

7-16-73

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
and U.S. Department of Commerce
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 7/16/73

Week Ending 7/16/73

WEATHER

Temperatures were a little above normal over most of Nebraska through mid-week with highs in the 90's and lows in the 60's. By Friday and Saturday, readings had fallen to a little below normal with highs in the 80's and lows in the 50's west to mid and low 60's east.

Precipitation was spotty over most of the State from thundershower activity. The showers fell mostly on Tuesday and again on Friday. The eastern end of the State received most of the rain with amounts from a quarter of an inch to 2.87 inches at Superior.

Friday night 7.15 inches of rain fell at a river reporting station at the Harlan County Dam and 6.00 inches or better at Naponee.

CROPS

Hot weather continued to speed development of crops. Wheat harvest is nearing completion in southern and eastern areas and is very active in western areas. Condition of most row crops improved and remains mostly good to excellent. Soil moisture supplies declined with topsoil mostly short and subsoil adequate to short. Irrigation is in full swing.

High temperatures continued to speed maturity of the wheat crop and about 85% is ripe compared with 70% a year earlier and 79% average. Harvesting has also progressed rapidly and about 60% is harvested compared with 65% in 1972 and the average of 59%. Much of the late crop in the west has ripened prematurely due to hot weather and short moisture supplies resulting in shriveled kernels and low yields.

Condition of corn improved and continues mostly good to excellent with 66% of counties reported as good, 28% excellent and 6% poor. About 16% of the crop is silking compared with 13% for a year earlier and average. Early fields are tasselling but average height is less than normal. Some corn rootworm damage is showing up.

Sorghum condition continued mostly good to excellent with 71% of counties good, 20% excellent and 9% fair. Greenbugs are present in most fields with populations low.

Soybean condition improved and continues mostly good to excellent with 56% of counties reported good, 31% excellent and 13% fair.

The second crop of alfalfa hay is about half cut. Alfalfa condition and yield is rated as mostly good to excellent with 62% of counties reported as good and 22% excellent. Wild hay condition is mostly good with 63% of counties reported good, 21% excellent, 13% fair and 3% poor. First cutting of wild hay has been reported.

Sugar beet weeding is almost completed and most of the crop is good to excellent. Dry beans are in average condition but 1 1/2 to 2 weeks later than normal. Both beets and dry beans have required extensive irrigation this spring because of little rain since early May. Some damage from hail occurred to both crops the past week.

Soil moisture declined last week. Topsoil supplies were short for 85% of counties and adequate for 15%. Subsoil supplies were short for 47% of counties and adequate for 53%. Supplies are particularly short in much of the Panhandle where little rain has fallen since early May.

Main farm activities have been harvesting wheat, cultivating and hilling row crops, irrigating, fertilizing, spraying and cutting weeds, haying and working summer fallow. Nearly the entire week was suitable for fieldwork.

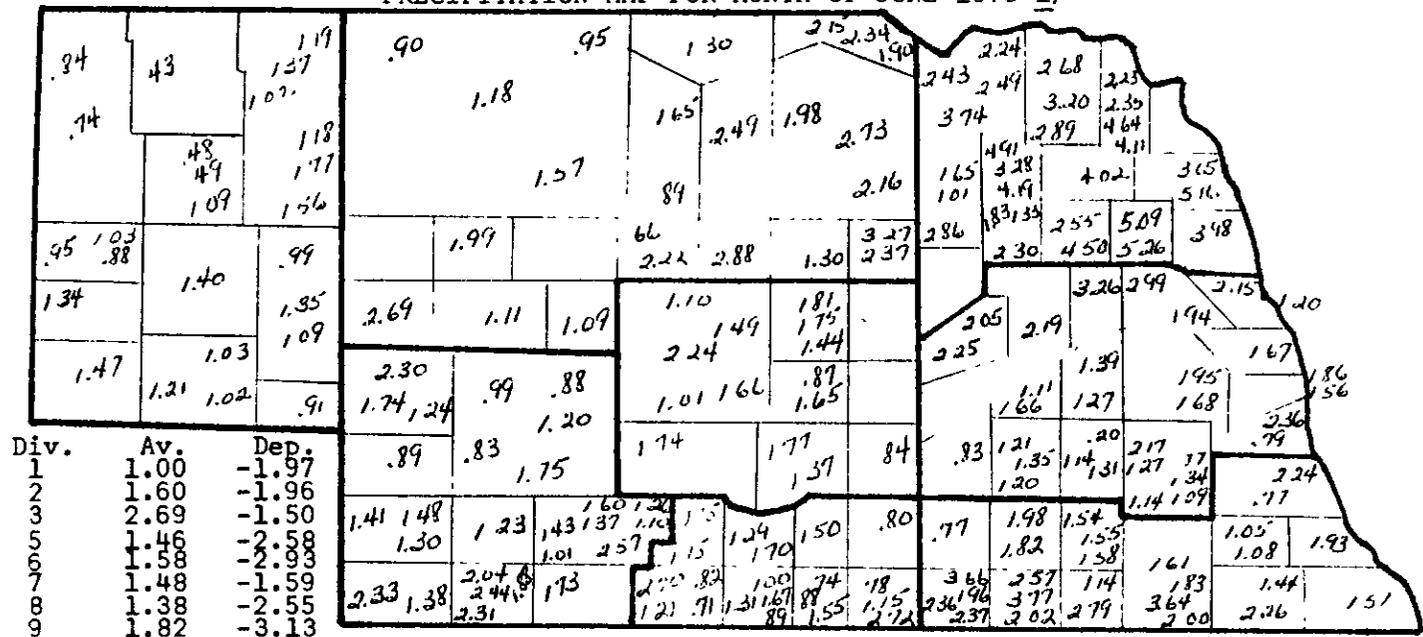
LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture condition declined and is mostly average to below average with 24% of counties reported as below average, 72% average and 4% above average. Livestock are suffering from the heat. Flies are bad where uncontrolled.

