

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

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
 Division of Agr'l Statistics
 and
 Agricultural Extension Service
 Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 5-2-50 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 5-1-50

WEATHER The week was unseasonably cold, with temperatures below freezing on several mornings throughout the State. Moderate precipitation occurred over the weekend, except in the southern portion of the Panhandle, southwest, and extreme south central, where it was mostly light. This was in the form of snow over the northern and central portions of the State, where Chadron had 7 inches on the ground and Valentine 5 inches Saturday morning, but was in the form of rain in the southeast. There was much cloudy and windy weather.

April was considerably drier and colder than normal, with several windy days. There was only one brief but very warm spell, when temperatures reached the low 90's over most of the State on the 22nd, and upper 90's in the southwest.

CROPS Winter wheat made slow progress during the week due mainly to low temperatures and lack of moisture in the western portion of the wheat belt. A little moisture was received during the weekend in the latter area but it was very light. Sub-soil moisture is very inadequate in the wheat belt, particularly in the western two-thirds of the State. Dry weather in April with high winds has thinned the stands of wheat in some western areas, particularly in the Panhandle. Some yellow spots are developing in the wheat fields. A number of southwestern and some south central counties have reported the presence of green bugs in small grain. Cool weather is favorable for their development.

Because of the cold dry weather, spring small grain crops have made very little development. Seed was very slow in germinating, and many of the oats are not up yet. It is apparent now that the crop will be late, which is unfavorable for small spring grain crops since they will mature at a time when the weather is generally too hot and dry. The condition of all spring small grain crops dropped during the week.

Pastures, alfalfa, other tame, and wild hay is very backward this spring. In fact, pastures and wild hay have made very little growth and alfalfa hasn't much more than started except in southern counties. Poa Aphid in legumes is reported in southeastern Nebraska. Pasture in the Sandhills hasn't made any growth yet and ranchers are feeding hay, of which the supply is plentiful.

A little damage to sugar beets was reported from the freezing weather. Most of the beets are not up yet, but planting is nearing completion. Ground is being prepared for edible beans and potatoes in western Nebraska.

The spring soil moisture survey was completed last week and the report gives comparisons with sub-soil moisture last fall and a year ago. The report will be released tomorrow.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 1, 1950

| Eastern Division | Eastern Div., Contd. | Central Division | Western Division |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Albion .70 | Hastings .38 | Broken Bow .53 | Alliandro .35 |
| Auburn .54 | Lincoln .82 | Burwell .64 | Chadron .77 |
| Beatrice .73 | Norfolk .56 | Cambridge .18 | Culbertson .15 |
| Columbus 1.52 | Oakdale .62 | Holdrege .19 | Hayes Center .13 |
| Fairbury .40 | Omaha 1.57 | North Loup .90 | Kimball .34 |
| Fairmont .68 | Red Cloud .27 | North Platte .51 | Scottsbluff .29 |
| Falls City .05 | St. Paul .62 | O'Neill .45 | Sidney .15 |
| Fromont .77 | Tokamah 1.16 | Ravenna .42 | |
| Grand Island .51 | Wakefield .53 | Valentine .63 | |
| Hartington .68 | York .69 | | |
| Average this week | 1.500 5-2-50 0.69 | 0.50 | 0.31 |
| Total since April 1 | 1.24 | 1.10 | 0.95 |
| Normal since April 1 | 2.62 | 2.44 | 2.11 |

