

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

For Week Ending April 16, 2000

Issue: 07-2000

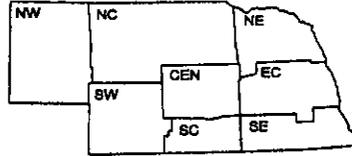
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## WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged near normals in the Panhandle while the remainder of the State averaged two degrees below normals. Precipitation across the State ranged from traces to one inch and sixty-nine hundredths at Orchard

## GENERAL

Spring planting preparations continued across the State this past week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Precipitation in the form of rain and snow fell over the weekend across the eastern half of Nebraska. Amounts varied but most totals were one inch or less. Minimal fieldwork was performed last week as producers attempted to keep as much moisture in the soil as possible. Dry pasture conditions remained a concern and grass fires were a reality in some areas. Other producer activities included equipment preparation and calibration, fertilizer applications, corn planting, and livestock care

## CROPS

Winter Wheat crop rated 4% very poor, 12% poor, 31% fair, 49% good, 4% excellent. As of Sunday, 14% of the crop had jointed, well ahead of last year at 2% and the five-year average at 2%.

## CROPS Cont.

Additional moisture continues to be needed to ensure proper plant growth and development

Oat planting progressed to 91% complete by week's end, well ahead of 69% last year and 46% for the five-year average. Fields were 39% emerged, but dry topsoil conditions have slowed the process. Last year at this time 31% had emerged, with the five-year average at 12%. Condition of the emerged stands declined and rated 2% very poor, 24% poor, 57% fair, 16% good, and 1% excellent.

Corn planting made a limited start with 4% seeded to date. This compares with 1% last year and less than 1% for the average. Some producers are planning to wait for additional moisture before starting to plant.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition was rated at 21% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 12% good, and 1% excellent. Calving was 88% complete to date. Last year at this time, 85% of the State's cow herd had calved. Continued mild weather continues to favor the new calves as spring calving nears completion. The continued dry weather conditions has slowed green-up of pastures and raised concerns about grass growth this spring.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 16, 2000	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	PERCENT											
% Wheat Jointed	3	2	n/a	n/a	10	16	22	46	14	6	2	2
% Corn Planted	0	0	2	4	3	1	1	11	4	0	1	0
% Oats Sown	90	86	90	90	91	90	99	96	91	83	69	46
% Oats Emerged	40	21	31	30	41	37	65	60	39	21	31	12
WINTER REPORTING AS OF APRIL 14, 2000												
% Cows Calved	93	88	75	90	87	93	94	93	88	83	85	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 14, 2000												
Days Suitable	6.4	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.3	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	2.1	
Topsoil Moisture - Very short	12	73	71	35	29	21	23	21	33	33	0	
- Short	44	18	27	52	49	33	40	56	42	39	3	
- Adequate	44	9	2	13	22	46	37	23	25	28	72	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	
Subsoil Moisture- Very Short	4	44	74	60	55	24	32	72	48	45	0	
- Short	31	42	24	35	37	43	63	19	35	38	6	
- Adequate	65	14	2	5	8	33	5	9	17	17	82	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	

