

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

Run 2700
5-4-81

Nebraska
Crop & Livestock
Reporting
Service

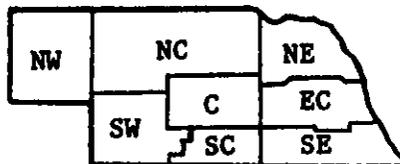
P.O. Box 81064
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

Phone: (402) 471-5541

Release 5/4/81 - 3:00 p.m.

Week Ending 5/3/81

Economics, Statistics, & Cooperatives Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UNL

WEATHER

Scattered light rainfall occurred over most of the State with the exception of the east. Amounts averaged less than a quarter of an inch. Widespread rain began falling this past weekend but no amounts are available. Temperatures averaged seven to eleven degrees above normal.

GENERAL

Corn planting progressed well as warm, dry conditions prevailed during most of the week. Irrigation activity increased as producers worked to improve germination prospects and insure herbicide activation. Welcome rain came statewide on Sunday with heaviest amounts reported in the eastern third of the State. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.5.

Topsoil moisture supplies as of Friday rated 77% short and 23% adequate. Subsoil supplies were 85% short and 15% adequate. Best moisture supplies continue to be present in the southwest and south central areas. A year ago, topsoil moisture supplies rated 89% short, 10% adequate and 1% surplus. Subsoil supplies were 7% short and 93% adequate.

CROPS

Corn planting moved ahead to 20% complete, behind last year's 30% but ahead of 15% normal. Planting was most advanced in the west and southeast districts. Irrigation equipment was being used early in the week to improve uniform germination.

CROPS (Cont.)

Some early emerging fields in the southeast have been damaged by chinch bugs and corn flea beetles and may need to be replanted.

Wheat crop condition moved lower and rated 15% poor, 51% fair, 31% good and 3% excellent. Jointing has occurred on 60% of the acreage compared to 10% last year and 15% normal. High variability in growth stages has been reported from across the State. Jointing was just underway in some northern counties while heading had begun in a number of southern fields. The effects of chinch bug activity and drought vary, but some damage has been reported in most eastern counties.

Sorghum planting was 1% complete by week's end compared to 2% last year. Normally planting has not begun by this date.

Alfalfa crop condition was showing some improvement and rated mostly fair to good. In some cases, irrigation equipment was being used to encourage growth. Alfalfa weevils were causing damage in some southeastern fields.

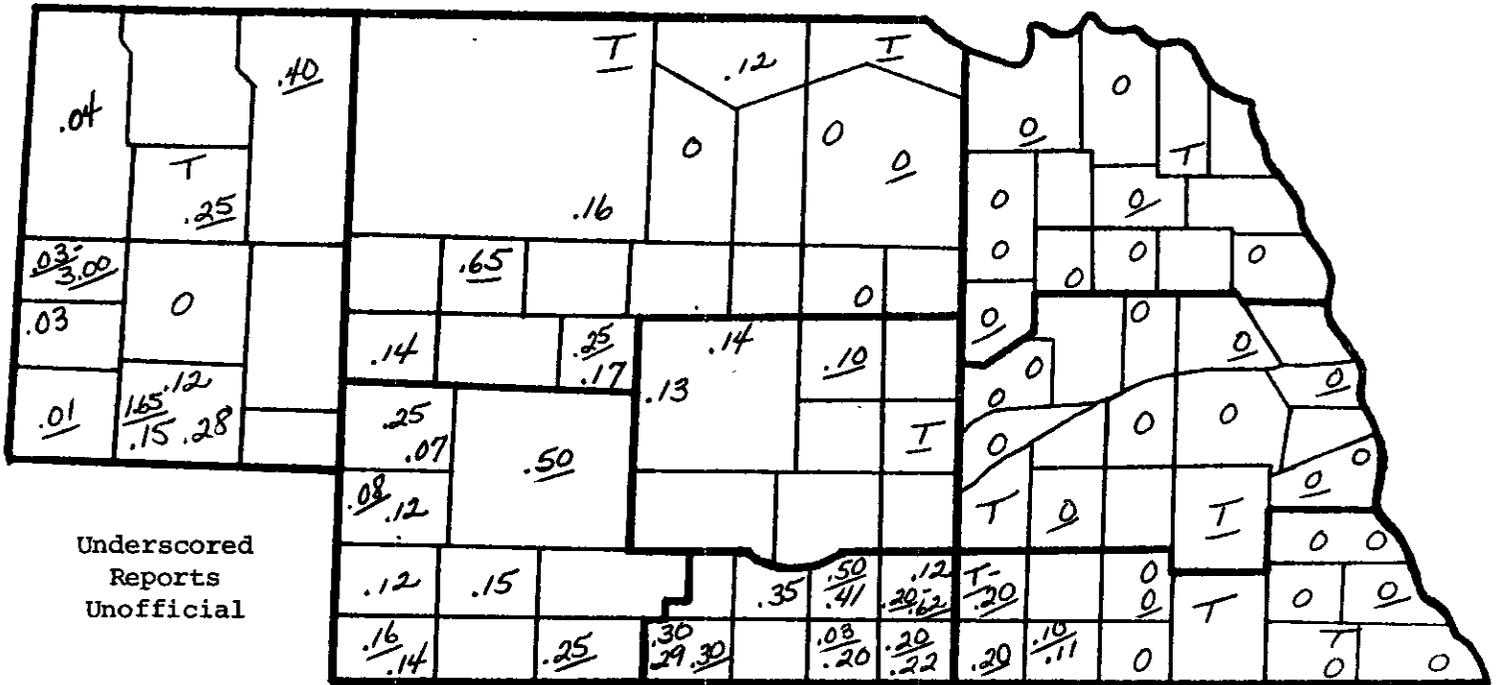
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies continued mostly short to adequate. Some beef herds were being shifted from dry lot to pastures but in many areas, spring growth of grasses has been slow. Vaccination and branding were underway in some areas.

Precipitation, April 4 - May 1, 1981

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week10	.10	.00	.10	.00	.10	.30	.00
Total since April 4	1.50	1.10	.40	1.50	1.10	2.80	1.50	1.80
Normal since April 1	1.77	2.13	2.47	2.27	2.73	1.88	2.26	2.80

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1981



Underscored
Reports
Unofficial

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1981

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	92	32	62	---	.21
Scottsbluff	88	43	63	+11	.76
Sidney	85	39	60	---	.22
NC Valentine	90	32	61	+9	.35
NE Norfolk	90	42	64	+9	.54
Sioux City	90	40	63	+7	.79
CEN Grand Island	87	42	64	+8	.37
EC Lincoln	87	39	64	+7	1.41
Omaha	87	45	65	+9	2.11
SW Imperial	88	46	64	---	.14
North Platte	86	42	62	+9	.68

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

NEBRASKA
CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORTING SERVICE
273 Federal Building, Box 81069
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501
Official Business

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