



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Issue NE-CW 2108

Released May 27, 2008

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 25, 2008, favorable weather at the beginning of the week helped boost planting progress until heavy rains halted activities in most areas of the state, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Corn planting caught up with the average and soybean planting was getting closer to normal. Storms brought strong winds, hail and heavy rainfall to much of the state. Low land flooding made some county roads impassable. The standing water in fields created concerns of damage to the newly planted crops and the possibility that some may need to be replanted. Time will be needed for soils to dry before planting can resume.

Weather Summary: Precipitation, wind and below normal temperatures occurred again this week for much of the state. There were reports of over 7 inches of rain in the South Central, Southwest, and Central Districts. Temperatures averaged nearly two degrees below normal across the state and ranged from highs around 90 in the Southeast and East Central Districts to lows in the upper 30's in the Panhandle.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending May 25, 2008**

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Topsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 0 | 4 | 3 | 10 |
| Short | 5 | 11 | 15 | 20 |
| Adequate | 72 | 81 | 77 | 66 |
| Surplus | 23 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| Subsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 3 | 6 | 6 | 18 |
| Short | 11 | 17 | 15 | 28 |
| Adequate | 76 | 75 | 77 | 53 |
| Surplus | 10 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Days Suitable | 3.9 | 5.2 | 5.0 | 5.2 |

Field Crops Report: Corn planted increased rapidly with the favorable weather at the beginning of the week and caught up with last year and the average of 96 percent complete. Corn emerged was 59 percent, behind the 75 of last year and five days behind the 76 average.

Soybeans planted also increased significantly and was 62 percent complete, but still behind last year's 69 and the five year average of 70. Soybeans emerged was 11 percent, behind last year's 32 and a week behind the average of 31.

Wheat conditions rated 6 percent poor, 33 fair, 51 good, and 10 excellent, well above the average of 46 percent good or excellent condition. Rain across much of the Panhandle provided short term relief for developing wheat but more

precipitation is needed in the west where subsoil moisture supplies are short. Wheat jointed was 94 percent, behind last year's 99 and the 98 average. Wheat headed was 11 percent complete, far behind last year's 61 and 12 days behind the 52 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent poor, 21 fair, 63 good, and 13 excellent, and are well above last year's 56 percent good or excellent condition. First cutting was 6 percent complete, behind last year's 18 and the average of 22.

Oat conditions rated 1 percent poor, 16 fair, 78 good, and 5 excellent, well above last year's 70 percent good or excellent condition. Oats emerged was 95 percent, behind last year and the average of 99.

Sorghum planted was 34 percent complete, behind last year's 54, and four days behind the 45 average. Sorghum emerged was 2 percent, behind last year's 19 percent and eight days behind the average of 13.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending May 25, 2008

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Alfalfa 1 st Cutting | 6 | 2 | 18 | 22 |
| Corn Planted | 96 | 83 | 96 | 96 |
| Corn Emerged | 59 | 25 | 75 | 76 |
| Oats Emerged | 95 | 90 | 99 | 99 |
| Oats Headed | 1 | | 7 | 5 |
| Sorghum Planted | 34 | 19 | 54 | 45 |
| Sorghum Emerged | 2 | | 19 | 13 |
| Soybeans Planted | 62 | 26 | 69 | 70 |
| Soybeans Emerged | 11 | 1 | 32 | 31 |
| Dry Beans Planted | 7 | | 15 | 14 |
| Wheat Jointed | 94 | 77 | 99 | 98 |
| Wheat Headed | 11 | 1 | 61 | 52 |

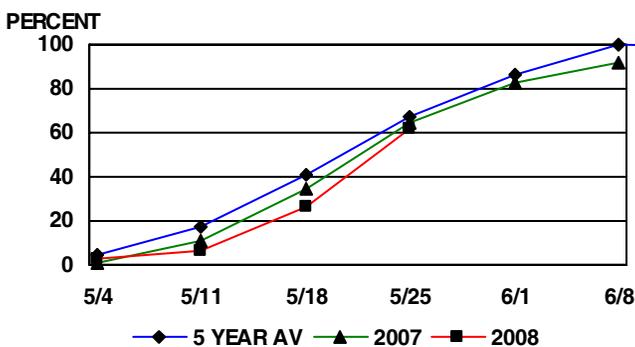
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 25, 2008

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | | |
| Alfalfa | 0 | 3 | 21 | 63 | 13 |
| Oats | 0 | 1 | 16 | 78 | 5 |
| Wheat | 0 | 6 | 33 | 51 | 10 |

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 4 percent poor, 23 fair, 65 good, and 8 excellent, well above last year's 61 percent good or excellent conditions. Cattle were being moved to summer pastures.

