

Issue NE-CW2802, released July 15, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 14, 2002, condition of dryland crops and pastures declined with the continued hot temperatures and minimal rainfall, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Irrigation systems were in full use to keep up with crop demands, although the continued availability of irrigation water remains a concern. Grasshopper infestations were being treated where crops were affected. Producer activities included irrigation and harvesting of wheat, oats, and hay.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Weekly Weather and Crop reports back to 1947 and current county specific comments can be found at: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged from three degrees below normals to three degrees above normals across the State. Precipitation was very light and limited to the northern Panhandle and the eastern third of the State.

Field Crops Report: Irrigated corn condition rated 60 percent good and excellent, below the five year average of 78. Dryland corn declined and rated 12 percent good and excellent, well below the average of 66. Crop development progressed well with 31 percent silked to date, slightly ahead of last year at 24 and average at 23. A few fields in the Southeast and East Central Districts had reached the dough stage.

Soybean condition declined last week and rated 9 percent very poor, 26 poor, 41 fair, 22 good, and 2 excellent, below last year and average. Fifty percent of the fields had bloomed, a week ahead of last year's 23 and a few days ahead of average at 33.

In 10 percent of the fields pods were being set, ahead of last year at 3 and average at 4.

Sorghum condition declined and rated 8 percent very poor, 27 poor, 48 fair, and 17 good, below last year and average. Two percent of the fields had headed, near the average at 3.

Wheat harvest continued at a strong pace with 80 percent harvested by week's end, about a week ahead of last year at 49 and average at 53. Hot, dry weather continued to push maturity and harvest progress.

Oat harvest progressed to 43 percent complete, ahead of last year at 30 and average at 25. Condition rated 19 percent very poor, 27 poor, 37 fair, and 17 good, below last year and average.

Dry bean emergence was virtually complete at 97 percent, about 2 weeks behind average. Blooms had set on 17 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year's 11 but behind average at 21. Condition rated 1 percent very poor, 14 poor, 38 fair, 43 good, and 4 excellent.

Alfalfa condition declined and rated 25 percent very poor, 32 poor, 26 fair, 16 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year and average. Second cutting activities were 73 percent completed, ahead of last year at 63 and average at 53.

Wild hay condition rated 34 percent very poor, 29 poor, 31 fair, and 6 good.

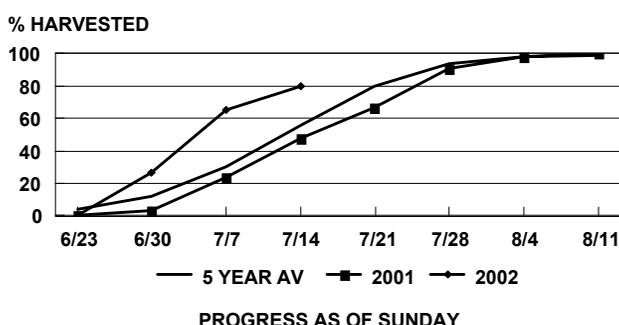
Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions continue to decline and rated 43 percent very poor, 34 poor, 20 fair, and 3 good, well below average. Some producers have had to provide supplemental feedstuffs to livestock and are culling deeper into their herds.

Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of July 14, 2002

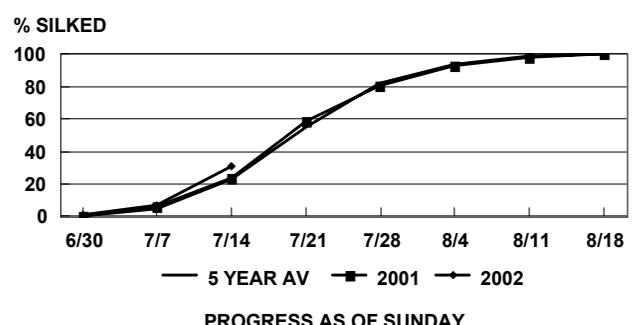
Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% Wheat Harvested	57	95	77	77	92	99	98	100	80	65	49	53	
% Corn Silked	0	2	24	32	34	14	41	50	31	7	24	23	
% Soybeans Blooming	1	20	43	19	54	18	58	63	50	18	23	33	
% Soybeans Setting Pods	1	10	12	6	14	2	7	7	10	1	3	4	
% Sorghum Headed	0	0	5	2	3	0	4	3	2	1	0	3	
% Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	23	83	83	57	90	79	88	95	73	49	63	53	
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	6.3	6.8	6.5	7.0	6.9	6.3	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.8	5.4	5.6	
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	60	39	66	67	51	57	85	83	58	52	10	11	
- % Short	24	30	32	33	41	25	15	17	28	31	31	27	
- % Adequate	16	31	2	0	8	16	0	0	14	15	58	59	
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	3	
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	75	37	58	65	46	66	83	73	59	52	5	11	
- % Short	23	29	40	35	47	28	17	24	30	34	36	24	
- % Adequate	2	34	2	0	7	6	0	3	11	14	59	63	
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	

