



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 24, 2008, another cool, dry week for much of Nebraska with fall like temperatures recorded in parts of the north, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Soil moisture levels declined but are still above average for this time of year. Producers were busy irrigating, hauling grain, and preparing for fall harvest. Chopping of dryland corn for silage has begun in some areas.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 3 degrees below normal across the state. Highs ranged from 82 to 94 across the state with lows ranging from 45 to 59. The South Central District averaged over an inch and a half of rain with the remainder of the state mostly dry.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 24, 2008

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	12	5	5	26
Short	32	31	20	31
Adequate	55	63	71	42
Surplus	1	1	4	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	9	6	14	34
Short	30	29	29	34
Adequate	60	64	55	32
Surplus	1	1	2	0
Days Suitable	6.5	5.5	4.4	5.6

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 18 fair, 54 good, and 21 excellent, near last year's 77 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 80 percent good or excellent below last year while dryland fields rated 69, above year ago levels. Corn in the dough stage was 85 percent, behind last year's 92 and the 90 average. Corn in the dent stage was 42 percent, behind last year's 58 and four days behind the 51 average.

Soybean conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 22 fair, 59 good, and 13 excellent, below last year's 78 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans setting pods was 93 percent, behind last year's 96 and the 97 average. Aphids continue to be a problem in a number of fields.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 7 poor, 25 fair, 55 good, and 10 excellent, above last year's 60 percent good or excellent condition. Third cutting was 69 percent complete, behind last year's 75 and 79 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 20 fair, 55 good, and 22 excellent, below last year's 81 percent good or excellent condition. Sorghum headed was 91 percent, behind last year's 97 and 92 average. Sorghum turning color was 17 percent, behind last year's 27 and five days behind the 29 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 35 fair, 51 good, and 11 excellent, below last year's 69 percent good or excellent condition. Dry beans setting pods were 98 percent, well ahead of last year's 85 and 89 average. Dry beans turning color was 6 percent, behind last year's 23 and 19 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 24, 2008

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	69	51	75	79
Corn Dough	85	67	92	90
Corn Dent	42	19	58	51
Dry Beans Setting Pods	98	91	85	89
Dry Beans Turning color	6		23	19
Sorghum Headed	91	72	97	92
Sorghum Turning Color	17	1	27	29
Soybeans Setting Pods	93	77	96	97

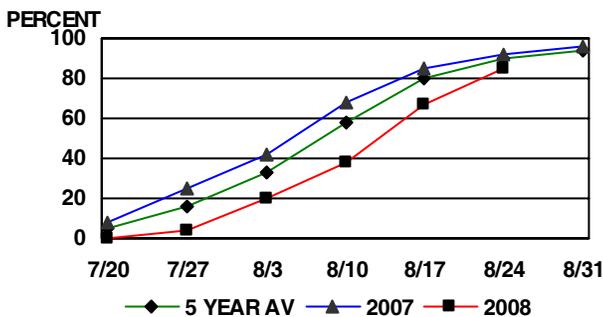
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 24, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	3	7	25	55	10
Corn	2	5	18	54	21
Dry Beans	0	3	35	51	11
Sorghum	0	3	20	55	22
Soybeans	1	5	22	59	13

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 12 poor, 29 fair, 49 good, and 8 excellent, near last year's 56 percent good or excellent condition.

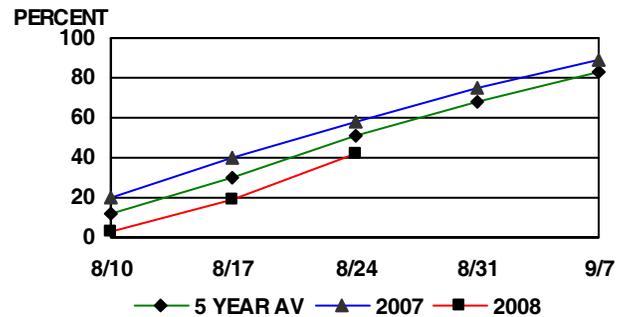
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm

