



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service
Nebraska Field Office

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 6, 2006, high temperatures during the week finally gave way to cooler conditions and scattered showers over the weekend, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistic Service, Nebraska Field Office. Improved crop outlooks were noted in some areas but conditions still remain well below normal. Producers were harvesting some dryland corn fields for silage to use as supplemental feed for cattle. Third cutting alfalfa stands were too short to harvest in some areas. In the northwest, wildfires were 100% contained and livestock producers were assessing their options.

Weather Summary: Temperatures reached triple digits in seven of the eight districts for the fourth straight week. The Southwest District reached highs of 105 or more. The Northeast District picked up the most precipitation with an average of near one and a half inches.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 6, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	42	50	26	33
Short	36	33	38	32
Adequate	22	17	36	34
Surplus	0	0	0	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	53	47	25	35
Short	36	37	30	32
Adequate	11	16	45	33
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	5.9	6.7	6.5	6.5

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 7 percent very poor, 11 poor, 28 fair, 36 good, and 18 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 74 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 22, both below year ago levels. Nearly all corn had silked. Fifty-six percent of corn was in the dough stage, ahead of last year's 48 and 41 average. Eight percent of corn had reached the dent stage, ahead of last year's 4 and 5 average.

Soybean conditions rated 6 percent very poor, 20 poor, 36 fair, 32 good, and 6 excellent, below last year. Ninety-five percent of the acreage had bloomed, behind last year's 98, but ahead of the 94 average. Eighty-one percent were setting pods, ahead of last year's 77 and well ahead of the 62 average.

Alfalfa conditions improved slightly and rated 21 percent very poor, 25 poor, 31 fair, 20 good, and 3 excellent. This rating continues to be well below last year. Alfalfa third cutting was

44 percent complete, even with last year and ahead of the 37 average. Wild hay conditions declined and rated 26 percent very poor, 25 poor, 30 fair, 17 good, and 2 excellent.

Oats harvested was 96 percent complete, behind last year's 99, but ahead of the 94 average.

Sorghum conditions improved slightly and rated 6 percent very poor, 12 poor, 37 fair, 38 good, and 7 excellent, which is still below last year. Seventy-five percent of the sorghum planted was headed. This is ahead of last year's 67 and well ahead of the 55 average.

Seventy-two percent of the dry beans planted were setting pods, ahead of last year's 64 and well ahead of the 48 average. Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 10 poor, 26 fair, 57 good, and 7 excellent.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 6, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	44	26	44	37
Corn Dough	56	29	48	41
Corn Dent	8	1	4	5
Dry Beans Setting Pods	72	28	64	48
Oats Harvested	96	91	99	94
Sorghum Headed	75	53	67	55
Soybeans Blooming	95	91	98	94
Soybeans Setting Pods	81	64	77	62

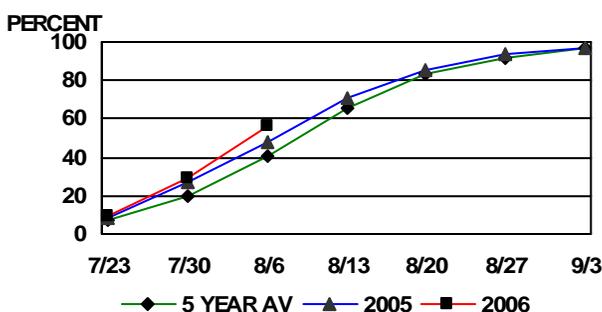
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 6, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	21	25	31	20	3
Corn	7	11	28	36	18
Dry Beans	0	10	26	57	7
Sorghum	6	12	37	38	7
Soybeans	6	20	36	32	6
Wild Hay	26	25	30	17	2

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions declined and rated 39 percent very poor, 31 poor, 24 fair, 6 good, and 0 excellent. Producers were weaning calves early, selling cows and utilizing CRP and short alfalfa to manage forage needs.

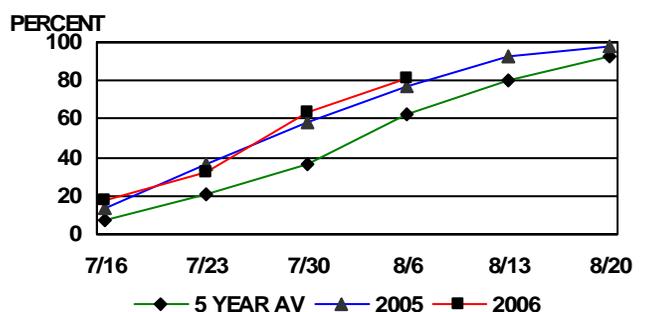
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm.

