



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending April 16, 2006, farmers began to get back into the field as warm and windy conditions began drying out soils, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Most field work involved tillage and application of fertilizers and chemicals in preparation of corn and soybean planting. In the west, planting sugarbeets progressed.

Oat planting drastically increased due to the drier conditions last week and jumped to 73 percent, behind last year at 85 but ahead of the average 62. Oats emerged was at 14 percent, behind 33 percent last year and 19 percent average.

Sugarbeet planting showed good progress from last week and was 21 percent complete, same as last year.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged thirteen degrees above normal. Soil temperatures jumped nearly ten degrees higher during the week and were five to ten degrees above year ago levels.

Corn planted was at 3 percent with much of that taking place in the southeastern part of the state. This is behind last year but equal to the five-year average.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending April 16, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	4	1	0	6
Short	19	10	18	21
Adequate	74	69	81	68
Surplus	3	20	1	5
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	14	13	13	25
Short	34	27	32	39
Adequate	51	59	55	36
Surplus	1	1	0	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.8	2.9	3.6	4.1

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 16, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	3	0	5	3
Oats Planted	73	27	85	62
Oats Emerged	14	3	33	19
Wheat Jointed	13	1	19	9

### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 16, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	2	28	55	15
Wheat	4	8	34	48	6

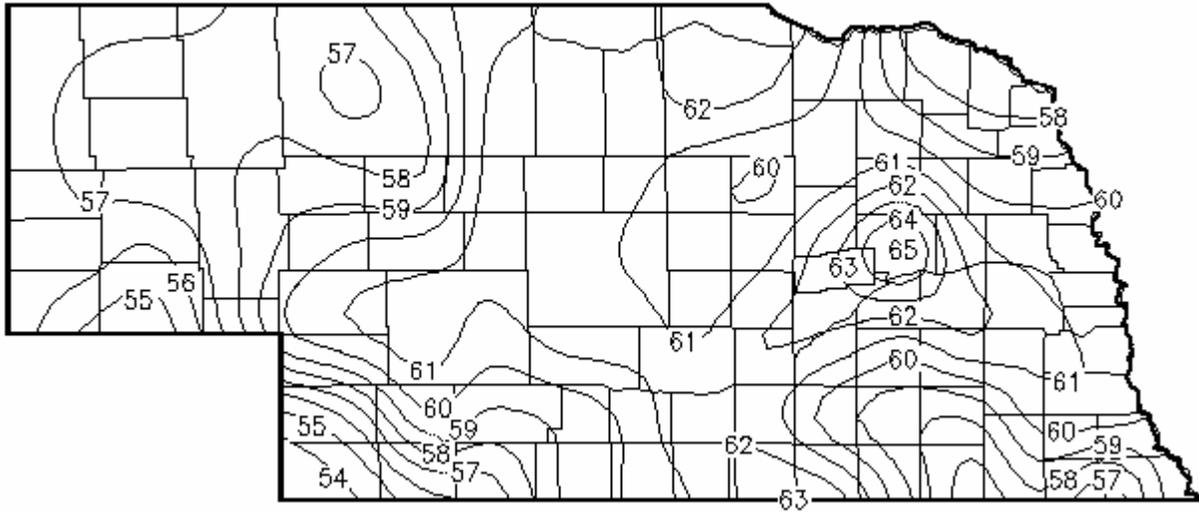
**Field Crops Report:** Wheat conditions were almost unchanged from last week and rated 4 percent very poor, 8 poor, 34 fair, 48 good, and 6 excellent, below last year but above average. Wheat jointed was at 13 percent, behind 19 percent last year, but ahead of the average 9.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 33 fair, 54 good, and 6 excellent, above last year. Cattle and calf condition rated mostly good. Spring calving was 89 percent complete, ahead of year ago levels. Calf losses continued to rate average to below average.

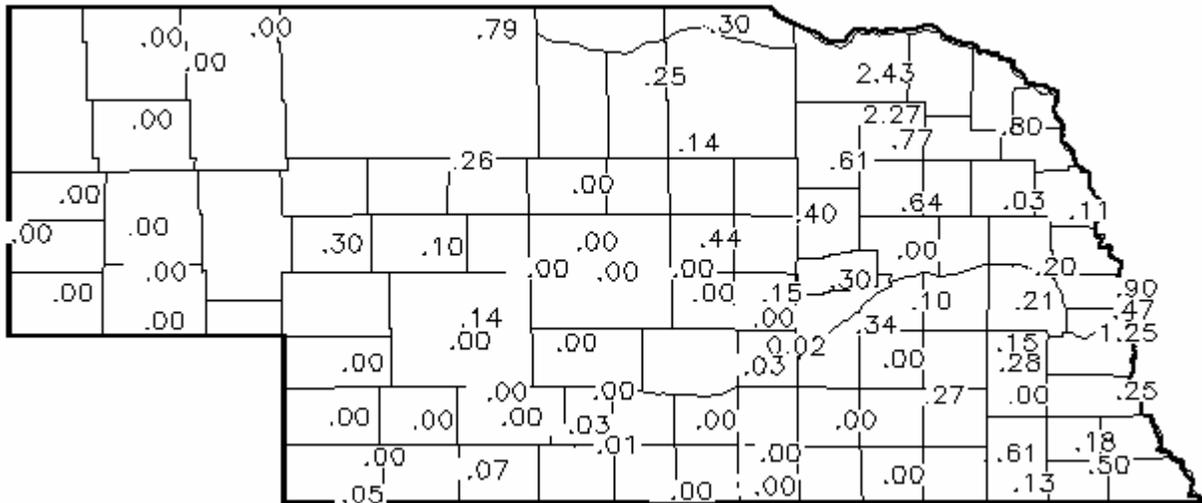
Alfalfa conditions rated 2 percent poor, 28 fair, 55 good, and 15 excellent. This continues to be behind last year.

*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, 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).*

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil  
April 10 – April 16, 2006**



**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 16, 2006**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – April 16, 2006**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.42	1.01	.07	.24	.05	.01	.20
Total since April 1	.59	2.59	2.28	1.00	1.48	.40	.57	1.96
Normal since April 1	.89	1.07	1.29	1.23	1.40	.95	1.03	1.42
Total as % of normal	65%	245%	179%	82%	105%	42%	57%	135%

**Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 16, 2006**

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	85	34	58	+12
	Scottsbluff	88	32	57	+11
	Sidney	84	33	57	+10
NC	Ainsworth	86	41	62	+13
	Arthur	86	40	60	+12
	O'Neill	88	41	62	+13
NE	Concord	89	42	63	+12
	Elgin	89	43	63	+13
	West Point	90	43	64	+13
C	Grand Island	90	40	66	+16
	Lexington	90	36	64	+15
	Ord	90	37	64	+14
EC	Lincoln	88	47	68	+16
	Central City	91	39	65	+15
	Mead	89	44	66	+14
SW	Champion	89	30	58	+10
	North Platte	na	na	na	na
	Curtis	89	34	62	+13
SC	Smithfield	90	40	65	+15
	Minden	91	37	65	+15
	Red Cloud	91	39	65	+15
SE	Beatrice	87	41	66	+14
	Clay Center	90	38	64	+14
	Nemaha	92	50	70	+18

na = Not available.

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