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Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
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Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

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Week Ending 6/25/73

WEATHER

Temperatures averaged 3 to 16 degrees below normal through Thursday and warmed drastically with temperatures averaging 7-19 degrees above normal by the end of the period. Precipitation was quite sparse and limited in quantity except for the northeast.

Soybean condition improved slightly and is mostly good to excellent with 20% excellent, 71% good and 9% fair. Soybean fields are making excellent growth. Alfalfa condition is rated 45% excellent, 45% good and 10% fair. About 92% of the first cutting is complete. Wild hay is reported in mostly good to excellent condition with 44% excellent, 50% good and 6% fair.

CROPS

Warm temperatures during the week with hot weather over the weekend accompanied with strong winds in some areas depleted topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies.

Dry weather and high winds have caused some damage to the dry bean crop. Many fields may need reseeding.

About 85% of the wheat crop has turned, compared with 70% last year and 73% normal. Up to this past week, the crop has been running behind normal maturity but the current dry hot weather has pushed maturity ahead of normal. County agents rate the crop as 18% excellent, 77% good and 5% fair. Harvesting may start this week in some areas depending on the weather but most expect it will start the first week in July.

Sugar beets in the Panhandle were under adverse weather conditions last week. Dry conditions and wind have caused some acres to be lost or abandoned. Thinning is nearly completed and weeding is well underway. With present moisture conditions, irrigation is being increased.

Corn condition is reported as mostly good to excellent, with 20% of the crop reported as excellent, 73% as good and 7% as fair. Some farmers are irrigating and dryland corn needs rain in many areas as topsoil is becoming short. Insect damage is currently reported light.

Soil moisture reports Friday indicate topsoil as mostly short and subsoil as adequate. Topsoil supplies were reported as short for 63% of counties and adequate for 38%. Subsoil moisture supplies were reported as adequate for all counties.

The sorghum crop condition remains mostly good to excellent with 11% reported as excellent, 82% as good and 7% as fair. Light damage from greenbugs has been noted in many sorghum fields.

Main farm activities were cutting alfalfa, cultivating row crops, applying fertilizer and spraying for weeds. Other fieldwork consisted of dragging, irrigating and working fallow land. Nearly the entire week was suitable for fieldwork.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition remained unchanged from previous week with 69% of counties reporting average and 31% above average. Hot weather is putting stress on cattle in feedlots.

Precipitation, April 1 - June 22, 1973

| | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|
| Total past week..... | .10 | .50 | 1.00 | .20 | .40 | .10 | 0 | .10 |
| Total since April 1.... | 4.50 | 7.90 | 8.90 | 8.30 | 10.50 | 6.10 | 7.20 | 9.70 |
| Normal since April 1... | 7.06 | 8.11 | 9.13 | 8.81 | 9.46 | 7.53 | 8.79 | 10.34 |

