

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
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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

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Week Ending 3-10-56

WEATHER February was cold and dry. Precipitation averaged about half the normal. There were frequent light snows, which did not drift. Wind movement was less than normal.

The week was much colder than normal over the western and north-central portions of the State, and considerably colder elsewhere. Unseasonably cold weather, with strong northerly winds, moved over the State on Saturday. Most stations received a little light snow during the week, but only a few localities received enough to be of any benefit. There was some blowing of soil over the western portion of the State on Saturday.

CROPS Much of the winter wheat had started to green up, but low temperatures at close of week checked growth. With very few exceptions, there was no appreciable snow cover to protect the wheat. High winds and dust storms caused a little damage to wheat in the western third of the state.

There was some field work done last week, but the stormy weather checked progress. The work consisted mostly of cutting stalks and preparing ground for spring planting. A little spring wheat and oats were planted.

Reports indicate that surface moisture varies from 4 to 18 inches. There is very little subsoil moisture, except in summer fallow fields. While moisture on the surface is light, it is generally ample to sprout spring seeded grain. February precipitation was about half the normal.

Forced sales of farm property were limited, but auction sales were quite numerous during the past winter. Most of the sales are over and tenants have settled on their farms.

Despite the poor outlook of last year's wheat crop in the late spring, the final average yield was the highest of record. Cheyenne county with 6,217,000 bushels was first in production, followed by Perkins with 4,571,000 bushels and Deuel in third place with 2,798,000 bushels. Other counties with over two million bushels are Jefferson, Box Butte, Keith, Lancaster, and Saline in the order given.

County estimates reveal that Burt, with a 41 bushel average, leads all counties, followed by Cass with 37.1 bushels. Third place goes to Richardson with 36 bushels. Washington and Otoe counties tie for fourth place with 35 bushels, and Garden county fifth with 34.2 bushels.

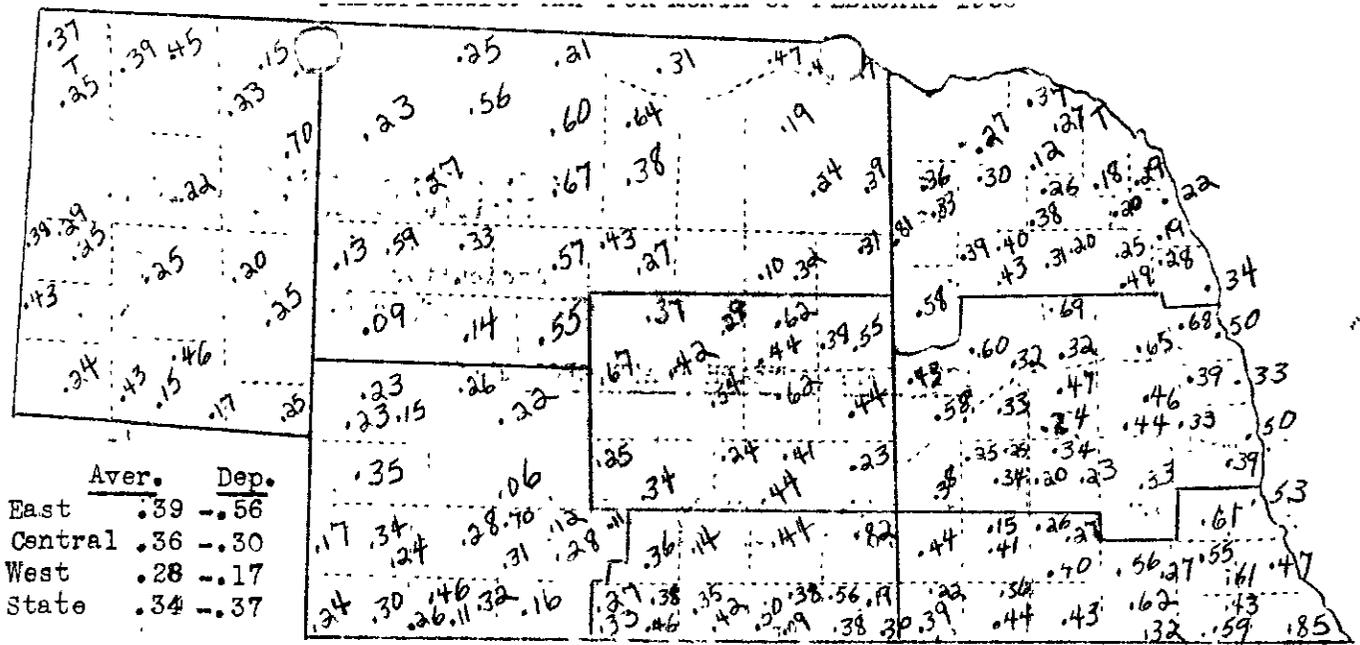
The Panhandle, or northwest district, produced 20,502,000 bushels, over one-fourth of the entire state production. Southwestern Nebraska was second with 16,476,000 bushels, followed by the southeast district with 15,304,000 bushels and east-central Nebraska with 12,494,000 bushels. Last year's wheat crop was a life-saver for many Nebraska farmers.