CORN DOUGH



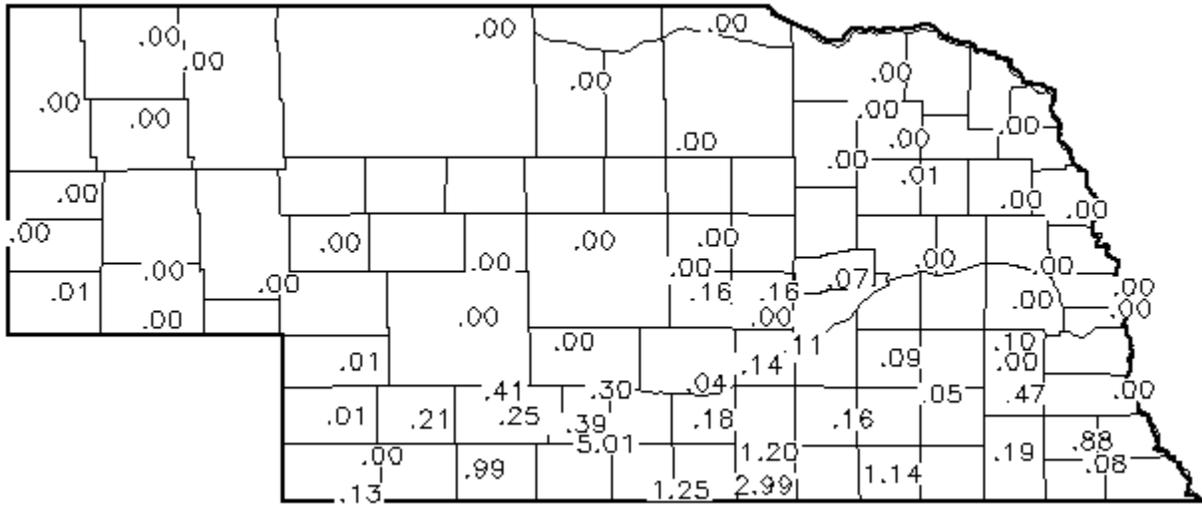
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

CORN DENTED



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 24, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 24, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.00	.00	.05	.11	.32	1.84	.49
Total since April 1	11.08	18.18	17.71	20.39	22.78	18.79	20.69	23.04
Normal since April 1	11.26	13.92	16.33	15.30	16.94	13.63	15.10	17.54
Total as % of normal	98%	130%	109%	132%	134%	136%	136%	131%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, August 24, 2008**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	94	45	67	-2	121	1886	2161
	Scottsbluff	92	47	69	-1	130	2080	2153
	Sidney	91	49	67	-3	118	1975	2201
NC	Ainsworth	84	48	69	-3	136	2063	2409
	Arthur	88	51	68	-4	123	1984	2358
	O'Neill	84	49	69	-3	135	2118	2445
NE	Concord	84	49	68	-4	129	2175	2521
	Elgin	83	52	69	-4	131	2158	2485
	West Point	85	52	69	-5	130	2279	2618
C	Grand Island	83	55	69	-3	132	2317	2445
	Lexington	83	53	68	-4	128	2216	2408
	Ord	83	54	69	-3	132	2228	2441
EC	Central City	82	54	68	-4	127	2290	2489
	Lincoln	93	58	73	-1	159	2534	2679
	Mead	91	53	70	-4	141	2411	2676
SW	Champion	89	51	68	-3	125	2120	2381
	Dickens	89	50	68	-3	126	2125	2386
	McCook	91	54	70	-2	139	2341	2398
SC	Minden	81	55	68	-4	127	2262	2421
	Red Cloud	90	55	70	-2	136	2390	2470
	Smithfield	82	55	69	-3	130	2215	2412
SE	Beatrice	94	54	71	-4	140	2409	2679
	Clay Center	85	55	69	-3	134	2302	2470
	Nemaha	93	59	73	-1	157	2602	2679

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