

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
**AGRICULTURAL
 STATISTICS
 SERVICE**

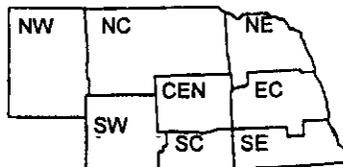
For Week Ending September 1, 1996

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 National Weather Service



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 Institute of Agriculture
 and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week were one to four degrees above normals across the State. Precipitation was generally light and widespread except for a few areas that reported one to two inches. Averages ranged from less than a tenth of an inch to just over an inch of rainfall.

GENERAL

Above normal temperatures last week provided crops with additional heat units needed to move development toward maturity, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall averaged more than one inch in many areas of the west, with locally heavy rainfall amounts of over five inches recorded in the southern Panhandle. Millet was beginning to be cut in the west, but was slow to dry due to the rainfall. The last irrigation before harvest was completed by many producers. Other producer activities included preparing equipment for harvest, soil preparation for fall seeded wheat, and livestock care.

CROPS

The all corn condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 50% good, and 35% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 85% good or excellent and dryland corn rated 84% good or excellent. A total of 89% of the acreage had reached the dough stage or beyond, compared with 76% last year and 88% for the five-year average. Acreage having reached the dent stage advanced to 35% compared with 30% last year and 52% average. Development was indicated as eight days behind normal in most areas. Grey leaf spot has been reported in some fields in the South and East.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition rated 1% poor, 12% fair, 59% good, and 28% excellent. Statewide, 97% of the acreage was setting pods, compared with 95% last year and the average of 97%. Soybeans were beginning to turn color on 2% of the acreage, compared to 5% last year and well behind 20% average.

Sorghum condition moved higher and rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 53% good, and 30% excellent. The amount of acreage turning color was at 26%, ahead of 17% last year, but still behind 41% average.

Dry bean condition rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, and 7% excellent. Statewide, 77% of the crop had turned color compared to 50% last year and 22% of the crop was dropping leaves.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, and 12% excellent. Third cutting was 70% harvested as of Sunday, same as previous year and average. Wet weather during the past months has made 1996 a difficult year for hay producers.

Winter wheat seeding had begun in a few areas, with 2% seeded statewide, in line with last year and 3% average. The additional rainfall boosted germination prospects as seeding gets underway this week.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 6% poor, 26% fair, 54% good and 14% excellent. Calf weaning was not yet underway in most counties. Cattle and hogs continued to do well due to the mild, late summer temperatures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dough Stage	73	85	86	84	90	95	91	95	89	71	76	88
% Corn Dented	22	30	29	25	41	28	42	45	35	16	30	52
% Soybean Turning Color	n/a	1	2	4	2	18	5	0	2	0	5	20
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	7	23	34	48	19	20	23	26	14	17	41
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	32	70	67	80	69	94	80	85	69	57	70	70
% Dry Beans Turning Color	75	55	31	40	n/a	85	n/a	n/a	77	30	50	n/a
% Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	20	8	5	5	n/a	28	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	9	n/a
% Wheat Sown	2	11	10	0	0	2	0	10	2	n/a	2	3

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 30, 1996

	5.2	6.2	5.8	6.5	5.8	4.3	6.2	4.2	5.6	4.6	6.7
Days suitable											
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
- Short	6	24	29	14	20	2	30	2	18	10	62
- Adequate	85	73	70	81	75	90	68	94	78	83	13
- Surplus	9	3	1	5	5	8	2	4	4	7	0
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
- Short	13	14	13	12	8	4	15	12	12	10	58
- Adequate	85	85	77	81	90	93	76	88	84	87	32
- Surplus	2	1	10	7	2	3	9	0	4	3	0

