



Nebraska Weather and Crops

100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
(402) 437-5541 · (402) 437-5547 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov



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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending September 28, 2008, soybean harvest began to pick up speed as above normal temperatures lowered moisture levels, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. High moisture corn harvest was underway. Less than half of the corn crop was mature and more field drying is needed before general harvest begins. In the Panhandle wheat seeding was nearing completion, while proso millet and dry bean harvests were active.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 9 degrees above normal across the state. All districts saw highs in the upper 80's or low 90's with the Panhandle recording lows in the upper 30's. The Northeast District averaged over an inch of rain, with most of the state reporting around a quarter inch or more of precipitation.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending September 28, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	4	4	5	14
Short	25	25	29	30
Adequate	70	70	63	54
Surplus	1	1	3	2
Subsoil				
Very Short	9	8	12	29
Short	29	31	26	33
Adequate	62	60	62	38
Surplus	0	1	0	0
Days Suitable	6.3	6.5	5.8	5.6

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 19 fair, 56 good, and 19 excellent, below last year's 80 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 80 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 66, both below year ago levels. Corn mature was 43 percent, well behind last year's 83 and ten days behind the 74 average. Corn harvested was 4 percent, behind last year's 15 and 11 average.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 6 poor, 25 fair, 55 good, and 12 excellent, below last year's 82 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans turning color were 94 percent, behind last year and the 98 average. Soybeans dropping leaves were 71 percent, behind last year's 77 and a week behind the 84 average. Soybeans harvested were 6 percent, behind last year's 10 and 17 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 23 fair, 51 good, and 21 excellent, well below last year's 84 percent good or excellent condition. Sorghum turning color was 93 percent, behind last year's 99 and 97 average. Sorghum mature was 15 percent, well behind last year's 66 and thirteen days behind the 60 average. Sorghum harvested was 1 percent, behind last year's 5 and 6 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 34 fair, 59 good, and 4 excellent, below last year's 69 percent good or excellent condition. Dry beans turning color were 94, behind last year's 100 and 99 average. Dry beans dropping leaves were 68 percent, well behind last year's 99 and 87 average. Dry beans harvested were 23 percent, well behind last year's 80 and 53 average.

Winter wheat seeded was 70 percent, behind last year's 73 and 75 average. Winter wheat emerged was 26 percent, behind last year's 37 and 40 average.

Proso millet harvested was 51 percent, behind last year's 79 and 63 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 6 poor, 24 fair, 60 good, and 7 excellent, near last year's 68 percent good or excellent condition. Fourth cutting was 64 percent complete, behind last year's 71 and 72 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending September 28, 2008

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	64	46	71	72
Corn Mature	43	21	83	74
Corn Harvested	4	2	15	11
Dry Beans Turning Color	94	88	100	99
Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	68	52	99	87
Dry Beans Harvested	23	9	80	53
Proso Millet Harvested	51	29	79	63
Sorghum Turning Color	93	86	99	97
Sorghum Mature	15	6	66	60
Sorghum Harvested	1		5	6
Soybeans Turning Color	94	81	98	98
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	71	37	77	84
Soybeans Harvested	6	1	10	17
Winter Wheat Seeded	70	44	73	75
Winter Wheat Emerged	26	7	37	40

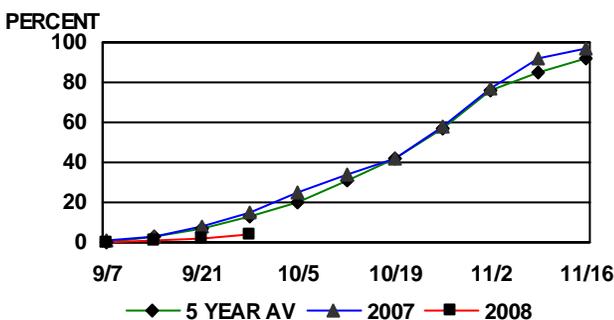
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending September 28, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	3	6	24	60	7
Corn	2	4	19	56	19
Dry Beans	0	3	34	59	4
Sorghum	1	4	23	51	21
Soybeans	2	6	25	55	12

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 12 poor, 27 fair, 51 good, and 7 excellent, below last year's 62 percent good or excellent condition.

