

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



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For Week Ending August 27, 2000

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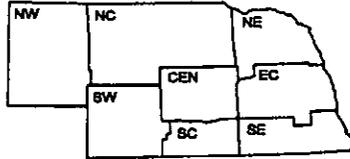
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P O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

Phone: (402) 437-5541
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Internet: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/index.htm>
e-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S. Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures averaged two to seven degrees above normals. Precipitation was scattered across the State and ranged from traces to nearly two inches.

GENERAL

Limited rainfall and above normal temperatures last week continued to stress dryland crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics service. Isolated amounts of rainfall last week may help some dryland crops, but most were too near maturity. Irrigation systems were still in use by some producers while other producers have shut down their systems due to crop maturity or water availability. Reports indicated that some dryland corn and soybeans were being grazed, cut for forage, or hayed in an effort to salvage some feed value from these suffering crops. In western counties, drybean harvest was beginning and millet harvest will start next week. Producer activities included moving grain to market, preparing for fall harvest, and livestock care.

CROPS

Corn condition declined last week and rated 17% very poor, 14% poor, 28% fair, 32% good, and 9% excellent. Irrigated corn condition declined to 58% good to excellent while dryland corn declined to 13% good to excellent. Reports indicated that 92% of the crop was in or beyond the dough stage, this compared with 89% last year and 81% average. About 64% had dented, last year at this time 45% had dented while the

CROPS Cont.

average was 34%. Twelve percent had matured, 1% had reached this stage last year and for the five year average. Seed corn harvest was beginning and field corn harvest is anticipated to begin by mid September.

Soybean condition rated 20% very poor, 23% poor, 34% fair, 21% good, and 2% excellent. By week's end, 34% of the crop had turned color, over three weeks ahead of average. Fifteen percent were dropping leaves, also well ahead of average. Alternative harvest plans were being considered in the worst drought stressed areas.

Sorghum condition rated 19% very poor, 21% poor, 36% fair, 23% good, and 1% excellent. The crop was 56% colored by weeks end, well ahead of last year and average at 23%. About 3% was mature.

Alfalfa third cutting progressed to 82% harvested, this compared to 77% last year and 64% average. Producers who will be able to take four cuttings this summer were 9% complete, none of the fourth cutting had been harvested at this time last year or for the average. Condition of the crop rated 29% very poor, 29% poor, 28% fair, 13% good, and 1% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition declined and rated 50% very poor, 33% poor, 14% fair, and 3% good. Producers continued to move cattle around or off pastures, provide supplemental hay and/or protein, or move cattle to market.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 27, 2000	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
	PERCENT												
% Corn Dough	64	79	88	97	98	87	95	99	92	87	89	81	
% Corn Dent	22	27	59	69	86	50	66	78	64	52	45	34	
% Corn Mature	n/a	0	11	n/a	11	8	20	38	12	6	1	1	
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	29	29	43	57	57	30	25	34	20	5	4	
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	n/a	6	13	17	25	10	12	10	15	9	0	0	
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	15	41	47	51	48	44	61	56	30	23	23	
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	81	39	80	94	95	82	99	100	82	74	77	64	
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	5	0	4	3	11	16	24	31	9	4	0	0	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 25, 2000													
Days Suitable	7.0	7.0	6.3	6.3	6.2	7.0	6.8	5.7	6.4	6.6	7.0		
Topsoil Moisture - Very short	56	48	62	50	31	75	55	54	55	57	9		
- Short	32	42	31	42	42	16	25	34	32	27	42		
- Adequate	12	10	7	8	27	9	18	12	13	16	46		
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	3		
Subsoil Moisture- Very Short	48	51	72	70	60	81	65	85	68	66	7		
- Short	33	48	21	30	32	16	28	15	26	29	34		
- Adequate	19	1	7	0	8	3	7	0	6	6	58		
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		