LIVESTOCK Replacements of feeder cattle are down heavily. There seems to be increased interest in such enterprises as stock sheep and poultry that require less capital, and to some extent dairying. The low temperatures last weekend were unfavorable for calving and newly born calves and pigs.

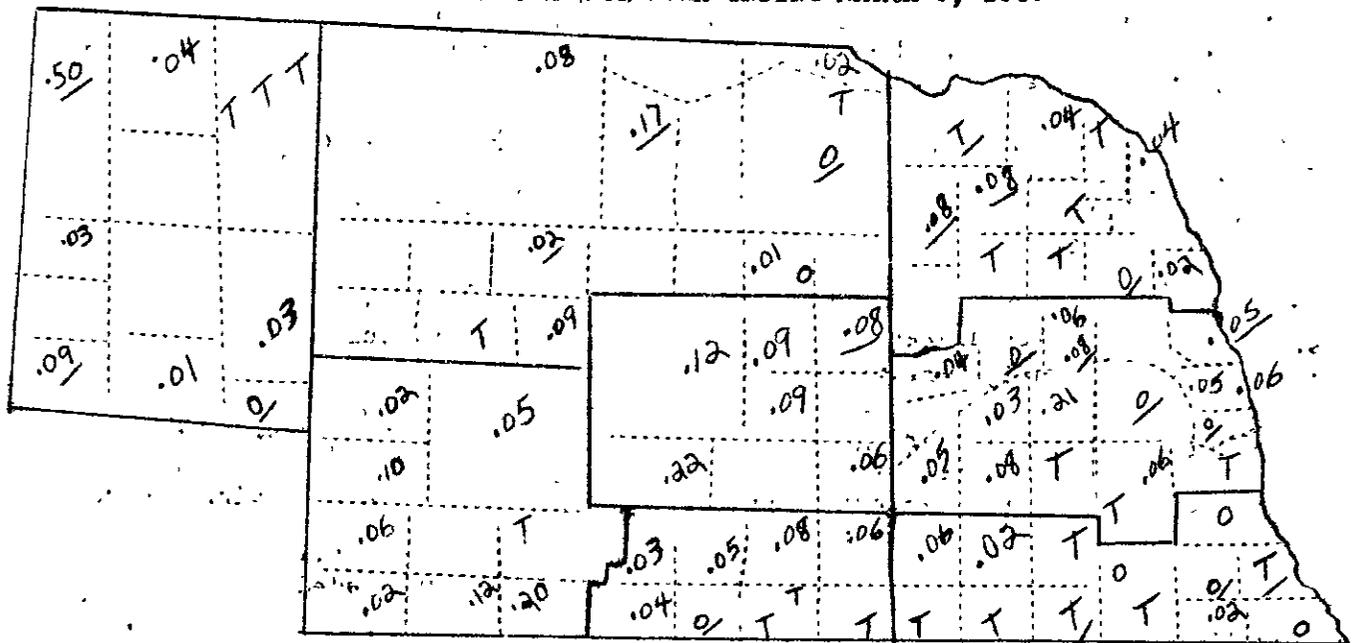
Hay and forage supplies are a little short in some counties while others have an ample supply and some counties report a surplus. Grain feed is a little shorter than hay, but about 2/3 of the county report an ample supply, with some surplus in irrigated areas. There were no prolonged storms with low temperatures and generally winter weather has been favorable for conservation of feed.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 12, 1956

<u>Eastern Division</u>		<u>Central Division</u>		<u>Western Division</u>	
Grand Island	.06	Burwell	--	Chadron	.08
Lincoln	.07	North Platte	.09	Imperial	.01
Norfolk	0	Valentine	.08	Scottsbluff	.09
Omaha	.06			Sidney	.11
Sioux City	.15				



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 9, 1956



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)

		March 6th		7th		8th		9th		10th		11th		12th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	58	26	28	12	35	22	56	26	43	26	26	0	15	-6
	Scottsbluff	55	27	31	10	36	19	53	21	57	24	26	2	12	-11
	Sidney	65	28	32	5	31	14	55	17	60	25	26	2	9	-7
NC	Burwell	58	27	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Valentine	55	22	30	12	27	12	56	27	41	25	25	-7	6	-13
NE	Norfolk	63	33	40	13	21	4	51	28	48	28	30	0	8	-3
	Sioux City	65	37	42	12	18	4	46	33	47	30	32	0	9	-4
CEN	Grand Island	63	34	42	17	30	13	55	27	53	28	34	5	15	2
EC	Lincoln	66	38	45	16	27	13	53	33	54	32	45	6	18	4
	Omaha	63	32	37	13	20	4	45	28	51	29	43	4	14	1
SW	Imperial	75	28	33	13	36	14	60	20	60	25	38	6	12	-2
	North Platte	70	29	34	13	31	15	59	24	55	29	--	--	11	1

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