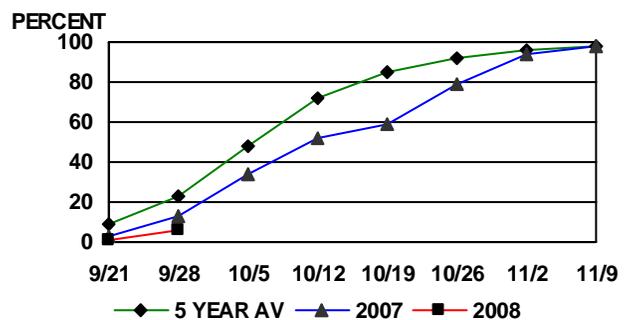
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm

CORN HARVEST



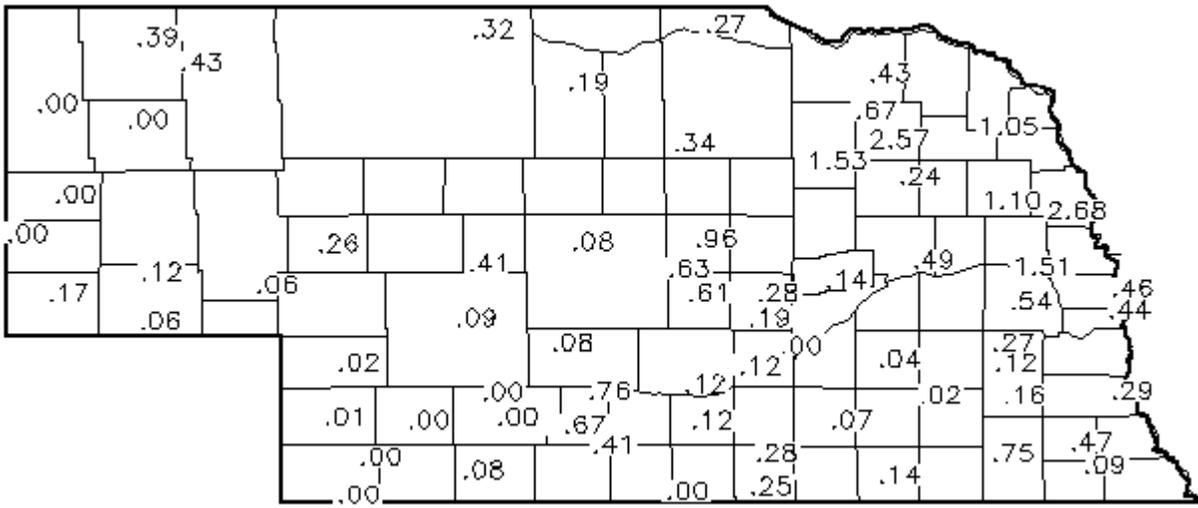
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEAN HARVEST



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. September 28, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – September 28, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.09	.90	1.30	.28	.46	.06	.23	.32
Total since April 1	12.93	21.36	21.53	22.40	26.33	20.23	22.53	26.13
Normal since April 1	12.77	16.34	19.54	18.25	20.92	15.65	17.99	21.83
Total as % of normal	101%	130%	110%	121%	125%	128%	125%	119%

**Temperature: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, September 28, 2008**

Station	Temperature			
	Extremes		Average	Departure
	High	Low		
NW Alliance	88	37	62	+6
Scottsbluff	90	36	64	+7
Sidney	90	39	65	+7
NC Ainsworth	92	44	68	+9
Arthur	92	42	66	+7
O'Neill	86	48	68	+8
NE Concord	86	49	67	+7
Elgin	86	48	68	+8
West Point	86	47	68	+7
C Grand Island	88	49	70	+10
Lexington	89	47	69	+10
Ord	88	48	68	+9
EC Central City	88	46	69	+9
Lincoln	86	52	72	+10
Mead	87	48	70	+8
SW Champion	90	42	66	+7
Dickens	90	44	67	+8
McCook	95	44	71	+12
SC Minden	90	47	70	+11
Red Cloud	90	55	72	+12
Smithfield	88	48	69	+10
SE Beatrice	88	52	71	+9
Clay Center	89	50	70	+10
Nemaha	85	58	72	+10

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