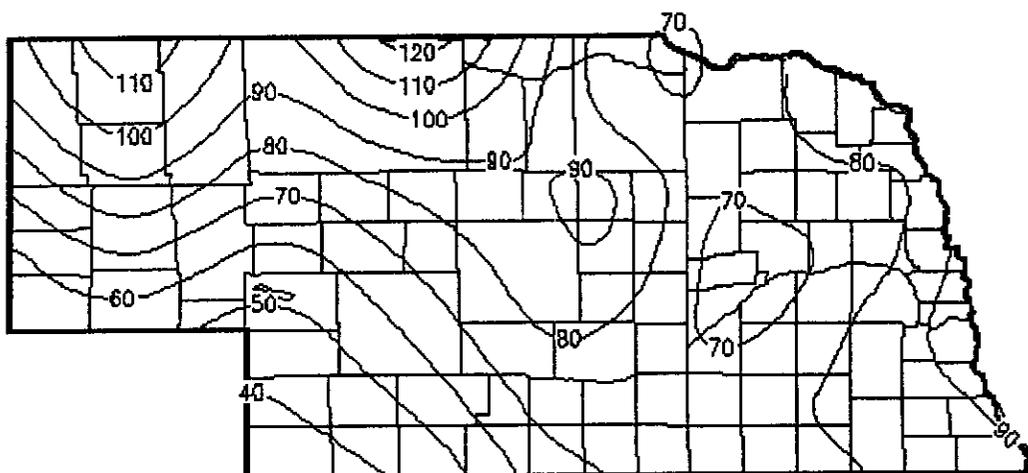
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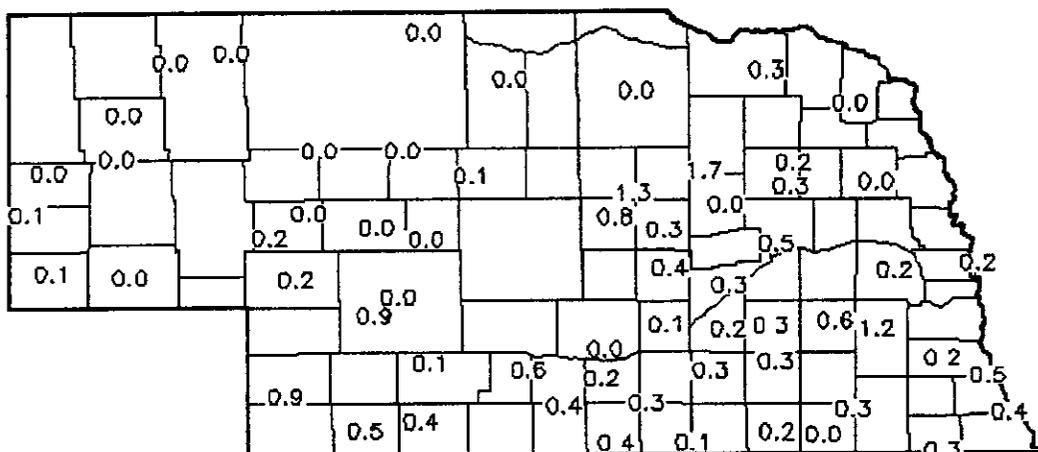
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**PRECIPITATION AS PERCENT OF NORMAL
APRIL 1-AUGUST 27, 2000**



PRECIPITATION IN INCHES FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 27, 2000



Source: High Plains Climate Center

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 27, 2000

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week03	.29	.46	.42	.63	.29	.56	.24
Total since April 1	10.92	12.22	15.44	15.32	16.16	6.96	14.21	14.74
Normal since April 1	11.61	14.32	16.06	15.74	17.32	13.41	15.69	17.75
Total as % of normal	94%	85%	96%	97%	93%	52%	91%	83%

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2000**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	103	52	77	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	98	58	76	+	152	2296	2118
	Sidney	96	53	75	---	153	2263	2174
NC	Valentine	102	52	77	+6	.13	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	165	2288	2290
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	167	2386	2431
NE	Norfolk	93	61	74	+3	.15	---	---
	Sioux City	92	56	73	+2	.31	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	158	2397	2480
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	172	2432	2485
	West Point	---	---	---	---	166	2496	2618
CEN	Grand Island	92	62	75	+3	1.00	177	2611
	Ord	99	56	76	---	.89	173	2525
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	174	2562
EC	Lincoln	92	63	76	+3	1.25	185	2788
	Omaha	90	62	75	+3	.60	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	172	2578
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	173	2602
SW	Imperial	101	58	79	---	.11	---	---
	North Platte	101	58	77	+7	0	166	2493
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	175	2551
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	180	2566
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	194	2890
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	187	2739
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	180	2575

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. N/A = not available.