

Run 3908 7-22-74
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 7/22/74

Week Ending 7/22/74

WEATHER

Temperatures again averaged from five to nine degrees above normal. The only rainfall occurring was over the northwest portion of the State where thundershowers brought from one-half to one inch of moisture.

CROPS

All seven days were suitable for fieldwork during the survey week (July 13-19). Topsoil moisture supplies are reported short in 98% of the counties. Only Scotts Bluff and Dawes reported adequate topsoil moisture. Subsoil moisture supplies are 91% short and 9% adequate.

Hot temperatures, high winds, and lack of moisture this past week continued to lessen crop prospects. Most dryland corn has been damaged to some degree and irrigated crops may have lower yields due to poor pollination. Grasshopper and other bug populations are increasing due to drought.

Wheat harvesting is practically completed. Hail damage was reported in some unharvested fields in western areas during the past week.

Corn condition is reported good in 24% of counties, fair in 40%, and poor in 36%. Last week's corn condition was reported poor to fair in about one-half of the counties. About one-half of the corn has silked--normal is 40%. Drought damage to dryland corn varies; some is beyond the point of recovery while some is still capable of producing a partial crop if it receives rain within a week. But generally most dryland corn yield prospects have been hurt somewhat.

County agents are receiving many requests from farmers about the nitrate level of corn if they were to cut it for feed now. Farmers are irrigating corn around the clock and in some areas water tables are dropping so low that sand and air are being pumped. Irrigation parts are in short supply and hard to locate, leaving some wells impaired. Aerial spraying for rootworm beetles has begun.

Sorghum condition is good in 6% of counties, fair in 72% and poor in 22%. Previous week's sorghum was 42% good, 53% fair, 5% poor. Fifteen percent of the sorghum has headed, normal is 10%. Chinch bug and greenbug populations are growing.

Soybean condition also continues to decline, with 13% of counties reporting good condition, 64% fair and 23% poor. Previous week's soybean condition was 41% good, 54% fair, 5% poor. Ten percent of the crop has podded and is very short. Acreages are in blossom stage and some early fields have begun to pod.

Oats and other small grain harvest is drawing to an end. Reports indicate a good crop and many farmers are stacking and baling the straw. Some acreages were harvested as haylage.

Alfalfa condition continued to decline with 47% of reporting counties rated poor, 46% fair, and 7% good. About 80% of the short second crop has been harvested. Wild hay condition also declined with 42% of counties reported poor and 49% fair.

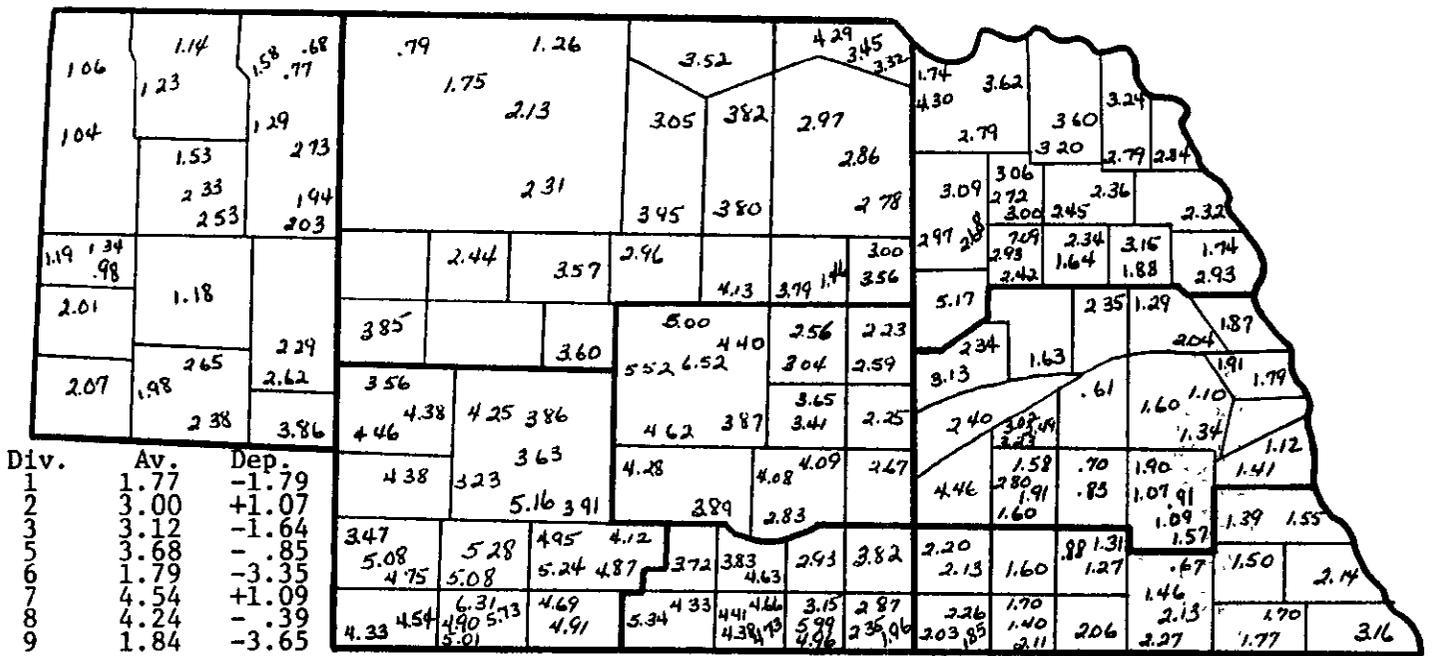
Sugar beets and field beans are making good progress but hot, dry weather makes it difficult to supply sufficient irrigation water. Some hail damage was reported.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies continued to decline and are now short in 93% of reporting counties. Supplemental feeding will be required shortly in most areas of the State if rains don't come soon.