CORN DOUGH



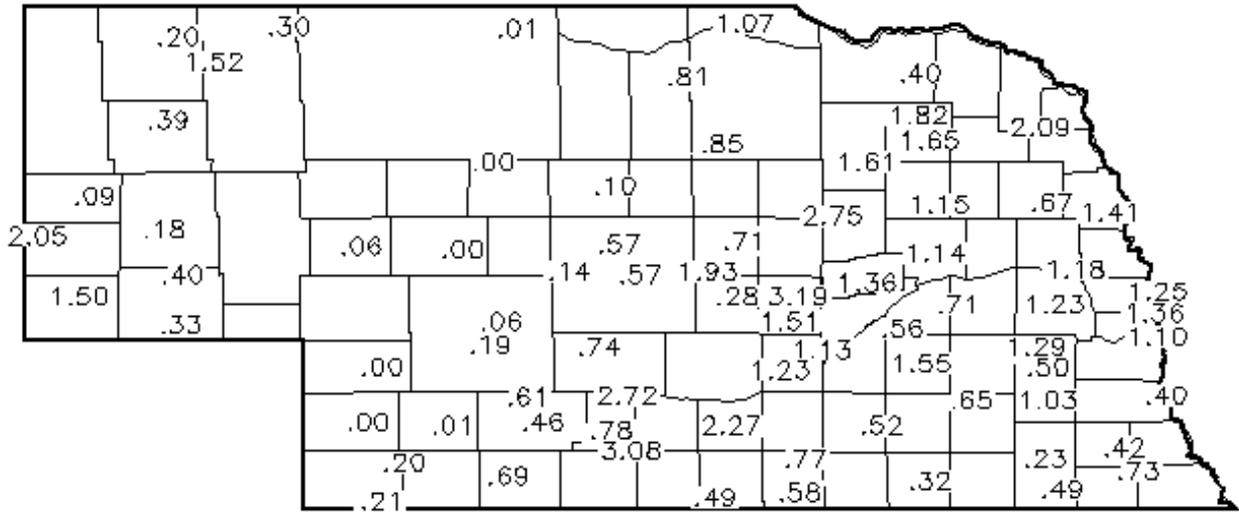
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEANS SETTING PODS



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 6, 2006



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 6, 2006

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.65	.45	1.43	1.22	1.05	.42	1.38	.51
Total since April 1	6.72	8.07	9.90	9.07	10.89	8.49	10.78	13.52
Normal since April 1	10.47	12.64	14.38	13.66	14.99	12.22	13.40	15.43
Total as % of normal	64%	64%	69%	66%	72%	69%	80%	87%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, August 6, 2006**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	92	51	71	-2	138	1837	1733
	Scottsbluff	93	51	72	-1	145	1956	1727
	Sidney	93	56	73	0	151	1884	1788
NC	Ainsworth	100	57	76	+1	166	2008	1967
	Arthur	96	52	74	0	156	1939	1913
	O'Neill	104	55	77	+2	168	2002	1998
NE	Concord	98	57	76	+1	172	2049	2068
	Elgin	98	57	76	+1	171	2048	2035
	West Point	101	55	78	+1	175	2098	2150
C	Grand Island	99	57	78	+3	181	2167	2006
	Lexington	101	58	78	+3	176	2219	1969
	Ord	101	56	78	+3	176	2099	1995
EC	Central City	101	55	78	+3	176	2145	2042
	Lincoln	104	58	83	+5	197	2330	2202
	Mead	101	51	79	+1	179	2185	2195
SW	Champion	99	56	77	+2	166	2047	1924
	Dickens	103	56	78	+4	173	2088	1944
	McCook	105	59	80	+5	182	2188	1957
SC	Minden	97	59	77	+2	174	2174	1984
	Red Cloud	104	56	81	+6	182	2248	2027
	Smithfield	96	59	77	+2	175	2149	1974
SE	Beatrice	101	56	81	+4	188	2233	2202
	Clay Center	99	56	77	+1	169	2113	2026
	Nemaha	103	64	83	+6	202	2366	2211

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