



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Nebraska Field Office

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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending August 28, 2005, cooler temperatures and widespread rainfall helped improve soil moisture levels and crop conditions, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Rain allowed producers in portions of the state to stop irrigation for a few days, conserving energy costs. Producer activities included irrigating, chopping corn silage, marketing old crops, and preparing for harvest.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal to 2 degrees above with few highs exceeding ninety degrees. Precipitation since April 1 was at or above normal for seven of the eight districts, with the East Central District just slightly behind normal.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 28, 2005

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	7	11	28	40
Short	30	30	43	36
Adequate	61	58	29	24
Surplus	2	1	0	0
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	17	20	40	49
Short	29	33	38	34
Adequate	53	47	22	17
Surplus	1	0	0	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.1	5.2	6.2	6.1

**Field Crops Report:** Corn conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 9 poor, 21 fair, 47 good, and 18 excellent. Irrigated fields improved to 83 percent good or excellent while dryland fields remained at 35. Ninety-five percent of the crop was in the dough stage, ahead of 91 last year and the average at 93. Sixty-nine percent of the crop had denting, ahead of 44 last year and 59 for the average. Three percent of the corn crop had reached maturity, ahead of 1 last year but behind 8 for the average.

Soybean coloring had progressed to 15 percent, ahead of 13 last year but behind 20 average. One percent of the crop had begun dropping leaves. Conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 11 poor, 28 fair, 42 good, and 15 excellent. This remains above average but below last year.

Sorghum conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 11 poor, 30 fair, 45 good, and 10 excellent, better than last year and average. Ninety-eight percent of the crop had headed, ahead of last year and the average at 93. Sorghum coloring was at 47

percent, ahead of last year at 24 and average at 40.

Dry Bean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 27 fair, 52 good, and 12 excellent. Twenty-eight percent had turned color. Twelve percent of the dry bean crop had begun dropping leaves.

Alfalfa conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 15 poor, 36 fair, 36 good, and 8 excellent. Third cutting was 92 percent complete, ahead of last year at 81 and the average at 82. Fourth cutting was 10 percent harvested.

Proso millet harvest progressed slowly to 3 percent, ahead of last year at 2 but behind the average at 9.

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 28, 2005

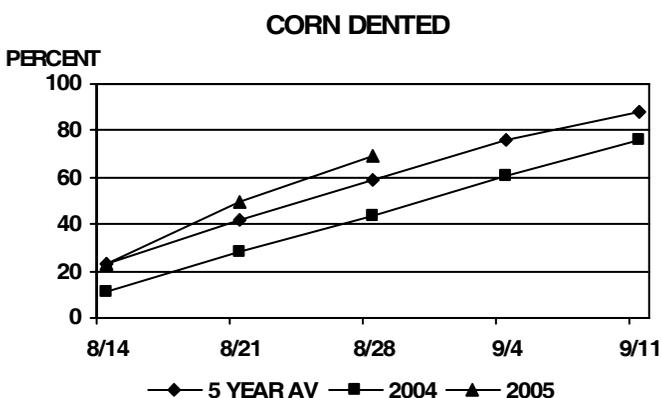
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	92	81	81	82
Corn Dough	95	87	91	93
Corn Dented	69	50	44	59
Corn Mature	3	1	1	8
Proso Millet Harvested	3	2	2	9
Sorghum Headed	98	95	93	93
Sorghum Coloring	47	28	24	40
Soybeans Coloring	15	6	13	20

### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 28, 2005

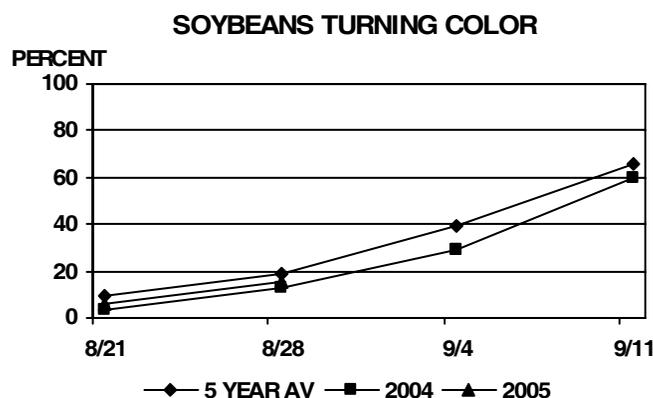
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	5	15	36	36	8
Corn	5	9	21	47	18
Dry Beans	2	7	27	52	12
Sorghum	4	11	30	45	10
Soybeans	4	11	28	42	15

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 6 percent very poor, 17 poor, 37 fair, 37 good, and 3 excellent. Conditions continue to be better than last year and average.

