

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending June 29, 1997

Issue: 17-97

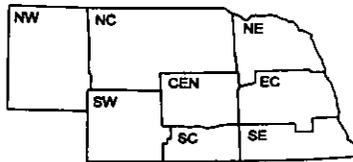
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WEATHER

Temperatures in the Panhandle averaged four degrees below normals for the week while the remainder of the State averaged one to four degrees above normals. Precipitation across the State averaged from near a tenth of an inch to nearly three inches.

GENERAL

Rainfall coupled with above normal temperatures last week promoted rapid crop growth over much of the State, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Unofficial rainfall in east central and southeastern counties averaged over three inches. However, thunderstorms also brought hail and high winds to western, south central and southeastern parts of the State. The storms caused varying degrees of crop and property damage ranging from minor damage to total crop loss in some areas. Producer activities included cultivating row crops, haying, applying chemicals, irrigation preparation activities, moving farm grain to market, and routine chores.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 2% very poor, 12% poor, 39% fair, 43% good, and 4% excellent. As of Sunday, 75% of the crop had turned color, compared with 69% last year and 79% average. The crop rated 1% ripe, compared with 3% last year and 18% average. Reports from the south central part of the State expect test cutting to begin the first of July.

Corn condition rated 2% poor, 16% fair, 66% good, and

CROPS (Cont.)

16% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 83% good to excellent while dryland corn rated 80% good to excellent. Corn growth moved at a rapid pace last week due to rain and above normal temperatures. Producers were busy cultivating and spraying weeds. Corn borer moths continued to be reported across the State.

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, and 11% excellent

Sorghum condition rated 5% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, and 10% excellent

Oats condition rated 4% poor, 30% fair, 57% good, and 9% excellent. The amount of acreage headed was 88%, compared to 87% last year.

Dry bean planting was virtually complete as of Sunday. The crop was 95% emerged, same as last year and average.

Alfalfa condition rated 2% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 43% good and 9% excellent. The first cutting was 94% harvested as of Sunday, compared with 94% last year and 96% average. Rainfall received last week aided growth and improved prospects for the second cutting of alfalfa. Wild hay condition rated 1% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 49% good, and 9% excellent

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 12% poor, 24% fair, 60% good, and 3% excellent. Overall, pastures looked good but south central counties needed more rain to promote continued growth. Reporters continued to voice concerns regarding short hay supplies.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JUNE 29, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning	56	50	64	51	79	96	95	96	75	50	69	79
% Wheat Ripe	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	3	1	n/a	3	18
% Oats Headed	75	96	86	92	91	99	95	97	88	62	87	n/a
% Dry Beans Planted	100	100	100	100	n/a	99	n/a	n/a	100	96	100	100
% Dry Beans Emerged	97	100	100	100	n/a	90	n/a	n/a	95	77	95	95
% Alfalfa First Cutting	71	98	99	96	99	99	100	100	94	83	94	96
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JUNE 27, 1997												
Days suitable	4.6	6.1	4.4	6.1	2.3	4.8	5.0	1.5	4.2	6.0	5.5	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	0	2	0	4	12	0	1	8	0	
- Short	7	18	17	41	11	17	38	4	17	34	24	
- Adequate	80	82	83	57	84	76	35	71	74	56	72	
- Surplus	13	0	0	0	5	3	15	25	8	2	4	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	2	1	0	0	
- Short	8	11	13	32	6	23	36	14	15	32	6	
- Adequate	80	89	86	67	89	75	52	84	81	67	89	
- Surplus	12	0	1	1	5	0	1	0	3	1	5	

n/a = not available

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PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JUNE 28, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week57	53	89	08	1 78	.86	1.35	2.87
Total since April 1	10.46	8 20	9 61	6 94	9 24	8 17	7 54	11 04
Normal since April 1	7 60	8 79	10.20	9 84	10 90	8 34	9 60	10.74
Total as % of normal	138%	93%	94%	71%	85%	98%	79%	103%

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1997**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15			
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	Max	Min							
NW	Chadron	97	46	71	---	---	---	---	
	Scottsbluff	96	47	71	-4	40	757	918	863
	Sidney	97	47	71	---	20	700	855	858
NC	Valentine	98	46	72	+1	72	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	692	852	944
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	713	894	1029
NE	Norfolk	94	54	76	+3	.38	---	---	---
	Sioux City	94	55	77	+4	.77	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	737	931	1057
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	719	913	1042
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	794	996	1106
CEN	Grand Island	93	59	77	+3	.05	786	980	1087
	Ord	93	59	77	---	0	747	939	1067
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	811	1003	1077
EC	Lincoln	92	62	77	+2	3.43	845	1054	1196
	Omaha	90	58	76	+2	1.02	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	796	995	1100
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	838	1042	1161
SW	Imperial	96	51	74	---	.65	---	---	---
	North Platte	94	51	74	+3	24	787	963	976
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	868	1053	1015
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	799	984	1068
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	854	1060	1075
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	830	1030	1194
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	816	1007	1094

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.