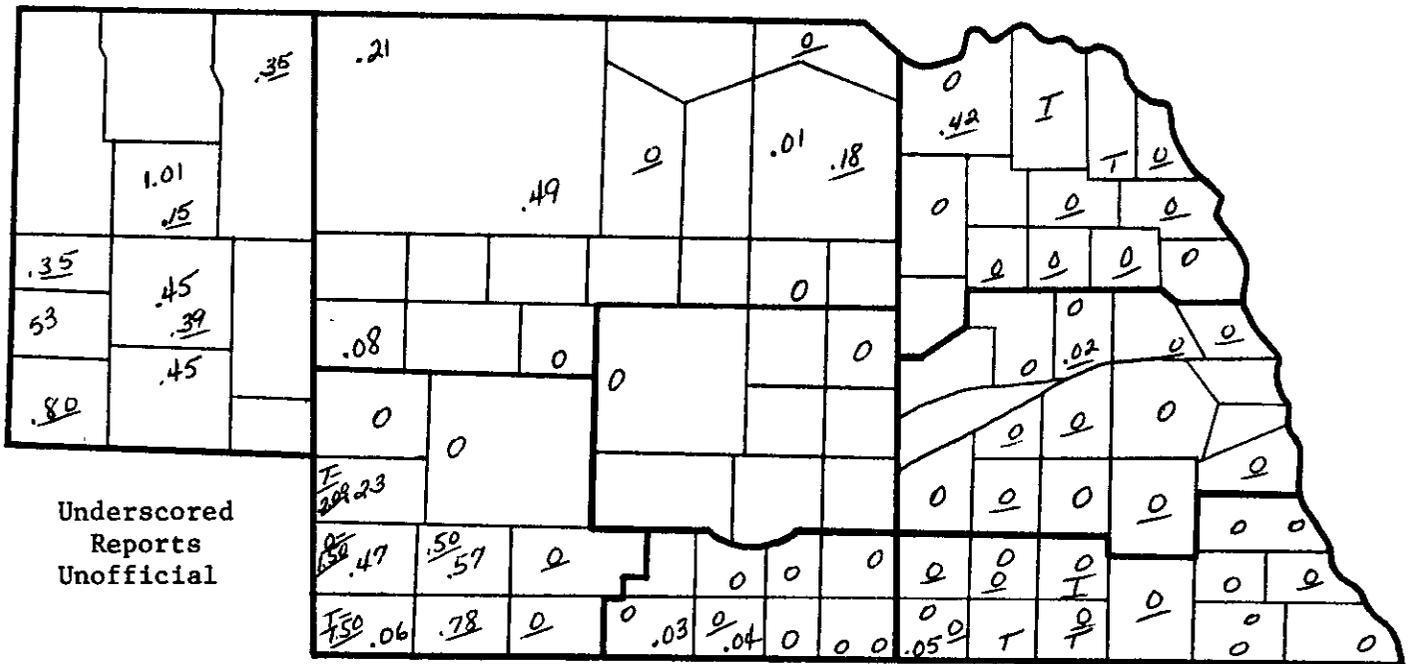
Livestock are in generally good to fair condition with gains slowed and some deaths due to continued hot weather. Because of unusually poor pasture and range condition coupled with short feed supplies, farmers and ranchers are culling their herds and selling cull cows and yearlings in many instances at depressed prices. Flies and pink eye are causing problems.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF JUNE 1974 1/



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

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1974



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1974

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	98	61	80	--	.89
Scottsbluff	98	62	79	+5	.05
Sidney	96	57	--	--	--
NC Burwell	101	58	--	--	0
Valentine	102	63	82	+7	.08
NE Norfolk	104	60	84	+8	.03
Sioux City	103	62	85	+9	0
CEN Grand Island	104	61	84	+7	0
EC Lincoln	106	60	86	+8	0
Omaha	110	59	85	+8	.07
SW Imperial	99	60	--	--	--
North Platte	101	61	80	+5	0

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Precipitation, April 1 - July 19, 1974

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.60	.10	.00	.00	.00	.20	.00	.00
Total since April 1.....	5.70	7.00	10.80	9.50	9.40	8.20	8.50	8.70
Normal since April 1.....	9.00	10.40	12.13	11.45	12.70	9.63	11.25	13.59