

Run 1,300 6-21-73

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
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Environmental Science Services Admn.
National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

Release 5/21/73

Week Ending 5/21/73

WEATHER

After abundant precipitation since the first of the year, this week the State experienced little or no rainfall.

Minima temperatures on the mornings of the 14th and 15th brought frost or freeze. At the beginning of the week day-time temperatures were 4 to 11 degrees below normal warming to 11 to 20 degrees above normal.

CROPS

Farmers made tremendous progress on fieldwork last week and are now ahead of normal in planting row crops. For the week ending Friday, 7 days were suitable for fieldwork. A few reports have been received of farmers running out of fuel. However, only limited, localized fuel shortages occurred during last week's heavy usage but farmers are paying higher prices for fuel and in some cases are restricted to deliveries of 100 gallons.

Fieldwork consisted mostly of preparing seedbeds; planting corn, soybeans, and grain sorghum; applying fertilizer and herbicides; and breaking crusts so seeded crops could emerge. Other farm work consisted of branding calves and moving cattle to ranges and pasture, working summer fallow land, cutting alfalfa, and irrigating.

Over 3 million acres of corn were planted last week. Based on reports from County Agents, corn planting has advanced to 80% complete, compared with 50% a year earlier and 74% for normal. Some early seeded corn is up.

Soybean planting is 21% complete, compared with 9% a year ago and 19% for normal. Grain sorghum is 19% planted, while 10% was complete a year earlier and normal of 24%.

Rain is needed for germination of row crops and to soften soil surfaces for emergence of germinated seeds. Some planting of row crops is being delayed where topsoils are so dry that seeds will not germinate. Reports on topsoil moisture supplies Friday indicate 54% of counties are adequate and 46% short while subsoil moisture was 90% adequate and 10% surplus. Freezing temperatures occurred early in the week but damage was limited.

Sugar beet planting is about completed and early plantings are up to excellent stands. Late planted beets need moisture to germinate. Growers are ready to begin thinning beets.

Winter wheat condition continues generally good to fair. Reports on condition indicate 6% of counties are excellent, 74% good and 20% fair. Wheat is close to heading in southern areas.

Alfalfa hay condition continues mostly good to excellent with 84% reporting good and 12% excellent. Wild hay is also good to excellent with 87% reporting good and 13% excellent. First cutting of alfalfa for dehydrators has begun.

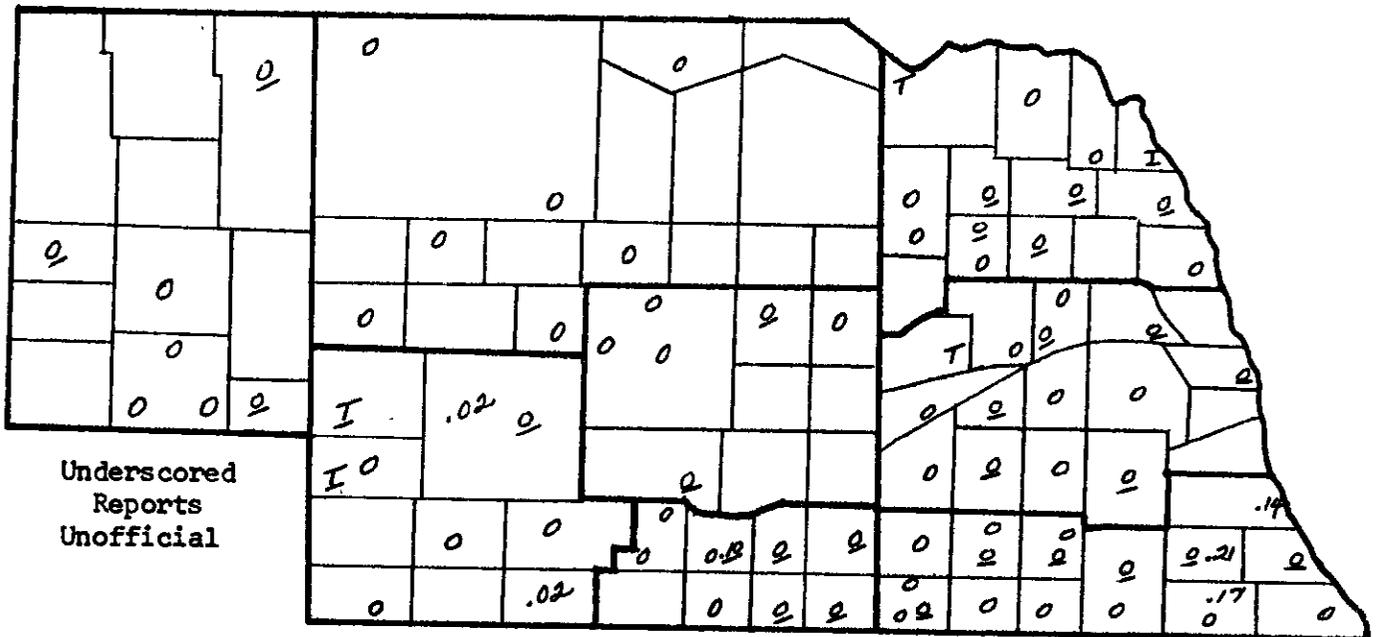
LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture condition continues above average. Supplemental hay feeding is virtually over for this feeding season. All feedlots are now dry for the first time in many months.

Precipitation, April 1 - May 18, 1973

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Total since April 1.....	3.20	2.70	3.00	2.80	4.80	3.20	3.90	6.10
Normal since April 1....	3.45	3.87	4.25	4.13	4.37	3.65	4.15	4.77

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M., SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1973



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1973

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Inches
	Max	Min			Total 1/
NW Chadron	85	28	60	--	0
Scottsbluff	86	33	61	+4	T
Sidney	85	33	60	--	T
NC Burwell	89	27	57	--	T
Valentine	92	26	59	+2	0
NE Norfolk	88	33	59	-1	T
Sioux City	89	34	61	-1	T
CEN Grand Island	88	31	59	-2	0
EC Lincoln	88	32	59	-3	.11
Omaha	87	37	61	0	T
SW Imperial	88	33	62	--	0
North Platte	87	28	59	0	T

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
 211 Federal Building, Box 81069
 Lincoln, Nebraska 68501
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