n/a = not available

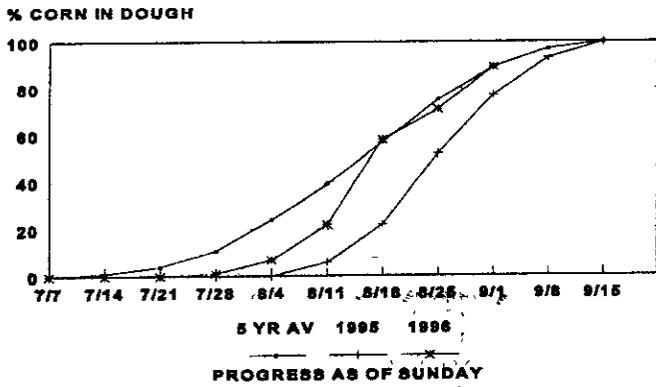
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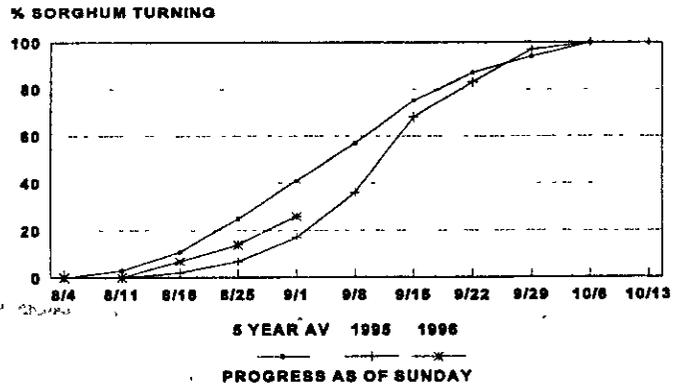
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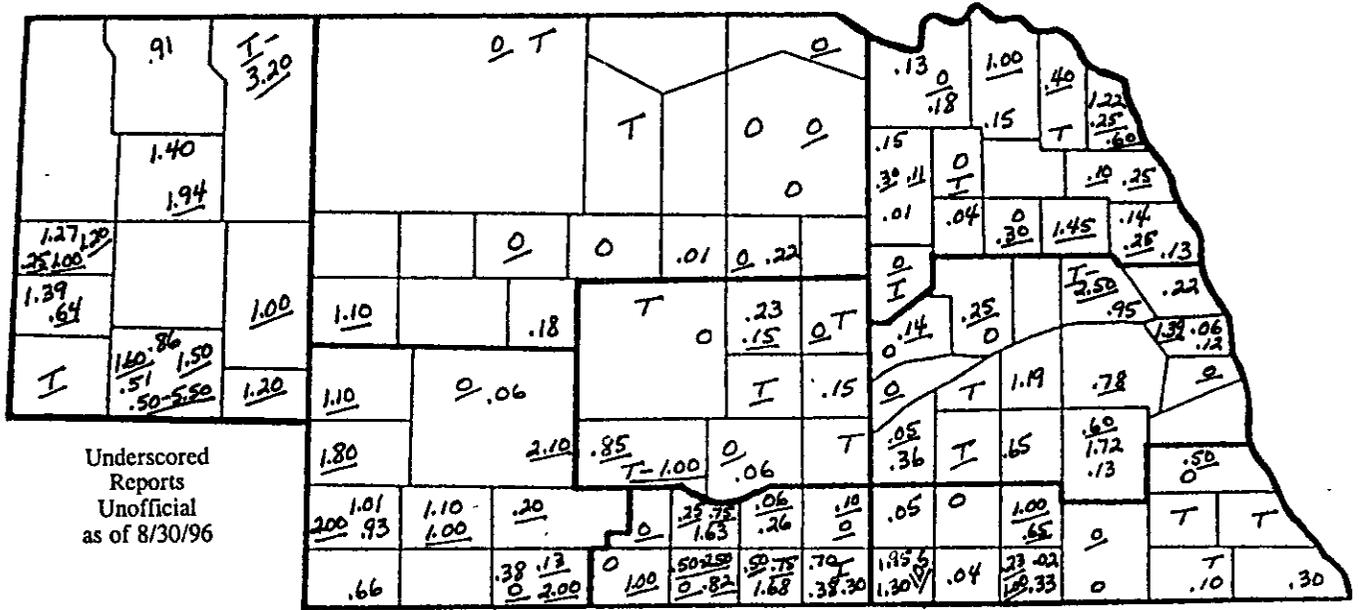
CORN DOUGH



SORGHUM TURNING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 31, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.06	.05	.18	.06	.45	.69	.71	.29
Total since April 1	11.78	13.29	17.66	18.37	22.92	17.07	25.69	20.42
Normal since April 1	11.86	14.72	16.51	16.19	17.86	13.71	16.14	18.34
Total as % of normal	99%	90%	107%	113%	128%	125%	159%	111%

**TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1996**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	92	55	72	---	.91	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	90	54	70	+1	1.27	2060	2212	2233
Sidney	89	50	67	---	.51	1972	2114	2166
NC Valentine	96	53	72	+4	T	---	---	---
Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1951	2101	2284
O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1982	2147	2447
NE Norfolk	86	59	72	+2	.04	---	---	---
Sioux City	86	59	71	+1	1.22	---	---	---
Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2031	2197	2557
Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2069	2246	2601
West Point	---	---	---	---	---	2175	2349	2588
CEN Grand Island	87	58	72	+1	T	---	---	---
Ord	88	60	72	---	.23	2104	2274	2534
Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	2233	2405	2607
EC Lincoln	86	61	73	+1	1.72	2395	2588	2886
Omaha	86	62	73	+2	.06	---	---	---
Central City	---	---	---	---	---	2187	2363	2705
Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2317	2498	2732
SW Imperial	83	57	69	---	1.01	---	---	---
North Platte	88	56	70	+1	.06	2114	2271	2411
McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2277	2443	2619
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2270	2443	2615
Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2342	2521	2663
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2406	2589	2627
Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2163	2329	2697

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.