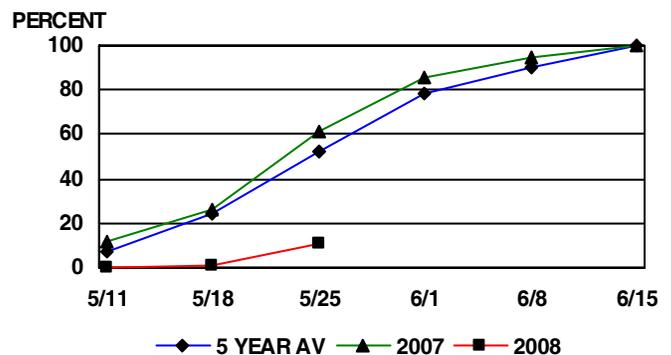
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm

SOYBEANS PLANTED



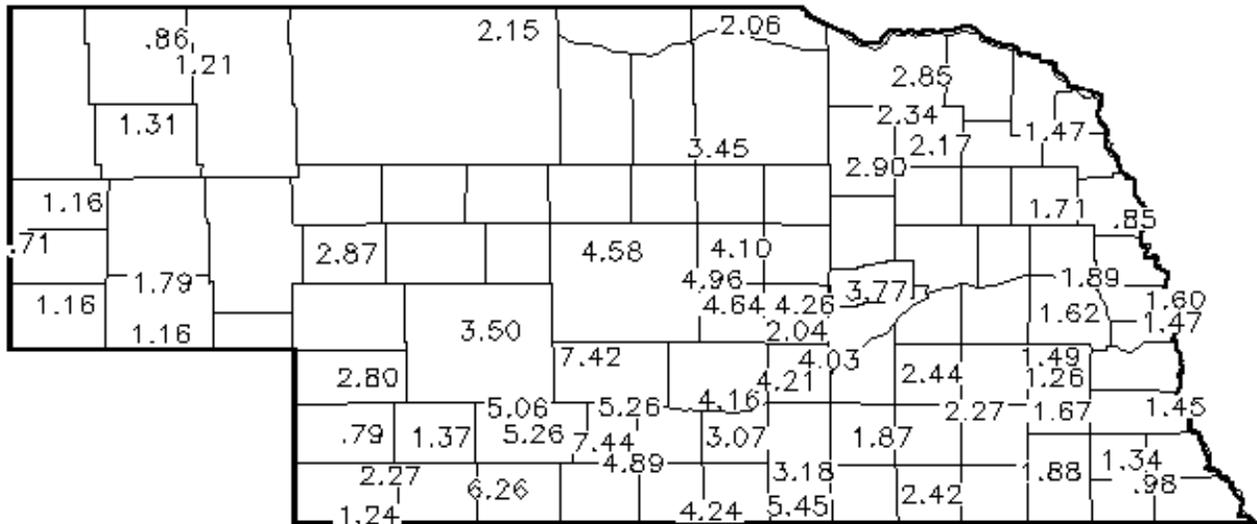
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

WHEAT HEADED



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. May 25, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 25, 2008

| Item | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total past week | 1.28 | 2.38 | 2.15 | 3.52 | 1.95 | 4.19 | 4.23 | 1.92 |
| Total since April 1 | 3.57 | 6.70 | 7.26 | 9.65 | 8.33 | 8.90 | 9.18 | 9.19 |
| Normal since April 1 | 4.17 | 4.63 | 5.71 | 5.41 | 6.00 | 4.58 | 5.12 | 6.04 |
| Total as % of normal | 84% | 144% | 128% | 179% | 139% | 192% | 179% | 152% |

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, May 25, 2008**

| Station | Temperature | | | | Growing Degree Days Since April 15 | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-----|---------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| | Extremes | | Average | Departure | Last Week | Current | Normal |
| | High | Low | | | | | |
| NW Alliance | 81 | 42 | 58 | -1 | 71 | 331 | 362 |
| Scottsbluff | 85 | 42 | 61 | +1 | 88 | 390 | 361 |
| Sidney | 83 | 39 | 60 | -1 | 82 | 366 | 369 |
| NC Ainsworth | 80 | 41 | 59 | -4 | 73 | 313 | 399 |
| Arthur | 81 | 45 | 59 | -3 | 72 | 337 | 395 |
| O'Neill | 81 | 43 | 60 | -3 | 76 | 318 | 404 |
| NE Concord | 83 | 42 | 60 | -4 | 80 | 329 | 413 |
| Elgin | 82 | 45 | 60 | -4 | 77 | 326 | 411 |
| West Point | 86 | 40 | 62 | -3 | 88 | 370 | 432 |
| C Grand Island | 85 | 49 | 64 | 0 | 95 | 384 | 407 |
| Lexington | 85 | 45 | 63 | 0 | 92 | 379 | 403 |
| Ord | 85 | 46 | 62 | -1 | 87 | 367 | 405 |
| EC Central City | 85 | 45 | 62 | -1 | 92 | 386 | 413 |
| Lincoln | 89 | 45 | 64 | -2 | 97 | 407 | 445 |
| Mead | 88 | 41 | 63 | -3 | 94 | 405 | 445 |
| SW Champion | 85 | 43 | 62 | 0 | 91 | 408 | 398 |
| Dickens | 87 | 42 | 61 | -1 | 87 | 385 | 399 |
| McCook | 87 | 49 | 64 | +2 | 100 | 432 | 401 |
| SC Minden | 86 | 46 | 63 | 0 | 93 | 384 | 404 |
| Red Cloud | 87 | 49 | 65 | +1 | 104 | 401 | 411 |
| Smithfield | 83 | 46 | 62 | -1 | 89 | 364 | 403 |
| SE Beatrice | 86 | 45 | 64 | -2 | 99 | 397 | 445 |
| Clay Center | 86 | 49 | 63 | 0 | 94 | 371 | 411 |
| Nemaha | 90 | 48 | 65 | -1 | 105 | 452 | 452 |

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