

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

Rec'd
5-26-81

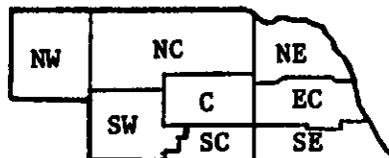
Nebraska
Crop & Livestock
Reporting
Service

P.O. Box 81064
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

Release 5/26/81 - 3:00 p.m.

Week Ending 5/24/81

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

Temperatures averaged about two degrees below normal for the week. Rain, which fell mostly early last week, averaged near .50 inch over the northeast and between 1.00 and 1.50 inches over the remainder of the State.

GENERAL

For the first time this season, topsoil moisture supplies were rated as adequate or better statewide except for a few northeastern counties. Planting activities were delayed until late in the week as producers waited for drier soils. The cool weather slowed germination and crop development although statewide crop prospects have brightened considerably. Additional moisture is needed to replenish depleted subsoil supplies in over half of the counties. Days suitable for fieldwork were 2.2.

Topsoil moisture supplies rated 2% short, 78% adequate and 20% surplus. Subsoil supplies were 57% short, 41% adequate and 2% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture supplies were 25% short and 75% adequate. Subsoil supplies rated 4% short and 96% adequate.

CROPS

Corn planting resumed in many areas late in the week and was 85% complete compared to 90% last year and same as normal. Forty-five percent of the crop was emerged compared to 60% last year and 50% normal. The extended period of cool, wet weather has caused some yellowing of early planted corn and warmer temperatures are needed.

CROPS (Cont.)

Sorghum and soybean planting was 20% complete by the end of the week compared to 45% previous year and 40% normal. Five percent of the two crops have emerged compared to 10% a year ago.

Winter wheat crop condition rated 22% poor, 47% fair, 28% good and 3% excellent. Heading passed the halfway mark and was 65% complete, well ahead of the 20% last year and normal. Effects of the May 10-11 and more recent freezing temperatures are quite variable across the State with areas in north central and the southern two tiers of counties appearing to have suffered most severely. Acreage losses and yield reductions due to the freezing temperatures are difficult to assess until the crop reaches normal kernel development stage following blooming. Blooming was just starting in the southwest, while reports out of the south central counties where blooming was underway were more optimistic than earlier reported. Some wheat was being grazed in central Nebraska. Recent moisture has been beneficial to the State's wheat crop.

Alfalfa harvest moved to 15%, same as last year but ahead of the 5% normal. Crop damage by the freeze to the first crop of alfalfa was widespread with smaller than expected yields being reported.

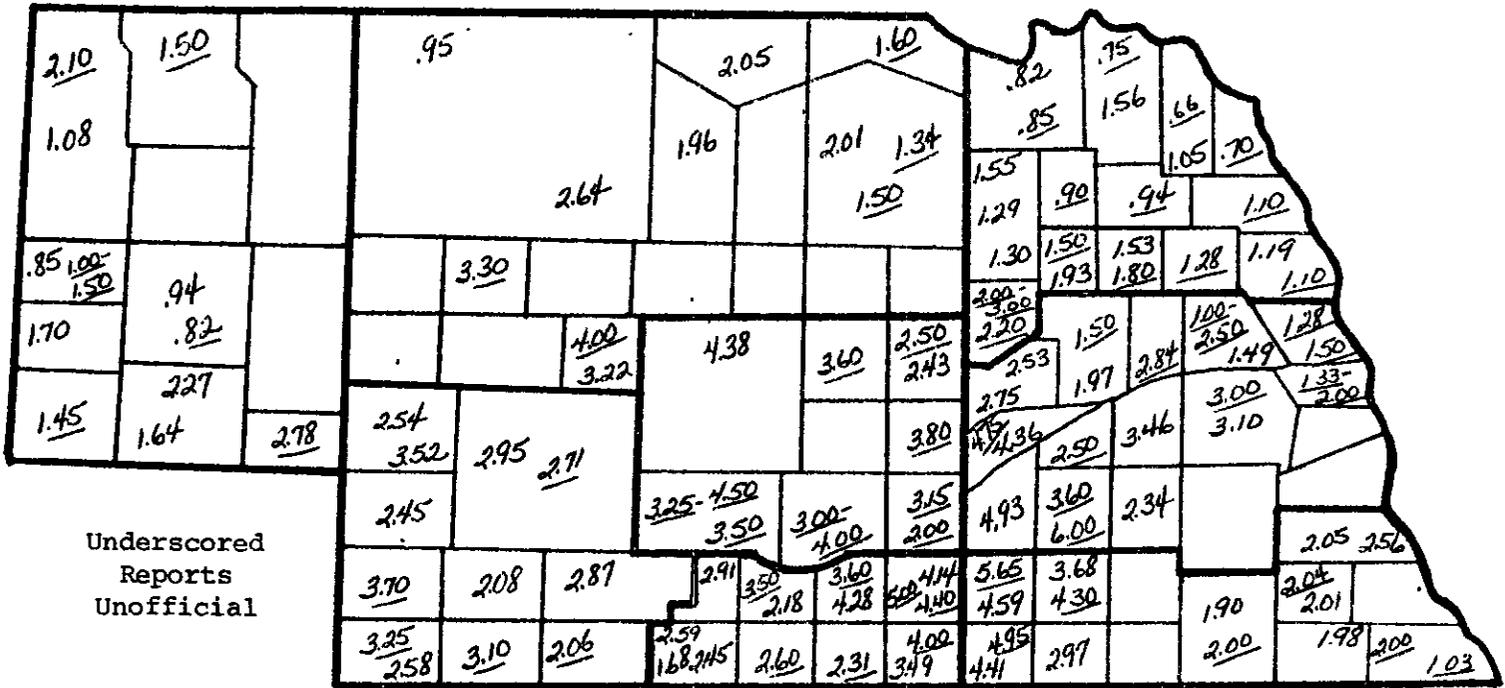
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range prospects brightened statewide with the recent rains. In some areas, moisture may have come too late for some spring grasses, such as brome, which had begun to head out. Many cattle feed lots were still very muddy with warm, drying conditions needed.

Precipitation, April 4 - May 22, 1981

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.50	2.10	1.30	3.40	3.00	2.70	3.00	2.90
Total since April 4	5.30	4.50	2.90	6.70	5.60	7.60	6.10	6.10
Normal since April 1	3.84	4.21	4.92	4.61	5.15	3.93	4.62	5.50

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1981



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 24, 1981

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches ^{1/}
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	73	35	55	--	.55
Scottsbluff	76	36	57	-1	.11
Sidney	73	29	52	--	.93
NC Valentine	75	29	54	-4	.36
NE Norfolk	78	35	59	-3	.05
Sioux City	82	37	61	-1	.03
CEN Grand Island	77	39	58	-4	1.40
EC Lincoln	84	38	62	-2	.10
Omaha	82	41	61	-1	.72
SW Imperial	78	34	55	--	1.16
North Platte	77	29	55	-5	1.11

^{1/} Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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