



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

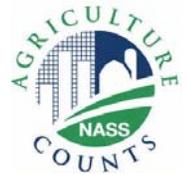
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Mark Harris, Director



Issue NE-CW3006

Released July 24, 2006

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending July 23, 2006, temperatures over 100 degrees added more stress to dryland crops and pastures, according to USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service, Nebraska Field Office. Precipitation toward the end of the week brought relief to crops in the southern third of the state. However, irrigation continued nonstop for many producers in the northern half of Nebraska. In the northwest, lightning caused hundreds of acres to burn in dry areas.

**Weather Summary:** All districts saw triple digit highs for the second week in a row. The Southwest District felt the most heat with highs reported above 110 degrees. The southern third of the state recorded precipitation near 1 inch with amounts of near 2 inches in portions of the southeast.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending July 23, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	35	36	19	26
Short	36	48	43	33
Adequate	29	16	38	40
Surplus	0	0	0	1
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	45	43	16	27
Short	36	46	37	34
Adequate	19	11	47	39
Surplus	0	0	0	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.0	6.0	6.4	6.3

**Field Crops Report:** Wheat harvest was wrapping up at 96 percent complete, ahead of last year's 92 and 87 average.

Corn conditions declined and rated 5 percent very poor, 9 poor, 31 fair, 42 good, and 13 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 70 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 31, both below year ago levels. Eighty-one percent had silked, near last year's 82 and ahead of the average 69. Nine percent of the corn was in the dough stage, just ahead of last year's 8 and 7 average.

Soybean conditions declined and rated 4 percent very poor, 16 poor, 37 fair, 38 good, and 5 excellent, below last year. Seventy-five percent of the fields had bloomed, behind last year's 85 but ahead of the 71 average. Thirty-two percent were setting pods, behind last year's 36 but ahead of the average 21.

Alfalfa conditions rated 16 percent very poor, 25 poor, 33 fair, 24 good, and 2 excellent. This rating continues to be well below last year. Alfalfa second cutting was 93 percent complete, ahead of last year's 88 percent and 85 average.

Alfalfa third cutting was 6 percent complete, behind last year's 8 but ahead of the average of 5. Wild hay conditions declined and rated 22 percent very poor, 26 poor, 35 fair, 16 good, and 1 excellent.

Oats harvested increased this week due to the warm, dry conditions and were 85 percent complete, near last year's 83 but one week ahead of the average 68.

Sorghum conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 10 poor, 38 fair, 41 good, and 8 excellent, which is below last year. Twenty-one percent of the sorghum planted had begun to head. This is ahead of last year's 11 and the average of 10.

Dry beans were blooming on 62 percent of the acreage planted, well ahead of last year's 35 and 38 average. Eleven percent of the dry beans planted were setting pods, ahead of last year and average of 7. Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 8 poor, 40 fair, 49 good, and 3 excellent.

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 23, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	93	87	88	85
Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	6	0	8	5
Corn Silked	81	60	82	69
Corn Dough	9	4	8	7
Dry Beans Blooming	62	24	35	38
Dry Beans Setting Pods	11	2	7	7
Oats Harvested	85	51	83	68
Sorghum Headed	21	4	11	10
Soybeans Blooming	75	67	85	71
Soybeans Setting Pods	32	18	36	21
Wheat Harvested	96	91	92	87

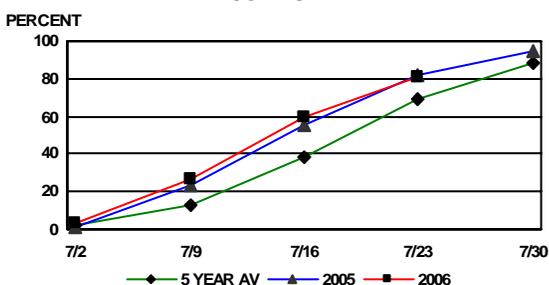
### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 23, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	16	25	33	24	2
Corn	5	9	31	42	13
Dry Beans	0	8	40	49	3
Sorghum	3	10	38	41	8
Soybeans	4	16	37	38	5
Wild Hay	22	26	35	16	1

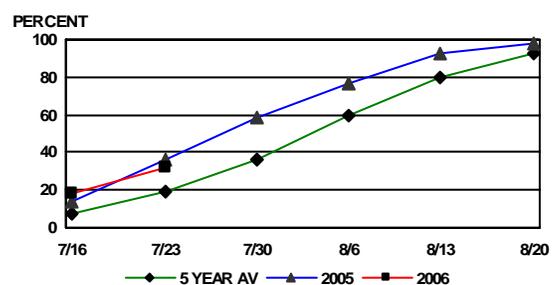
**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions declined sharply and rated 33 percent very poor, 35 poor, 25 fair, 7 good, and 0 excellent. Producers were weaning calves and considering moving cattle off dry pastures. Ponds were going dry in portions of the state.

