

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

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51 1985

For Week Ending 5/5/85

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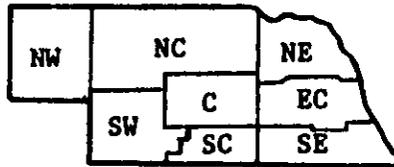
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WEATHER

The week was warm with showers at the beginning and end. Rainfall was widespread and ranged from a few hundredths in the northern Panhandle and north central up to two inches in the south. The average temperatures ranged from five to eleven degrees above normal.

GENERAL

Showers early in the week kept fieldwork in Nebraska at a standstill until the week's end. By Thursday, however, some producers continued seedbed preparation and corn planting on soils with good drainage. For most producers, the week was spent preparing machinery and supplies and waiting for soils to dry. Recent rains and reduced winds have alleviated some wind erosion experienced in the past few weeks. Generally, the rainfall was gentle enough to limit runoff, replenish topsoil moisture supplies, and assist seed germination as planting continues. The number of days suitable for fieldwork was 2.4.

Topsoil moisture condition was 4% short, 78% adequate and 18% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 11% short, 76% adequate and 13% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture rated 20% adequate and 80% surplus. Subsoil supplies were 47% adequate and 53% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 19% fair, 73% good and 8% excellent. The week's rains moved much more of the crop to a good rating than a week ago. Many wheat fields in the northwestern half of the Panhandle are still needing more moisture. Jointing of the wheat crop reached 45%, far ahead of 6% last year and the 25% 5-year average. Weed control measures were still being taken for pennycress and some broadleaf weeds.

Corn planting resumed late in the week reaching 15% by Sunday. This compares to 1% last year and 20% average. Planting was most advanced in southeast, south central and western counties.

Sorghum planting was just underway at 1%, equal to the 5-year average. Last year, planting had not yet begun.

Alfalfa condition rated 17% fair, 70% good and 13% excellent. Anthracnose infections were reported in central and north central Nebraska. Winterkill and uneven growth along with several disease related concerns were reported in the northeastern district. Wild hay condition was 22% fair, 75% good and 3% excellent.

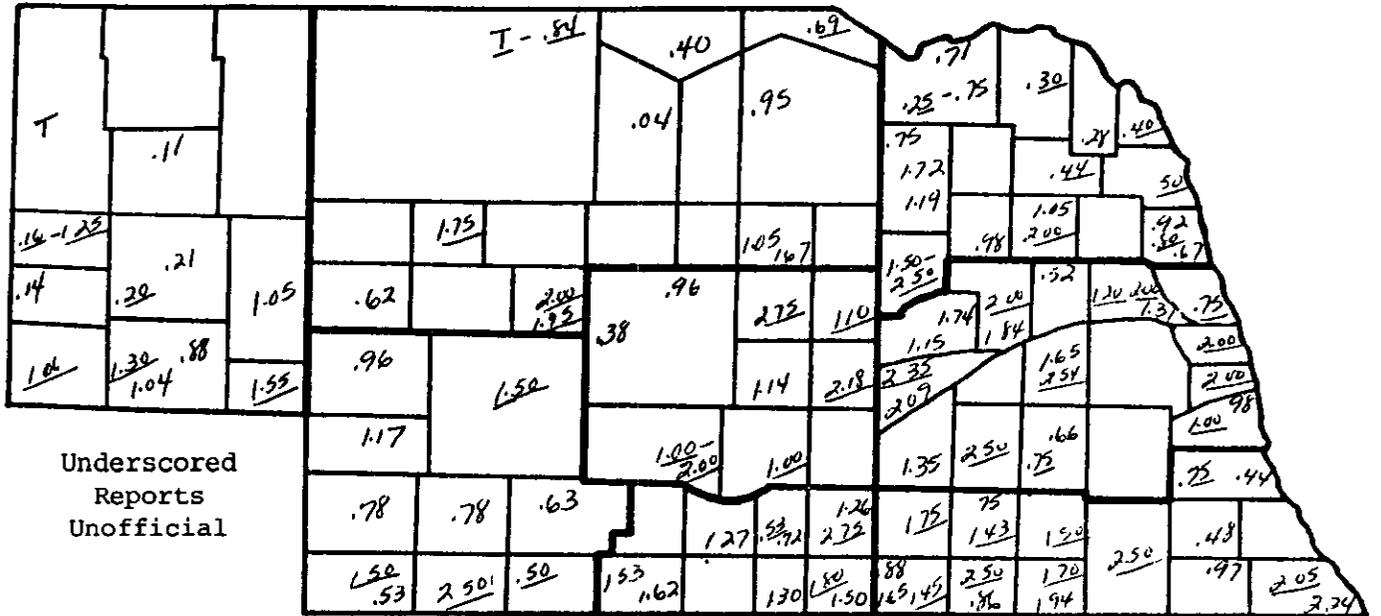
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition rated 13% short, 86% adequate and 1% surplus. Recent moisture has spurred pasture growth. Producers were busy moving cattle to pastures.

Precipitation, April 1 - May 3, 1985

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.49	.79	.92	.83	1.33	.81	1.31	1.13
Total since April 1.....	1.53	3.17	6.05	3.81	4.67	2.33	3.96	3.38
Normal since April 1.....	1.94	2.31	2.67	2.47	2.93	2.06	2.46	3.04

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, May 3, 1985



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1985

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	91	34	64	--	.02
Scottsbluff	88	39	62	+10	.18
Sidney	84	40	60	--	2.06
NC Ord	78	43	62	--	--
Valentine	87	36	63	+11	.02
NE Norfolk	80	46	63	+7	.57
Sioux City	80	47	63	+6	.23
CEN Grand Island	80	45	63	+7	1.49
EC Lincoln	80	43	63	+5	1.18
Omaha	80	50	63	+6	.48
SW Imperial	86	42	61	--	.53
North Platte	85	38	61	+7	1.62

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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