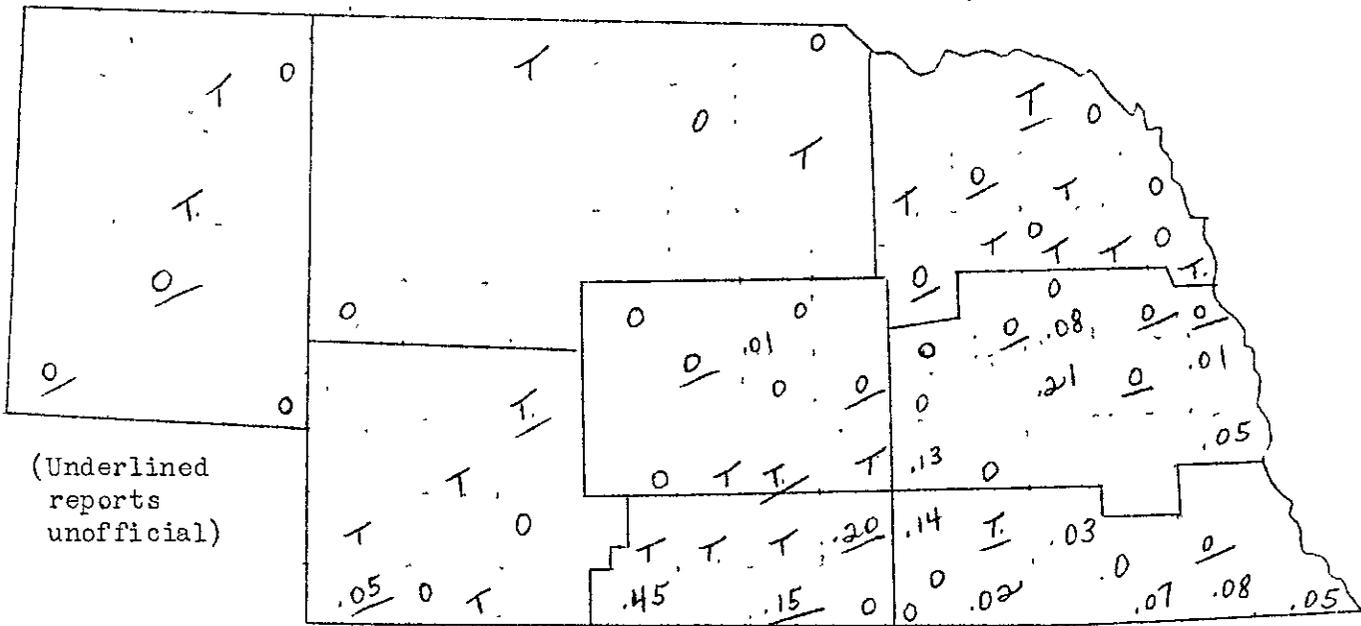
Central Division

Burwell	.02
North Platte	0
Valentine	0

Western Division

Chadron	0
Hayes Center	0
Scottsbluff	0
Sidney	0

PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 25, 1949.



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (For 24 hours ending 6:30 a.m.)

		Feb. 22nd		23rd		24th		25th		26th		27th		28th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	42	24	53	35	45	20	46	23	49	26	46	26	36	21
	Scottsbluff	51	26	56	26	53	26	52	28	52	27	46	20	43	23
	Sidney	51	26	62	24	53	26	51	27	53	22	44	25	43	18
N-C	Burwell	44	14	54	31	54	25	38	18	40	30	39	25	33	21
	Valentine	36	23	55	33	58	19	37	22	47	30	42	24	32	16
NE	Norfolk	31	21	36	28	42	22	27	10	31	28	31	22	30	8
	Sioux City	29	26	34	27	40	21	35	14	34	28	35	24	31	10
Cen.	Grand Island	36	19	47	35	42	34	39	22	38	31	35	27	30	25
E-C	Lincoln	32	24	40	36	45	35	38	19	38	31	39	25	31	17
	Omaha	30	28	35	30	46	32	38	18	37	29	40	26	31	15
SW	Hayes Center	55	28	63	--	61	30	53	--	47	31	45	24	40	20
	North Platte	52	25	57	28	55	28	49	23	44	32	46	25	41	18

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