

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending August 23, 1992

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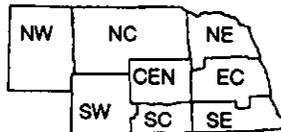
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Division of Agr'l Statistics
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged near normal. Scattered precipitation occurred with the west receiving 1.3 inches in North Platte while the east had only trace amounts.

GENERAL

A week of warmer temperatures and sunshine brought accelerated crop development and a more active hay harvest, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Drier conditions also allowed fall seeded alfalfa and wheat land preparation, as well as long awaited weed control activities. Irrigation systems were started up again in several areas. Other activities included pre-harvest activities of cleaning and spraying grain bins, delivering grain, and equipment readiness activities.

CROPS

Corn condition was rated at 7% poor, 11% fair, 63% good, and 19% excellent. Drier, warmer days last week helped the crop toward maturity, but not at a greater than normal pace. Concerns remained about the days behind normal in development and the days until the first frost occurs. More warmer, sunny days are needed in the coming weeks.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition was rated at 1% very poor, 2% poor 8% fair, 69% good, and 20% excellent. Pod set was near normal as of Sunday, although some reports indicated that cool weather has affected some plants. Weed control continued where possible.

Sorghum condition was rated at 3% poor, 22% fair, 60% good, and 15% excellent. Statewide, heading was near normal, although fields turning color were about 11 days behind normal. Crop maturity before frost remained a concern. Cane harvest continued.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 2% very poor, 23% fair, 66% good, and 9% excellent. Cooperative weather permitted many producers to finish second cutting activities and others to move ahead on third cutting activities. Alfalfa seeding has begun. **Wild hay** condition was rated at 1% very poor, 4% poor, 47% fair, 41% good, and 7% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 98% of normal and compares with 70% of normal last year at this time. Grazing potential remained excellent except for areas damaged by hail storms. The pastures and ranges, as well as cattle, have benefited from this cooler and wetter summer season. Flies continued to stress cattle in several areas with "bunching up" occurring.

