

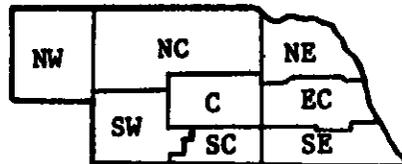
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

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Week Ending May 10, 1987

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WEATHER

The first couple of days were wet and cool; then, warm and dry weather took over. Rainfall ranged from a half inch to two inches with some locally heavy amounts of up to four inches reported. Average temperatures ranged from four to eight degrees above normal.

GENERAL

Rain early in the week stopped most fieldwork and planting activities by Nebraska's farmers. Rain was heavy in some areas, causing erosion from the runoff. The needed precipitation nourished the previously seeded crops as well as the winter wheat, alfalfa and pasture grasses. Warm, windy weather returned by midweek, drying the soil and allowing planting to resume at full speed. Progress was above average for all crops. Fields not yet planted received fertilizer and pre-emergence pesticide applications. Summerfallow tillage and weed spraying on CRP ground was also active. Pastures are providing good grazing as more cattle are turned out. The number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.5.

The rains recharged soil moisture levels as topsoil moisture rated 10% short, 76% adequate and 14% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 2% short, 92% adequate and 6% surplus. Last year, topsoil moisture rated 17% short, 67% adequate and 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 7% short, 88% adequate and 5% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 29% fair, 65% good and 6% excellent. The crop benefited from the rains as 82% reached the jointed stage. Last year, 64% was jointed, while the average was 43%. Russian wheat aphid populations are increasing dramatically in the counties along the Wyoming border causing more spraying. Other areas report a good crop with no major problems.

Corn planted pushed ahead to 52% complete, compared to 62% last year and the 32% average. Some of the earlier planted fields have emerged and have benefited from the rains and warm days.

Sorghum planting was underway with 12% of the crop sown, compared to 5% last year and a 6% average.

Soybean planting was 7% complete, compared to 8% last year and 5% average.

Alfalfa hay condition rated 1% poor, 13% fair, 70% good and 16% excellent. Alfalfa weevils are still a big problem in the Southwest, East Central and Southeast Districts. Wild hay condition rated 26% fair, 64% good and 10% excellent.

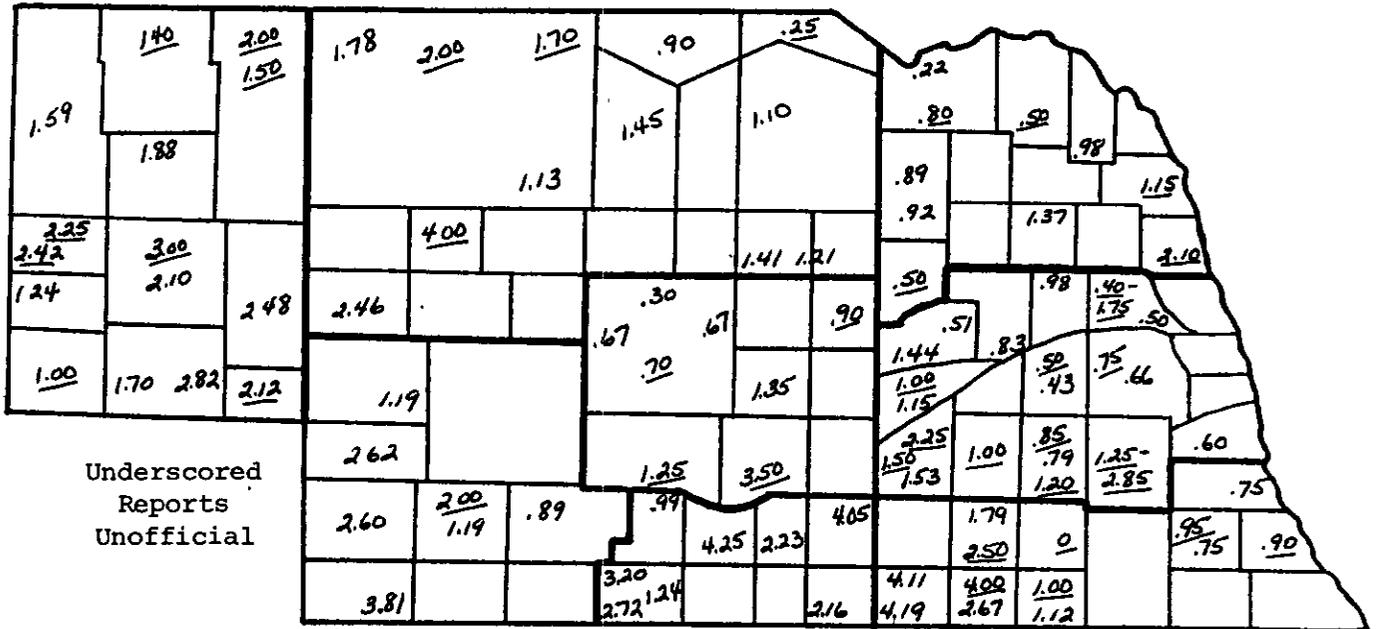
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies rated 2% short, 88% adequate and 10% surplus. Grasses provided good grazing with the added precipitation. More cattle were moved to summer pastures and ranges as calving is nearly complete. Branding calves has been active before moving to the summer grass.

Precipitation, April 1 - May 8, 1987

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.97	1.43	.88	.75	.86	2.05	2.61	2.20
Total since April 1	2.48	2.26	1.50	2.11	1.94	3.35	4.11	4.80
Normal since April 1	2.39	2.76	3.20	2.99	3.45	2.51	2.98	3.64

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1987



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 10, 1987

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	86	39	58	--	.43
Scottsbluff	86	42	59	+5	.92
Sidney	84	40	58	--	--
NC Ord	89	42	62	--	.10
Valentine	90	40	62	+8	.71
NE Norfolk	89	44	63	+6	.34
Sioux City	90	44	64	+6	.69
CEN Grand Island	87	46	62	+4	.46
EC Lincoln	88	40	64	+5	.52
Omaha	87	47	63	+4	.53
SW Imperial	--	--	--	--	--
North Platte	88	40	60	+5	.21

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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