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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
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 1/5/60

Week Ending 1/4/60

WEATHER The week averaged a little colder than normal, with mild weather during the first four days, but much colder thereafter. Light to moderate snow, with some rain in the southeast, fell over the southern and western portions of the State Thursday night and Friday. Snowfall was heavy in the northeast, with much blowing and drifting.

Unseasonably warm and dry weather prevailed during December until the last few days of the month, when moderate to heavy snow fell over the eastern portion of the State, preceded by rain in the southeast. Seasonable temperatures prevailed during the last few days of the month. There was much sunshine during the first half of the month, but the latter half was rather cloudy. Wind movement was generally light.

CROPS Snowfall last week ranged from a trace to more than a foot deep in some northeastern sections. Lightest amounts fell in the southwest and some Panhandle counties. Many sections were favored by rain followed by wet snow. However, high winds were experienced in numerous central and western counties which caused snow to drift badly.

Benefits to winter grain crops were registered in areas receiving the rain and wet snowfall, and where drifting was light. Strong winds caused some soil blowing in the western counties--possibly some loss of wheat acreage. Drifting reduced the effectiveness of the moisture to seeded grain fields, although stalk fields, stubble fields and some pastures held the snow quite well in spite of the windy weather. Vegetative cover on wheat fields is short and could not hold the snow where winds were strong.

Field work was halted almost everywhere in the State as farmers turned their attention to digging out of the heavy snows and drifts. Some farmsteads were isolated with local roads blocked by deep snow or big drifts.

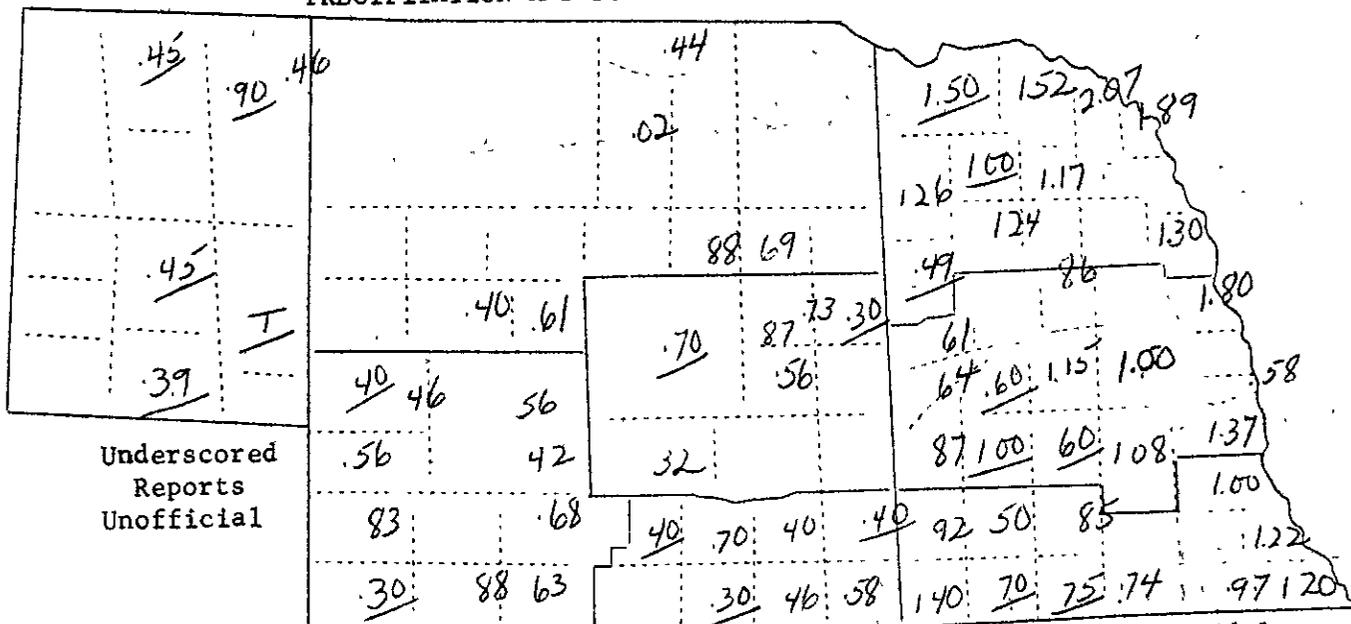
LIVESTOCK Farmers had to give livestock more attention during the stormy weather. In many sections, foraging was restricted in stalk fields by the heavy accumulation of snow. Hay and grain rations were increased as livestock found less feed and forage in the fields and pastures.

On the whole, livestock withstood the blustery weather in good shape with few unusual losses reported. All counties have an adequate supply of grain and concentrates. A few local western sections report short hay supplies. Range feed was short in a number of areas experiencing dry weather this year, and snow cover was limiting the use of ranges and pastures in most places where a heavy snowfall did not drift.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 4, 1960

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	.73	Burwell	.69	Chadron	---
Lincoln	.30	North Platte	.35	Imperial	.42
Norfolk	.87	Valentine	.06	Scottsbluff	---
Omaha	.24			Sidney	.16
Sioux City	.72				

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 4, 1960



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

		December		30th		31st		January		1st		2nd		3rd		4th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	42	19	35	14	42	26	31	14	22	7	18	9	13	-9		
	Scottsbluff	43	18	35	9	42	19	33	15	--	7	20	-1	17	-11		
	Sidney	42	20	33	7	38	20	40	17	28	6	20	4	19	-4		
NC	Burwell	27	23	32	13	31	15	32	20	36	12	14	--	--	--		
	Valentine	28	21	32	17	33	19	34	30	--	--	--	--	8	-5		
NE	Norfolk	27	22	26	16	20	13	28	27	34	22	26	-1	9	-10		
	Sioux City	34	26	29	13	23	6	--	18	37	29	34	6	14	-9		
Cen	Grand Island	28	24	32	12	31	16	32	30	35	17	20	4	12	-1		
EC	Lincoln	31	26	29	20	24	16	32	29	39	22	28	9	13	3		
	Omaha	32	26	29	18	22	6	31	27	36	23	29	4	9	-7		
SW	Imperial	42	23	39	18	38	22	35	18	35	11	20	2	20	-1		
	North Platte	37	24	37	14	36	20	35	32	34	12	17	-7	13	3		

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 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE