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U. S. Department of Agriculture  
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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 5/15/62

Week Ending 5/14/62

WEATHER This was another hot, dry, windy week across Nebraska. Thunder rumbled through all areas of the State on a number of occasions but many localities received no moisture. Scattered communities in the east had up to one-quarter inch. Wahoo reported four-tenths of an inch Monday night. Over an inch was reported at the Sioux City, Iowa Airport over the weekend. Temperature averages ranging from the upper 60's north to the lower 70's south were ten to fifteen degrees above seasonal normals. Franklin recorded 98 degrees and Beaver City had 101 degrees on two days. Lightning caused several grass fires. Scattered hail was reported.

CROPS Growing crops are in critical need of rain in practically all areas of the State. Only a few localities received rain during the past week in sufficient amounts to relieve the dry conditions. Corn planting progressed rapidly with about 37 percent of the crop planted by the close of the week as compared to 15 percent on this date a year earlier. Many farmers halted planting operations because of dry soil and are waiting for rain. Planting of milo and soybeans got underway where there was sufficient moisture. A few fields of early planted corn are up and showing fair to good stands.

Spring seeded oats and barley are making poor growth. Some thin stands of oats have been plowed under. Winter barley in the southern and southwestern counties is starting to head and some rye fields are heading.

Winter wheat condition declined as high temperatures and continued dry weather caused deterioration. Leaves are drying on plants and the crop is being forced toward maturity much earlier than usual with some heads showing in southern counties. A general heavy rain is needed soon if the crop is to improve.

Sugar beets are making poor growth in the upper Platte Valley with some fields showing thin stands as a result of poor germination. Where water has not been available young plants are dying because of lack of moisture. Soil is being prepared for the planting of dry beans and potatoes.

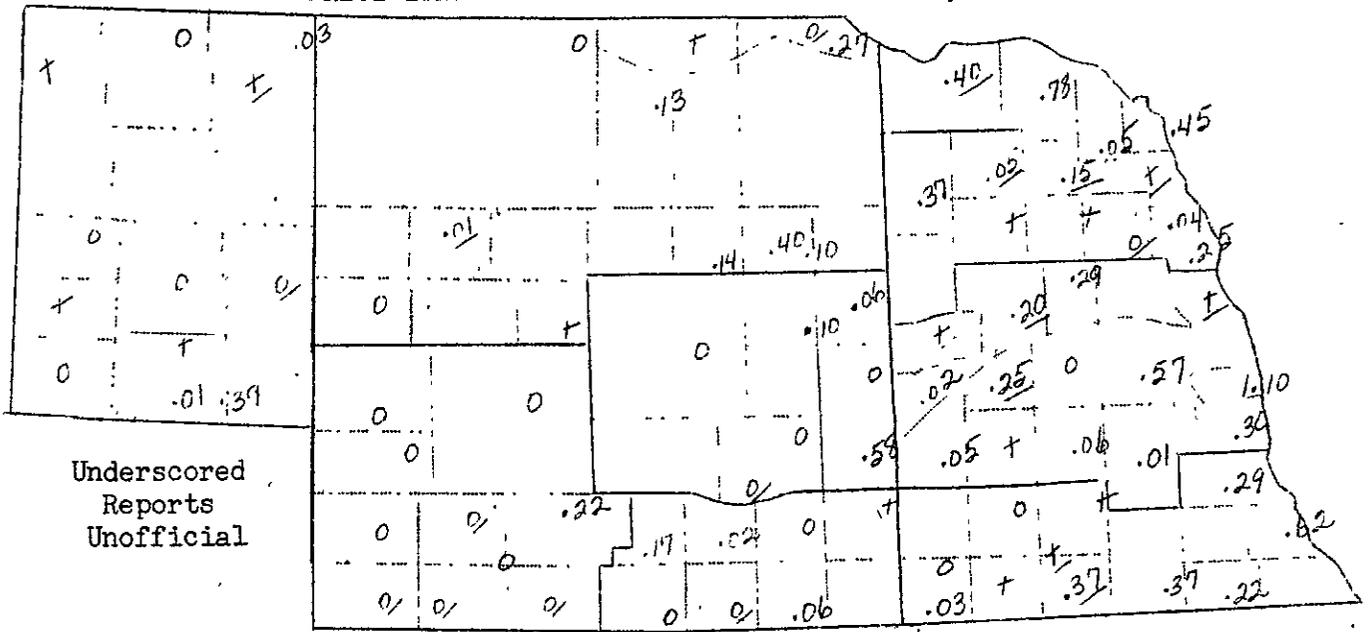
Pasture and range feed is in short supply over much of the western half of the State. Many counties report grass has made very little growth and will not be sufficient to carry current livestock numbers through the summer unless moisture is received soon. Alfalfa has made poor growth except on irrigated land. The first cutting is expected to be unusually light. Some fields are being utilized as pasture. Wild hay made a poor start and the high temperatures along with wind and lack of moisture has retarded growth to a point where a poor hay crop is in prospect.

LIVESTOCK Cattle and calves are in good condition although feed is becoming scarce in western counties. Some hay feeding has been necessary in the extreme northwest. Ranchers are fearful that some reduction in herds may be necessary in order to balance their numbers with the available feed supply. Pig litter sizes have increased under favorable weather conditions.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 14, 1962

East		Central		West					
Grand Island	.33	Burwell	.40	Chadron	.03				
Lincoln	.01	North Platte	0	Imperial	0				
Norfolk	.36	Valentine	.51	Scottsbluff	.02				
Omaha	.02			Sidney	T				
Sioux City	1.05								
		Precipitation, April 1 - May 11, 1962							
		NE	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.04	.07	.12	.08	.15	0	.03	.06	
Total since April 1	.56	.99	1.44	.73	.88	.62	.34	.69	
Normal since April 1	2.85	3.21	3.49	3.23	3.69	3.05	3.32	3.78	

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11, 1962



Underscored Reports Unofficial

HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 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	87	39	78	57	94	42	85	57	90	54	80	55	79	43
	Scottsbluff	86	49	79	50	91	49	89	53	92	52	90	54	77	50
	Sidney	84	44	76	49	90	49	88	51	91	56	90	49	80	48
NC	Burwell	93	53	70	49	79	59	84	57	90	66	88	66	87	--
	Valentine	84	43	71	50	97	51	73	59	98	55	76	58	82	50
NE	Norfolk	93	53	69	49	66	55	73	59	92	67	89	68	91	64
	Sioux City	92	52	73	48	68	59	69	55	92	65	87	71	88	65
CEN	Grand Island	96	53	74	49	82	55	92	59	94	63	95	67	93	56
EC	Lincoln	92	55	70	51	68	61	93	62	92	69	93	71	84	68
	Omaha	92	52	68	49	64	56	88	58	88	70	91	72	86	65
SW	Imperial	89	55	76	47	94	52	93	52	97	49	97	71	86	55
	North Platte	92	53	74	49	88	56	90	49	92	70	93	65	86	58

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