

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 5-15-56

Week Ending 5-12-56

WEATHER The week was warm and generally dry except for a few scattered moderate to heavy showers in east portion. The west and central portions of the State were very dry with most stations reporting either no rain or very light amounts. Maximum temperatures were mostly in the 70s and 80s from Tuesday through Friday, and in the 80s and 90s over east and south portions on Saturday. Considerably cooler weather overspread the State Saturday night and Sunday.

CROPS Winter wheat maintained its condition during the past week. Except for part of eastern Nebraska, precipitation in the wheat belt was light during the past week. Summer fallow wheat in the Panhandle is promising, but part of the summer fallow wheat in southwestern Nebraska is short of subsoil moisture. Wheat is still holding well but most of the crop needs moisture. Week-end rains were fairly substantial in parts of eastern Nebraska, which should help materially.

Approximately 8% of the corn had been planted by May 12. This may be compared with 21% a year ago. The delay in seeding is due mostly to cold weather and to lack of soil moisture. There is a general hesitancy, on the part of farmers, to plant corn when there is such a deficiency of subsoil moisture. In some areas, surface soil moisture is lacking for quick germination of seed.

Oats and barley show some improvement in condition, but cold weather, along with lack of moisture is delaying normal growth. There was very little change shown in the condition of alfalfa, wild hay, and pasture. While warm weather during the past week has stimulated growth, a combination of precipitation and normal temperatures would be of material benefit to hay and pasture feeds.

Some sugar beets are up in the western part of the state, but high winds caused some damage by soil erosion. Recent rain, however, will benefit all crops in the Panhandle and relieve the dry topsoil condition.

The spring soil moisture survey, taken throughout the state in winter wheat fields and completed the first week of the month, shows more surface soil moisture than a year earlier, but this was a result of the late April rains. The average depth of moisture--42.5"--while about the same as a year ago, did not have the degree of saturation in the subsoil that was present last spring.

LIVESTOCK Warmer temperatures and much needed precipitation has improved the pasture outlook. However, new growth is being grazed off about as fast as it appears, in many instances where farmers were forced to turn on pastures because of lack of feed. Reports indicate the spring pig crop making good progress with litters averaging quite high and with little death loss. The bulk of spring calving has been completed in most counties with a high percentage calf crop being reported.

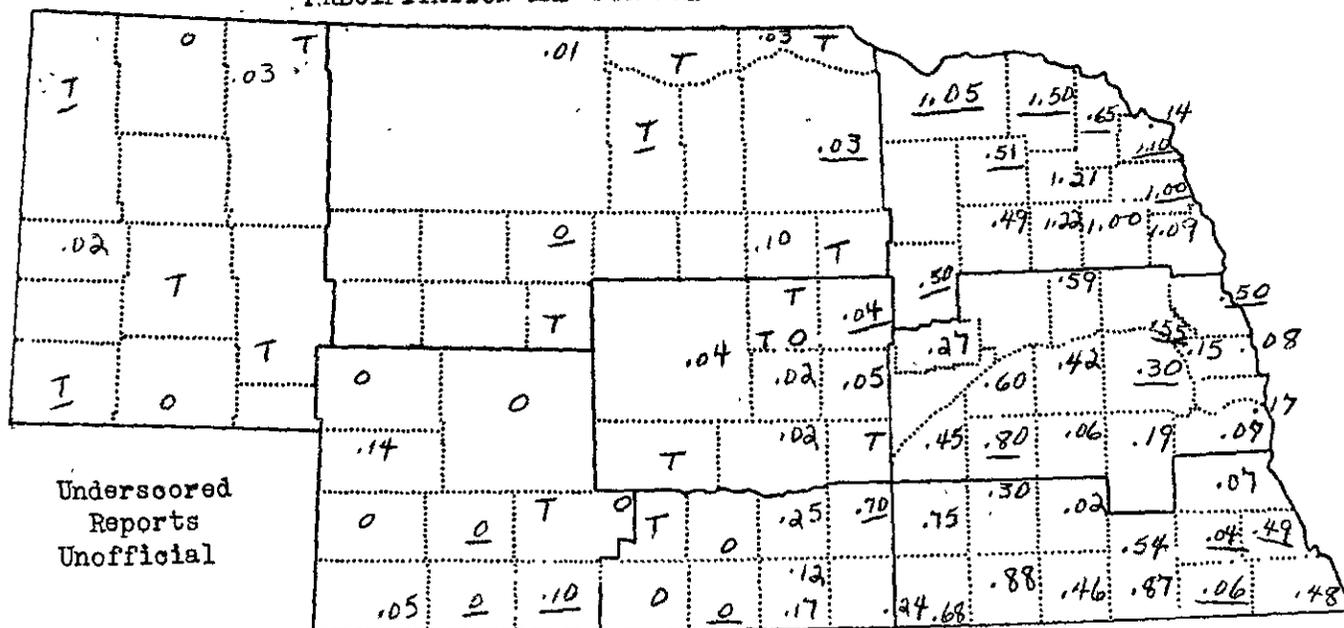
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 14, 1956

<u>Eastern Division</u>	<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>
Grand Island .84	Burwell .16	Chadron .76
Lincoln .25	North Platte .02	Imperial 0
Norfolk 1.04	Valentine .29	Scottsbluff 1.14
Omaha .64		Sidney 0
Sioux City .27		

Precipitation, April 1 - May 11, 1956

	<u>Eastern Div.</u>	<u>Central Div.</u>	<u>Western Div.</u>
Total Past Week	.42	.03	.02
Total since April 1	2.37	1.75	1.20
Long-Time Average since April 1	3.86	3.41	2.98

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 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)

		May 8th		9th		10th		11th		12th		13th		14th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	65	50	89	46	73	51	72	41	74	49	69	40	49	31
	Scottsbluff	64	43	88	52	71	54	71	44	78	41	79	40	49	33
	Sidney	65	47	85	50	76	54	67	39	79	44	81	40	48	33
NC	Burwell	69	47	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	88	51	--	--
	Valentine	69	50	82	53	72	47	61	40	83	43	77	46	55	34
NE	Norfolk	69	50	65	58	76	54	80	50	82	58	83	51	65	43
	Sioux City	69	49	62	59	77	55	79	52	81	62	88	64	74	45
CEN	Grand Island	69	51	68	64	79	59	88	48	81	57	86	59	64	40
EC	Lincoln	70	52	65	60	82	64	84	56	86	73	97	50	80	45
	Omaha	70	50	63	60	81	58	80	56	81	71	90	62	79	43
SW	Imperial	70	50	88	52	83	46	77	38	86	46	92	48	61	34
	North Platte	69	51	79	50	82	55	75	38	86	48	86	52	62	31

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