n/a = not available

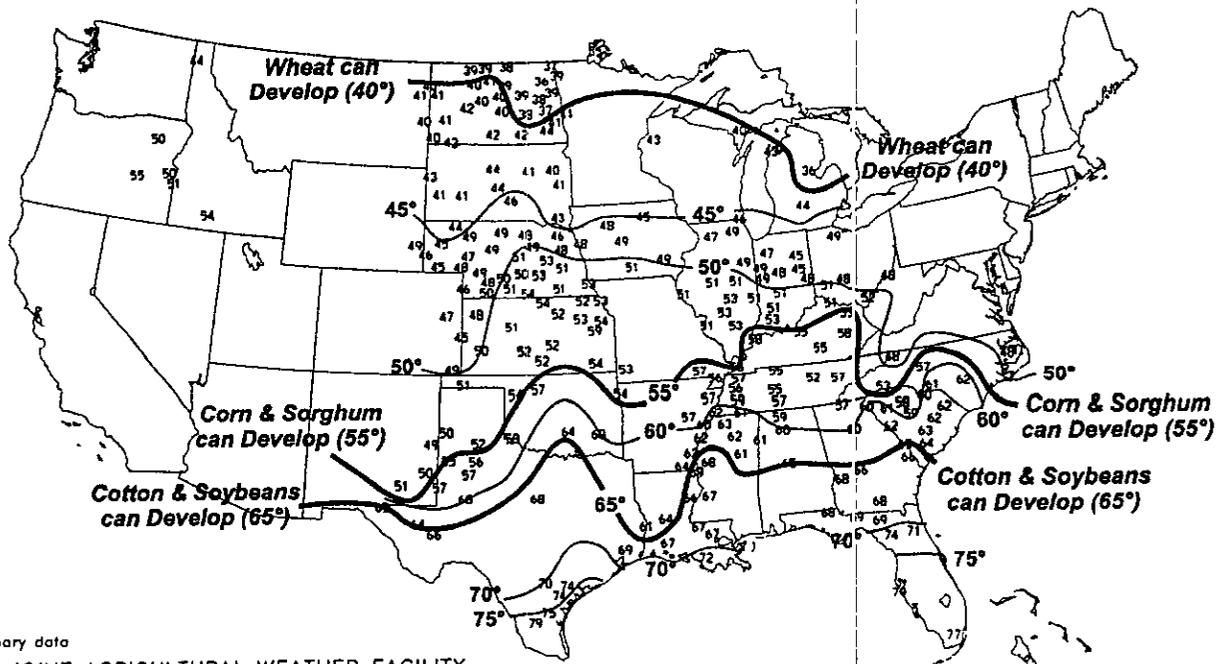
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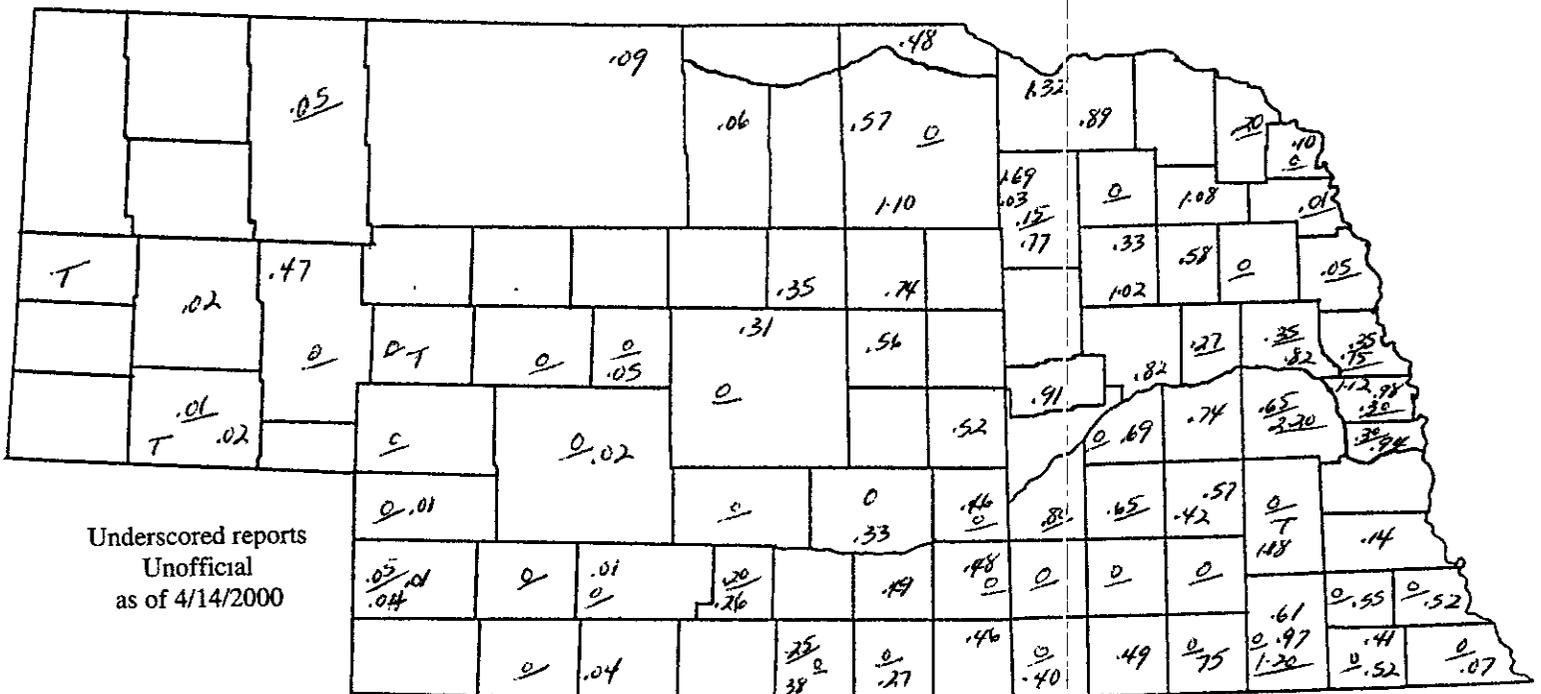
Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

APR 2 - 8, 2000



Based on preliminary data  
NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2000



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - APRIL 15, 2000

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.10	.38	.78	.44	.73	.02	.39	.49
Total since April 1	.13	.42	.83	.45	.75	.03	.40	.53
Normal since April 1	.87	1.05	1.20	1.19	1.35	.90	1.02	1.35

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2000

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	78	18	42	---	.02
Scottsbluff	81	22	46	+1	T
Sidney	78	21	44	---	T
NC Valentine	79	20	43	-2	.09
NE Norfolk	80	28	46	-2	.33
StouxCity	83	28	48	-1	.10
CEN Grand Island	81	26	47	-3	.46
Ord	78	24	45	---	.56
EC Lincoln	83	24	48	-2	T
Omaha	81	34	50	0	.98
SW Imperial	84	24	47	---	.01
North Platte	84	23	46	-1	.02