¹ Data not available.

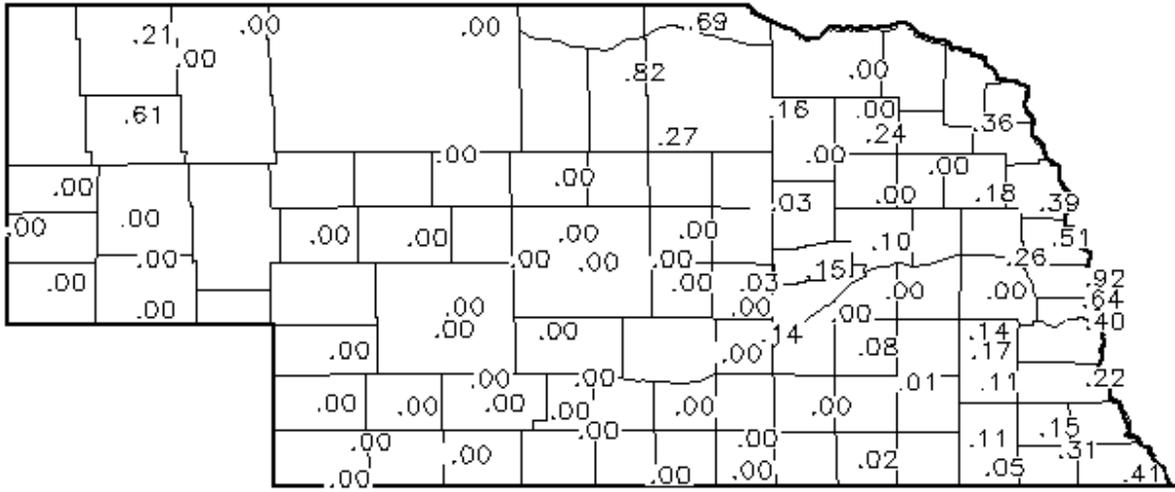
WHEAT HARVESTED



CORN SILKED



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending July 14, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - July 14, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.09	.27	.17	.02	.21	.00	.00	.10
Total since April 1	3.35	5.52	8.48	5.72	9.60	5.03	5.85	9.41
Normal since April 1	8.81	10.51	12.12	11.41	12.58	10.13	11.12	12.74
Total as % of normal	37%	52%	69%	50%	76%	49%	52%	73%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 14, 2002**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	94	49	72	-1	142	1246	1193
Scottsbluff	97	53	76	3	156	1330	1192
Sidney	94	49	74	0	149	1319	1222
NC Ainsworth	95	57	76	1	170	1410	1318
Arthur	96	54	72	-2	146	1311	1287
O'Neill	98	55	74	-2	153	1431	1386
NE Concord	92	57	73	-3	156	1467	1423
Elgin	96	57	74	-2	156	1467	1424
West Point	96	56	75	-3	161	1519	1510
C Grand Island	99	56	74	-2	154	1532	1444
Lexington	101	55	76	0	162	1563	1417
Ord	100	55	75	-1	156	1486	1431
EC Lincoln	100	59	77	-2	174	1680	1588
Central City	94	55	74	-2	159	1548	1468
Mead	97	54	75	-3	164	1607	1565
SW Champion	98	50	73	-2	124	1425	1323
North Platte	100	50	74	-1	153	1468	1338
Curtis	103	52	76	0	158	1499	1362
SC Arapahoe	96	50	72	-2	142	1342	1281
Minden	100	55	75	-1	158	1537	1423
Red Cloud	103	59	78	1	174	1687	1462
SE Beatrice	98	58	76	-3	168	1637	1589
Clay Center	101	58	75	-1	161	1532	1459
Nemaha	101	62	78	-1	179	1715	1618

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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