

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

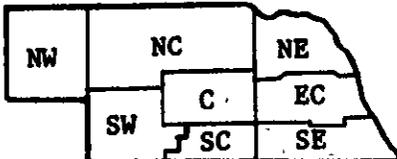
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For Week Ending 4/21/85

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## WEATHER

Temperatures were ten to fifteen degrees above normal west and fifteen to twenty degrees above east. Precipitation averaged around a quarter of an inch across the State with a few heavier showers near an inch and a half over northeast Nebraska.

## GENERAL

Fieldwork in Nebraska advanced rapidly last week as mild conditions persisted across the State. Small grain seeding was almost completed and several farmers had begun planting corn. Tillage operations were in full swing with many producers applying fertilizer and incorporating pre-emergence chemicals during seedbed preparation. Planting of sugar beets was progressing rapidly in western Nebraska. Warm, dry winds blowing across the State caused further loss of topsoil moisture. Gusting winds during the latter part of the week resulted in blowing soils in uncovered fields and sandy areas. The number of days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 87% short and 13% adequate. Subsoil moisture rated 24% short and 76% adequate. A year ago, topsoil moisture rated 70% adequate and 30% surplus. Subsoil supplies were 67% adequate and 33% surplus.

## CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 41% fair, 58% good and 1% excellent. Early growth of the 1985 wheat crop has been good with no real signs of drouth stress yet. However, lack of moisture is becoming more of a concern. Soil-borne mosaic was again reported as being spotty in the east central district. Treatment for weed infestations continued across southern Nebraska.

Oat seeding was 98% complete last week compared to 25% last year and 50% average. Later planted oats now being seeded is for a nurse crop for alfalfa seedings.

Corn planting began earlier than normal this year and by week's end, less than 5% of the corn was planted. This time last year planting had not yet begun. Comparison with the 5-year average, also shows no corn planted by this date. With continued warm temperatures, corn planting is expected to increase rapidly.

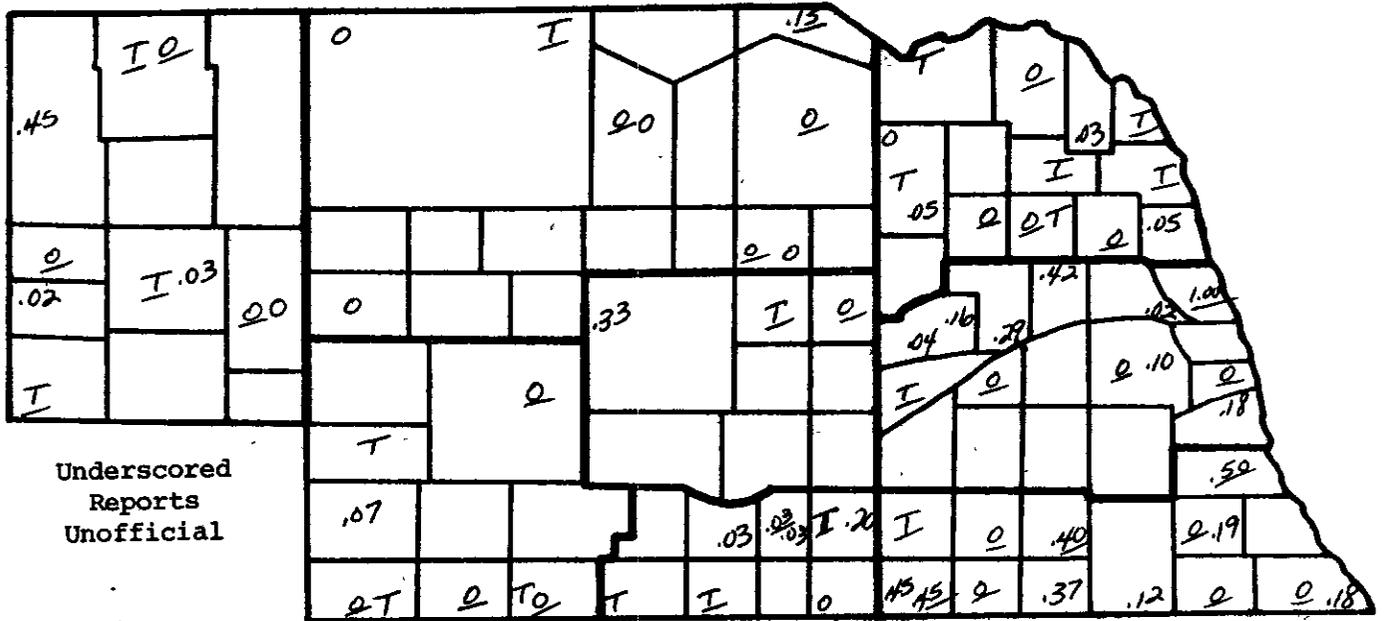
## LIVESTOCK

Cattle were being moved to cool season pastures but producers were supplementing feeding with hay. Rain is needed to spur growth of pasture and range. The calving season was beginning to wind down with reports of little or no difficulties.

### Precipitation, April 1 - April 19, 1985

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.13	0	.02	.33	.17	.02	.05	.26
Total since April 1.....	.38	.30	.67	.60	.71	.38	.70	.94
Normal since April 1.....	.96	1.15	1.46	1.24	1.58	1.02	1.22	1.58

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 1985



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1985

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <sup>1/</sup>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	87	32	58	--	.13
Scottsbluff	87	35	57	+10	.37
Sidney	85	31	56	--	.34
NC Ord	90	38	68	--	0
Valentine	92	33	60	+13	.63
NE Norfolk	92	41	69	+19	1.43
Sioux City	91	38	70	+19	.69
CEN Grand Island	93	41	69	+17	.73
EC Lincoln	88	37	67	+14	.17
Omaha	88	39	69	+17	.27
SW Imperial	--	--	--	--	--
North Platte	89	35	63	+14	.28

<sup>1/</sup> Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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