

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
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 12-13-55

1300-12-13-55 Week Ending 12-10-55

WEATHER November was dry and very cold. There was no precipitation of consequence over the eastern half of the State. In the western half, precipitation totals ranged from light in the southwest and north-central to considerably above normal over most of the Panhandle, the southwestern sandhills, and the Platte Valley from Lincoln County westward. Most of the precipitation in the west occurred around the middle of the month. The duration of sunshine was near normal. There was considerably more wind than usual.

The week ending December 12 was cold and generally cloudy, but there was little precipitation except light to moderate snow over much of the southeast over the week end. Wind movement was generally light.

CROPS The winter wheat outlook is better after the early December snows. The first snow covered western, central, and northeastern portions of the State. The second snow covered the southeastern portion. Reports indicate that snow laid well in some of the counties but drifted in others.

Wheat in the Panhandle including Keith, Perkins, and Lincoln Counties is generally in very favorable condition since the autumn moisture was more nearly adequate. Wheat in the balance of the State received very little moisture in November. With some exceptions the December rain and snow was light in the southern half of the State, but will supply some of the much needed moisture. If sufficient moisture had been received before the ground froze the effects would have been much better. Due to the drouth that prevailed since September, except for western Nebraska, the soil in the wheat fields had not packed properly. A loose, dry seed bed makes the wheat crop more vulnerable to injury from high winds and low temperatures.

Winter range feed is covered with snow. The snow will soften the range feed in the sand hills. The stormy weather has increased the hay and forage requirements and a shortage is feared in some of the counties if stormy weather continues. Some counties have imported grain and hay.

Farm auctions of personal property continues. It appears the number of auctions has been much greater than last year. Farm machinery is selling at considerably lower prices at auctions. The price of milk cows has held up quite well. There appears to be plenty of demand for rental farms.

The demand ~~by~~ farmers for off-farm work is heavy. Many farmers need work to pay debts since their income has been reduced from short crops and low prices. While returns from wheat were good they are not beginning to offset the loss from the short corn crop and the low prices of livestock.

LIVESTOCK Livestock feeding is on a reduced scale. Farmers have been forced to sell hogs at the low prices because of the lack of grain. The low hog-corn ratio has discouraged retention of hogs for possible higher prices.

Shipments of cattle to Nebraska country points for November were down 24 per cent and inshipments for the period July through November were down 28 per cent as compared with the same periods a year ago. Shipments of sheep to country points were down 46 per cent in November and down 31 per cent for the period July through November as compared with the same periods a year earlier. Shortage of grain and feed and unfavorable prices are responsible for this reduction in feeding operations.

While cattle on feed October 1 were slightly higher than on October 1 a year ago, replacements have been low. Shipments of cattle to country points totaled 289,550 head for the period July through November as compared with 402,426 for the same period a year earlier. Movement of sheep to country points July through November totaled 434,445 head as compared with 626,977 head for the same period a year earlier.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 12, 1955