*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).*

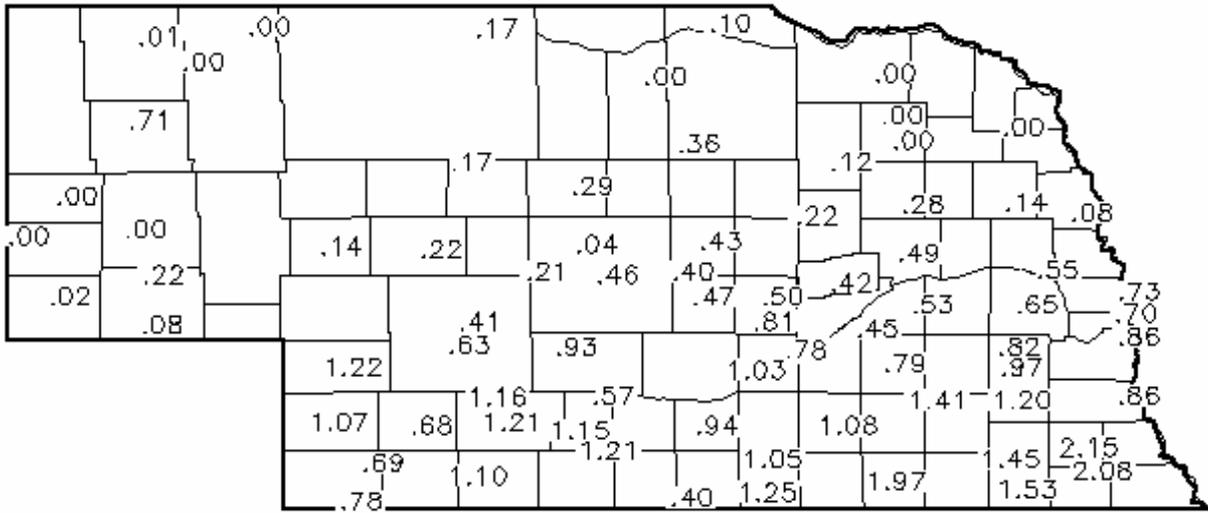
CORN SILKED



SOYBEANS SETTING PODS



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 23, 2006



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 23, 2006

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.13	.11	.09	.52	.70	.94	1.38	1.47
Total since April 1	5.86	7.27	8.26	7.65	9.80	7.90	9.30	13.01
Normal since April 1	9.54	11.35	13.03	12.32	13.52	11.01	12.03	13.79
Total as % of normal	61%	64%	63%	62%	72%	71%	77%	93%

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, July 23, 2006

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	103	52	75	+1	153	1540	1426
Scottsbluff	103	54	76	+2	160	1639	1421
Sidney	101	52	76	+2	159	1563	1473
NC Ainsworth	97	57	76	0	168	1657	1627
Arthur	104	56	76	+1	162	1611	1581
O'Neill	109	54	78	+1	169	1649	1654
NE Concord	103	55	76	-1	167	1688	1714
Elgin	105	58	77	0	172	1692	1687
West Point	102	56	76	-2	169	1738	1785
C Grand Island	101	58	75	-1	167	1799	1662
Lexington	107	61	78	+2	177	1852	1630
Ord	109	55	78	+1	173	1743	1652
EC Central City	101	55	76	-1	167	1779	1693
Lincoln	107	60	80	+1	187	1920	1831
Mead	102	57	77	-2	172	1818	1825
SW Champion	103	54	75	0	159	1718	1591
Dickens	107	58	77	+1	166	1747	1608
McCook	111	59	79	+3	175	1825	1619
SC Minden	101	60	76	0	170	1817	1643
Red Cloud	110	59	80	+3	182	1874	1680
Smithfield	101	58	75	-1	165	1795	1634
SE Beatrice	102	59	77	-1	176	1850	1831
Clay Center	104	58	76	-1	169	1764	1679
Nemaha	107	58	80	+2	186	1958	1842

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

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