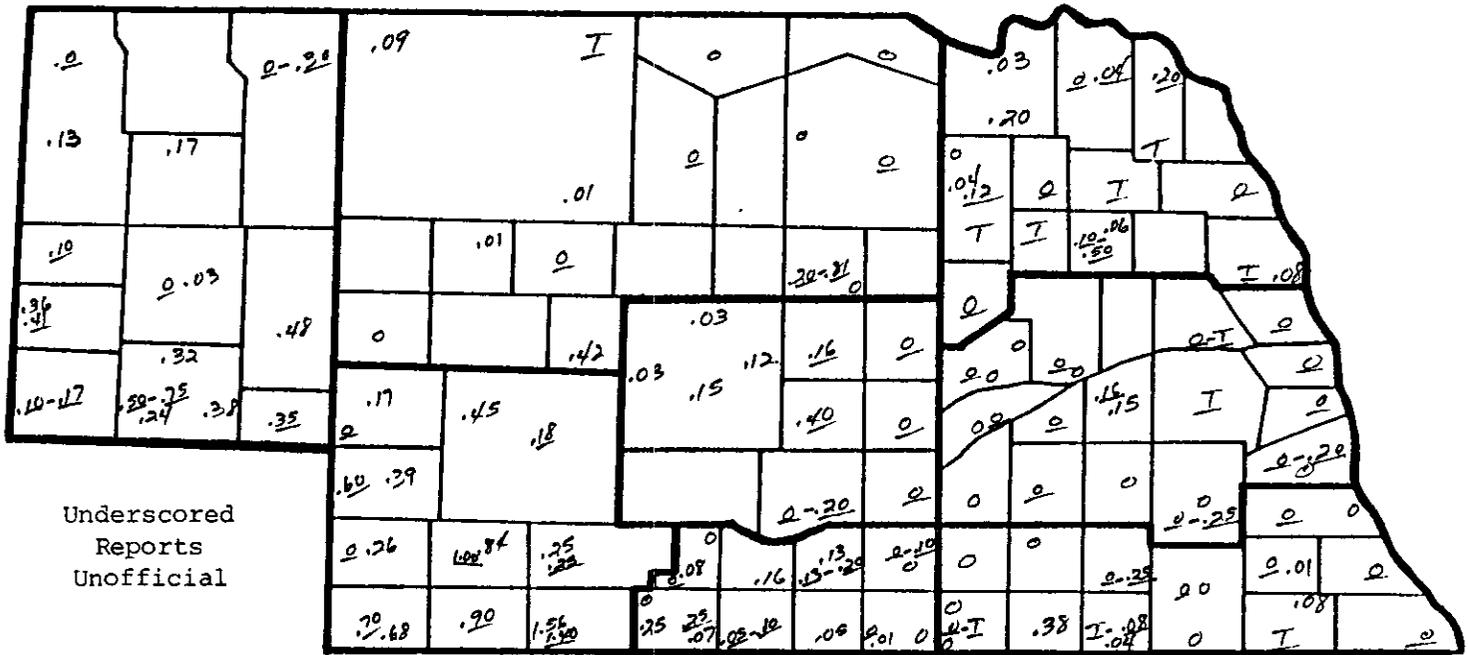
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 23, 1992	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% corn dough stage	42	34	65	43	76	60	91	86	67	40	93	87	
% corn dented	0	1	7	12	15	7	12	13	10	4	54	43	
% sorghum headed	100	73	92	100	91	69	86	94	90	75	90	92	
% sorghum turning color	0	6	10	13	16	6	12	5	10	1	40	31	
% soybeans setting pods	0	65	90	94	89	85	100	99	92	73	94	92	
% alfalfa third cutting	13	45	48	63	59	54	70	57	50	31	66	66	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 21, 1992													
Days suitable	6.6	6.7	6.3	6.6	5.9	4.3	6.7	5.8	6.1	4.8	6.7		
Topsoil moisture - Short (Percent)	31	0	0	20	9	0	42	19	14	3	91		
- Adequate	69	100	94	80	74	89	58	81	81	72	9		
- Surplus	0	0	6	0	17	11	0	0	5	25	0		
Subsoil moisture - Short (Percent)	15	0	0	10	0	0	8	0	4	0	78		
- Adequate	85	100	94	90	91	100	92	100	93	92	22		
- Surplus	0	0	6	0	9	0	0	0	3	8	0		

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1992



Underscored
Reports
Unofficial

Precipitation, April 1 - August 21, 1992

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week26	.06	.03	.08	.02	.58	.07	.05
Total since April 1	10.70	13.43	15.81	12.95	18.60	11.75	13.73	20.30
Normal since April 1	11.31	13.80	15.82	14.88	16.80	12.62	14.96	17.49

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 1992

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches 1/	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	96	50	71	---	.55	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	93	52	69	-2	.95	1891	2023	2146
Sidney	95	52	70	---	.42	1780	1912	2100
NC Valentine	93	52	71	-1	.01	1707	1859	2179
NE Norfolk	87	59	72	-1	T	---	---	---
Sioux City	86	51	70	-3	0	---	---	---
Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1795	1934	2431
Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1705	1831	2372
West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	1894	2037	2485
CEN Grand Island	91	59	73	-1	T	1937	2094	2474
Ord	89	52	70	---	.07	1869	2019	2442
EC Lincoln	90	59	73	-2	0	2124	2276	2566
Omaha	87	60	72	-1	0	1997	2145	2476
Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	1918	2065	2523
York	---	---	---	---	---	1976	2124	2584
SW Imperial	91	56	71	---	.30	---	---	---
North Platte	88	51	70	-2	1.38	**1834	**1976	**2232
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1980	2126	2516
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2079	2230	2690
Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1979	2129	2559

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.