Eastern Division

Grand Island	.08
Lincoln	.22
Norfolk	.04
Omaha	.01
Sioux City	.03

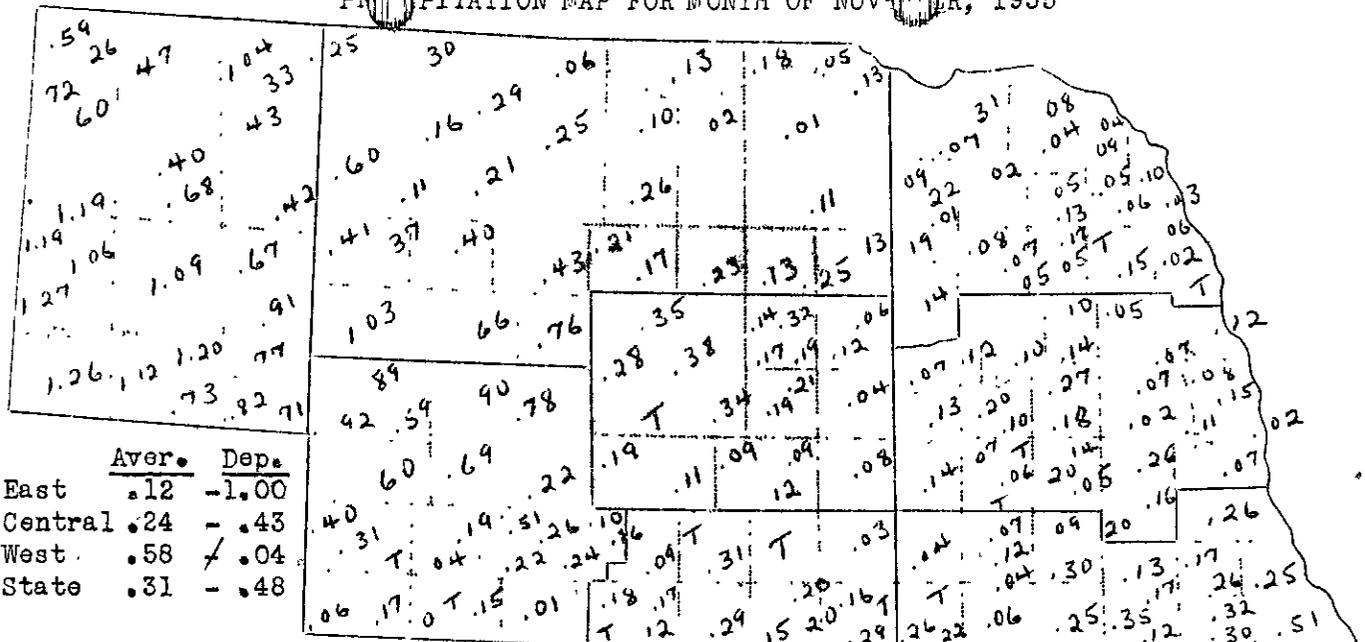
Central Division

Burwell	0
North Platte	.01
Valentine	.05

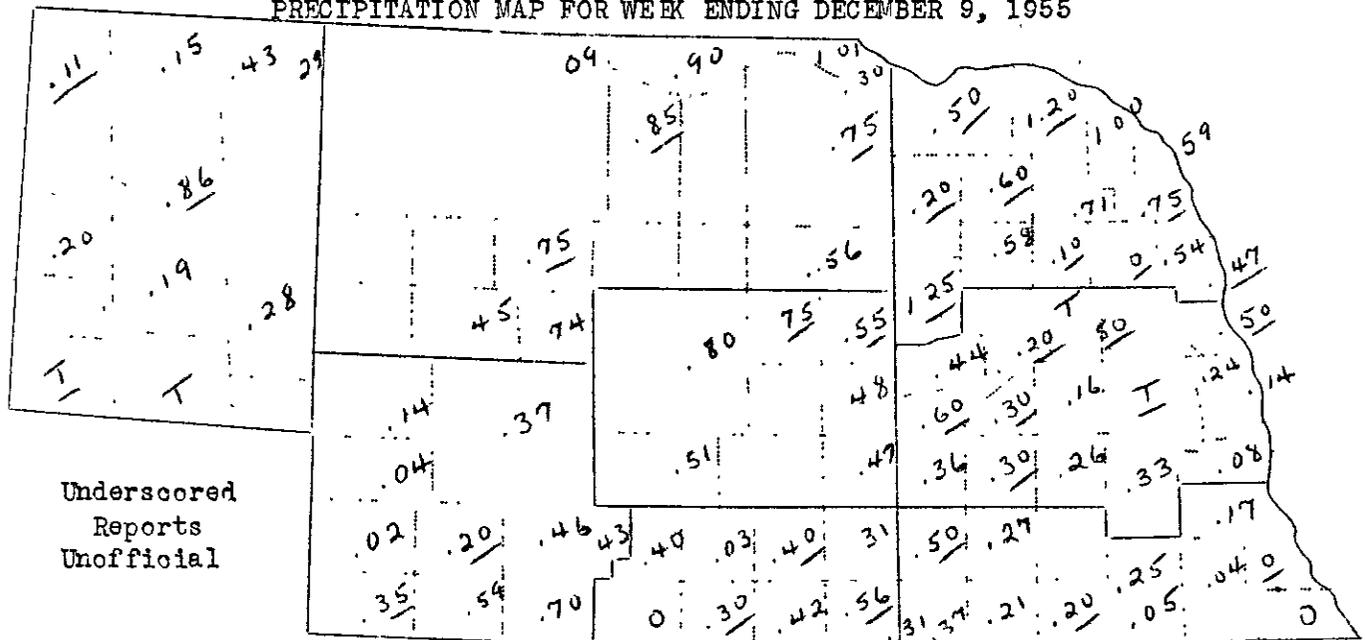
Western Division

Chadron	.09
Imperial	.03
Scottsbluff	.01
Sidney	.02

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1955



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 9, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		Dec. 6th		7th		8th		9th		10th		11th		12th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	19	-1	37	12	35	22	38	-7	34	18	25	-7	31	23
	Scottsbluff	25	4	39	18	36	11	33	9	26	16	32	0	28	15
	Sidney	33	8	41	19	35	19	35	13	25	17	32	11	40	19
NC	Burwell	30	5	34	6	19	3	10	-10	16	11	20	8	23	14
	Valentine	23	5	36	4	27	7	12	-16	12	10	18	-2	20	6
NE	Norfolk	23	13	32	0	17	1	7	2	14	11	19	12	22	20
	Sioux City	29	16	33	8	18	1	8	1	15	9	23	21	25	18
CEN	Grand Island	26	19	36	12	27	6	14	-6	18	17	22	17	22	18
EC	Lincoln	35	26	41	22	40	9	19	7	23	19	24	17	26	22
	Omaha	30	22	39	17	31	6	14	4	19	15	22	14	25	15
SW	Imperial	31	6	45	27	41	24	30	7	17	9	23	3	37	15
	North Platte	26	-2	39	6	32	12	25	-5	13	10	--	--	25	14

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
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Lincoln 1, Nebraska

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