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5-12-75

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 5/12/75

Week Ending 5/12/75

WEATHER

Precipitation was light in the form of scattered thunderstorms with amounts less than a third of an inch over the central and west. The extreme east had a few heavy rains in excess of a half an inch. Temperatures were a little above normal, generally less than 5 degrees. Below freezing minimum temperatures occurred in the west early in the week.

Corn planting is in full swing in nearly all areas of the State and at this time over 35% has been planted. This compares to 70% for last year and 25% for normal. Due to dry topsoil, some farmers are waiting for more moisture before planting this spring.

Sorghum and soybean plantings have started in some areas but both are below 5% planted statewide.

CROPS

All areas of Nebraska had weather conducive to fieldwork this past week. Many farmers put in long hours working fields and planting corn. According to the county agents, the average days suitable for fieldwork statewide averaged a little over six days during our survey period. Oat and barley seedings were virtually completed in many counties, averaging statewide 90% each. Some tornado damage to farms was reported in Knox and Stanton County areas last Tuesday.

Alfalfa and wild hay are both in mostly fair to good condition. Alfalfa weevils have been showing up in the southern two-thirds of the State with some damage reported. Several county agents indicated farmers would cut early and then spray for weevils. The University also recommends cutting early if "spring black stem" or "common leaf spot" occur in the field.

Sugar beet planting is nearing completion in the west. A few reports of high winds in the southwest were received, causing some wind damage to the new beets.

Winter wheat is in mostly fair to good condition statewide. The average weighted condition for the State averaged 73% compared with 75% a week ago and 83% a year ago at this time. Reports ranged from poor to excellent with excellent ratings in the central, east central, and southeast districts. Weeds are causing problems in thin areas of fields. As of now, nearly 20% of the wheat has jointed, with the east central and southeast districts having the greatest percentage. Wheat continues to need additional moisture but has been making good growth.

Topsoil moisture supplies were short in 44%, adequate in 55%, and surplus in 1% of the counties reporting as of last Friday. Subsoil moisture supplies were short in 78% and adequate in 22% of the counties reporting. This compares with 15% short a year ago.

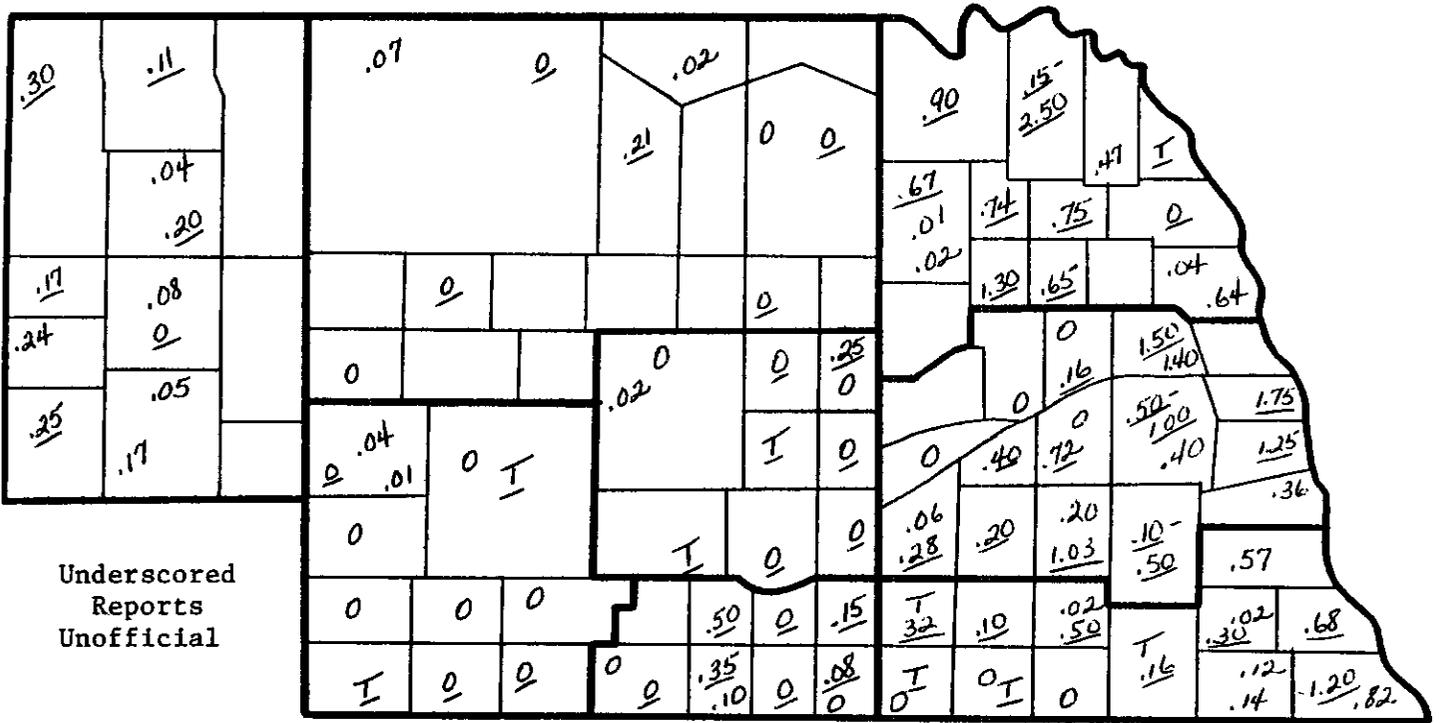
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies are short in 67% of the counties reporting, an improvement over last week. Pastures are growing and greening up but still need more rain. Some areas are still lacking adequate new growth.

Precipitation, April 1 - May 9, 1975

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.10	.10	.20	.20	.40	.10	.00	.10
Total since April 1.....	1.70	1.60	4.20	3.10	4.20	1.30	3.20	3.30
Normal since April 1.....	2.49	2.85	3.31	3.10	3.56	2.60	3.09	3.77

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1975



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, MAY 11, 1975

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	78	39	56	--	.13
Scottsbluff	77	35	55	+1	.17
Sidney	82	31	54	--	.27
NC Burwell	82	35	61	--	.22
Valentine	82	37	58	+4	.48
NE Norfolk	84	49	63	+6	.70
Sioux City	85	48	65	+7	.25
CEN Grand Island	80	35	61	+3	.01
EC Lincoln	82	43	63	+4	.34
Omaha	85	48	66	+6	1.76
SW Imperial	--	--	--	--	--
North Platte	82	32	66	0	.34

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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