NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending May 9, 1999

NASS NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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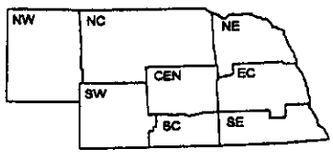

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures across the State averaged one to three degrees below normals for the week. Precipitation was widespread with an average ranging from twenty-two hundredths in the Southwest District to two inches in the North Central District.

GENERAL

Cloudy, wet conditions continued for most of the week, limiting the planting progress across the State, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Severe weather produced tornados which damaged a farmstead and three center pivot irrigations in the North Central District. Heavy rainfall caused minor erosion in highly erodible land. Patience was becoming an issue with farmers about the reoccurring cloudy, wet conditions until the latter part of the week when sunny, dry conditions covered the State. Army cutworms and alfalfa weevils were still a problem in some counties. Producer activities included routine chores, corn planting, hauling grain, applying fertilizer and pre-plant chemicals, moving cattle to pastures, and livestock care.

CROPS

Corn planted moved slowly to 27% complete, behind 77% last year and 10 days behind 56% average. With recent weather conditions, there has been little or no planting progress in portions of the State. Only 2% of the crop had emerged, compared to 7% last year and 5% average.

Soybean planting was just beginning with 1% planted, compared to 10 % in 1998 and 5% average.

Winter wheat condition continued to move higher and rated 2% poor, 16% fair, 67% good and 15% excellent. Wheat jointed was at 66%, ahead of 50% last year, and average.

Oats planted was at 98% complete, not far behind 100% last year. Oats emerged was at 90%, ahead of 74% last year.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 4% poor, 17% fair, 63% good and 16% excellent. Cool season grasses continued doing well, but warmer temperatures were needed to boost development. Feedlots were still muddy. The cool, wet conditions were causing health problems in young calves. With calving complete, cattle were moving and filling the pastures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 9, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	PERCENT											
% Corn Planted	23	34	16	32	30	32	28	33	27	14	77	56
% Corn Emerged	0	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	2	0	7	5
% Wheat Jointed	38	46	32	68	73	93	81	82	66	52	50	50
% Wheat Headed	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	n/a	0	0
% Oats Emerged	71	96	93	92	95	81	95	98	90	80	74	n/a
% Soybean Planted	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	10	5
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 7,1999												
Days Suitable	3 2	1 6	1 8	1 4	2.0	4 4	1 6	1 3	2 1	1 8	6 4	
Topsoil Moisture - Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
- Short	2	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	1	1	36	
- Adequate	88	71	62	67	62	92	49	44	65	85	59	
- Surplus	10	29	38	33	38	3	50	56	34	14	1	
Subsoil Moisture- - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
- Short	7	1	0	2	1	10	14	3	4	6	14	
- Adequate	92	99	86	74	65	90	73	86	83	90	80	
- Surplus	1	0	14	24	34	0	13	11	13	4	3	

n/a = not available

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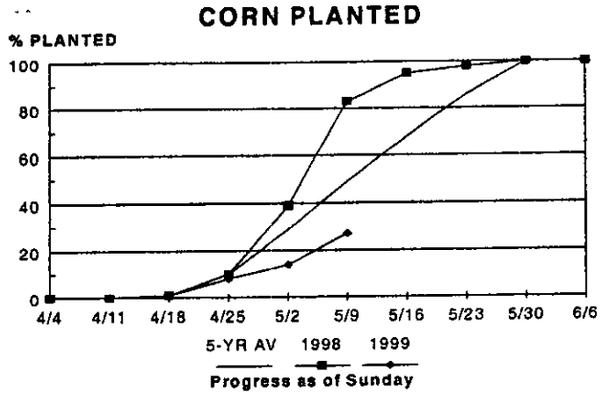
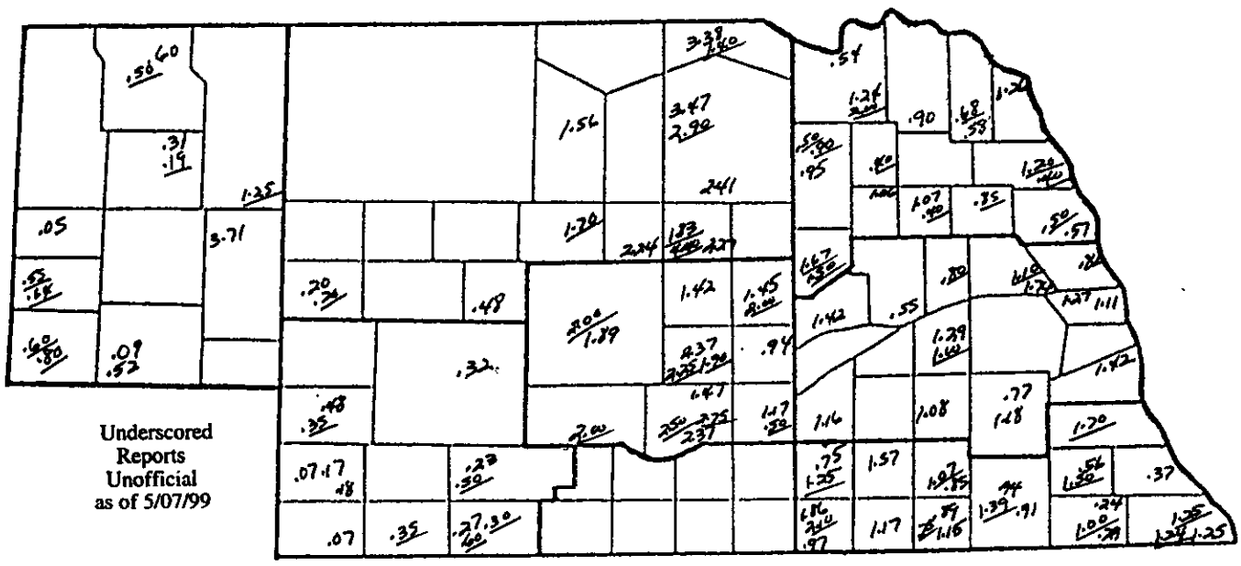
CORN PLANTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1999



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 8, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.88	2.00	91	1.64	1 13	.22	1 50	92
Total since April 1	4.44	5.54	6 23	6 07	6 28	3 17	5.84	6 07
Normal since April 1	2.57	3.00	3 42	3 35	3.76	2.68	3.06	3 81
Total as % of normal	173%	185%	182%	181%	167%	118%	191%	159%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1999

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	76	30	52	---	60	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	77	28	51	-2	05	53	128	168
	Sidney	76	29	49	---	09	45	108	168
NC	Valentine	79	30	52	-2	1 29	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	46	125	176
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	43	116	189
NE	Norfolk	77	41	55	-2	1.06	---	---	---
	Sioux City	77	44	56	-2	1 26	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	44	130	191
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	40	112	194
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	49	133	203
CEN	Grand Island	77	36	55	-3	1 17	51	141	204
	Ord	75	39	54	---	1.42	49	131	199
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	54	138	203
EC	Lincoln	80	39	57	-1	1 18	58	147	214
	Omaha	76	42	56	-2	1.11	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	53	141	204
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	52	145	211
SW	Imperial	79	34	55	---	17	---	---	---
	North Platte	77	28	53	-2	32	55	138	192
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	59	149	200
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	62	157	202
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	70	183	207
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	57	146	214
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	54	140	205

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.