*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm). For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>*

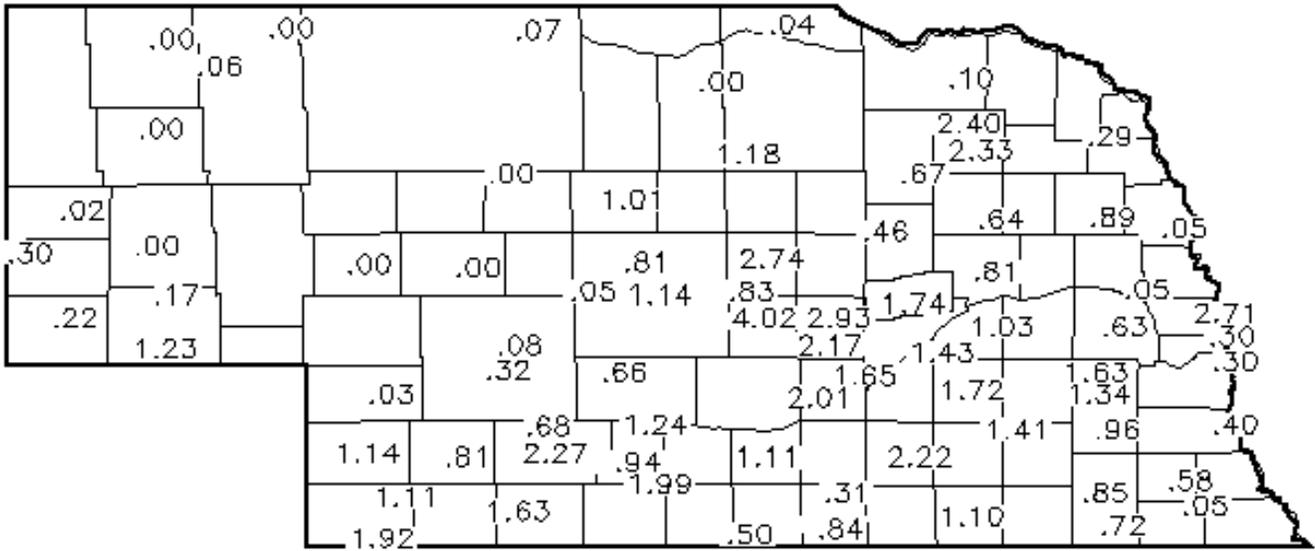


PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY



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**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 28, 2005**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 28, 2005**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.19	.20	.82	1.59	1.14	.94	1.25	.88
Total since April 1	15.64	19.56	19.02	18.45	16.82	14.41	15.55	18.17
Normal since April 1	11.60	14.34	16.42	15.62	17.40	13.78	15.46	18.08
Total as % of normal	136%	137%	116%	118%	96%	105%	100%	100%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, August 28, 2005**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	91	48	69	+1	129	1930	2161
	Scottsbluff	91	48	70	+2	132	2070	2155
	Sidney	88	50	69	0	131	1954	2228
NC	Ainsworth	88	55	71	+1	149	2237	2460
	Arthur	89	53	70	0	139	2071	2374
	O'Neill	88	55	71	0	143	2304	2499
NE	Concord	88	55	70	-1	140	2394	2594
	Elgin	88	57	69	-2	134	2363	2548
	West Point	88	53	70	-3	138	2508	2685
C	Grand Island	88	58	71	0	147	2525	2515
	Lexington	89	60	72	+1	151	2519	2465
	Ord	89	57	71	0	146	2394	2497
EC	Lincoln	90	58	74	+1	165	2832	2755
	Central City	87	54	71	-1	145	2507	2557
	Mead	89	53	73	-1	155	2628	2740
SW	Champion	90	52	70	0	137	2216	2397
	North Platte	91	57	72	+2	149	2318	2428
	Curtis	91	57	72	+2	151	2381	2433
SC	Smithfield	88	58	71	+1	149	2398	2473
	Minden	87	58	71	0	147	2506	2487
	Red Cloud	88	59	73	+2	158	2674	2540
SE	Beatrice	91	59	75	+1	159	2705	2755
	Clay Center	87	57	72	+1	152	2538	2539
	Nemaha	90	59	74	+1	166	2854	2762

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office