Precipitation, April 1 - July 13, 1973

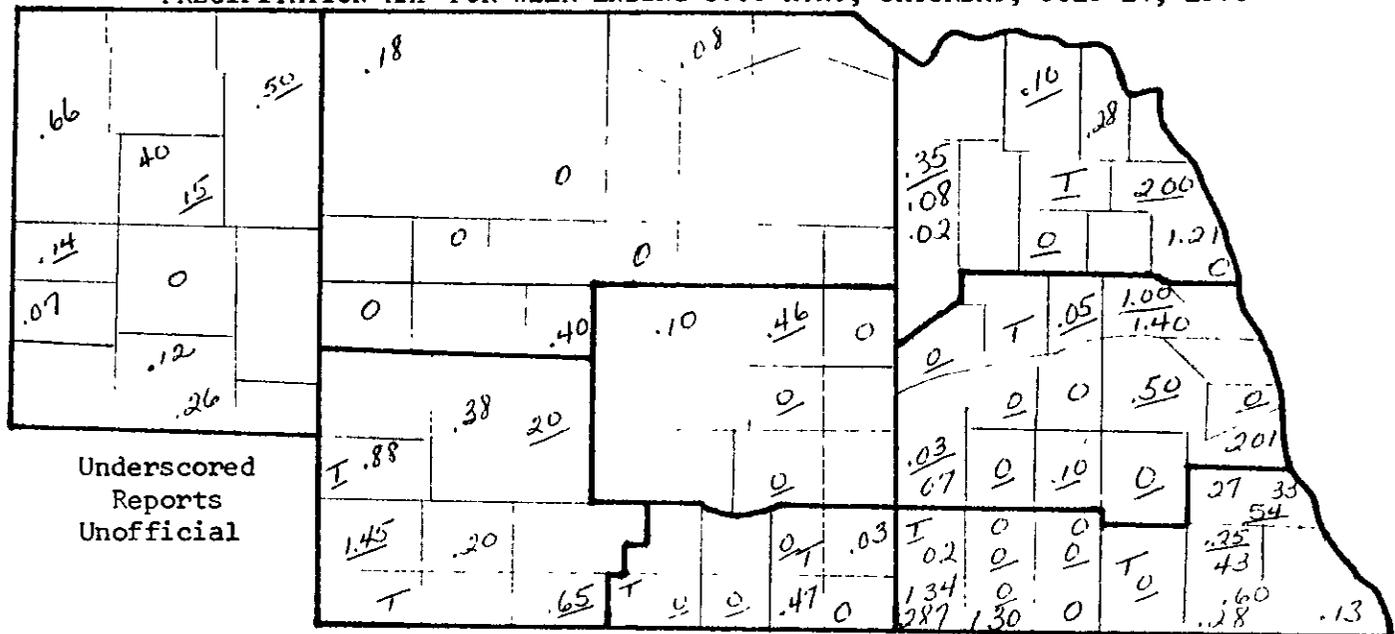
| | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|---------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Total past week..... | .30 | .10 | .60 | .10 | .70 | .30 | .10 | .50 |
| Total since April 1..... | 5.20 | 8.50 | 10.10 | 9.60 | 13.20 | 7.10 | 7.60 | 12.30 |
| Normal since April 1..... | 8.64 | 9.98 | 11.59 | 10.95 | 12.15 | 9.16 | 10.80 | 13.05 |

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF JUNE 1973 1/



1/ Courtesy of Conservation and Survey Division, University of Nebraska.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M., SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1973



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, JULY 15, 1973

| Station | Temperature | | | | Precipitation |
|------------------|-------------|-----|------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Extremes | | Mean | Departure | Inches Total 1/ |
| | Max | Min | | | |
| NW Chadron | 101 | 48 | 73 | -- | .20 |
| Scottsbluff | 99 | 50 | 72 | -3 | .15 |
| Sidney | 95 | 51 | 72 | -- | .49 |
| NC Burwell | 97 | 49 | 77 | -- | .00 |
| Valentine | 101 | 52 | 76 | +1 | .06 |
| NE Norfolk | 98 | 52 | 78 | +1 | .11 |
| Sioux City | 97 | 57 | 76 | -1 | 2.53 |
| CEN Grand Island | 98 | 53 | 78 | 0 | .33 |
| EC Lincoln | 94 | 54 | 77 | 0 | .13 |
| Omaha | 96 | 57 | 75 | -1 | .98 |
| SW Imperial | 96 | 55 | 76 | -- | .35 |
| North Platte | 97 | 54 | 75 | -1 | T |

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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