

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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For Week Ending September 26, 1999

Issue: 29-99

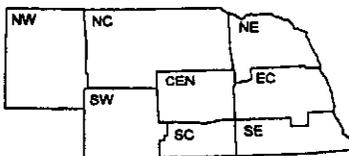
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National Weather Service



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Division of Agr'l Statistics  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Agriculture  
and Natural Resources--UN-L

## WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged normal to two degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation was light with averages ranging from traces to twenty-seven hundredths in the South Central District.

## GENERAL

Dry, clear conditions again last week, brought down moisture levels in unharvested crops and pushed harvest activities, according to Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Frost was evident in portions of eastern Nebraska last week, although hard freezing temperatures had yet to end the growing season Statewide. Silage cutting was nearing completion and high moisture corn harvest was in full swing. In some areas, grain moisture levels had dropped below levels accepted by feedlots. Extremely dry conditions were noted in portions of the Northeast and Southeast Districts. Rain was needed to assure adequate germination of fall planted crops and to refill soil profiles. Other farm activities included harvest equipment preparation, moving old crop grain to elevators, supplemental feeding of livestock and livestock care.

## CROPS

Corn conditions rated 2% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 48% good, and 20% excellent. Dryland corn rated 60% and irrigated corn rated 74% in good and excellent conditions. Corn was acreage mature was at 84%, behind 91% last year, but well ahead of 66% average. Corn for grain harvest moved to 9% well behind 19% last year, but near 8% average. Wind damage from storms earlier this summer was expected to slow harvest in portions of the south.

## CROPS (Cont.)

Soybeans conditions rated 4% very poor, 11% poor, 32% fair, 40% good, and 13% excellent. The amount of soybean acreage dropping leaves was at 75%, below 89% last year, but near 72% average. Soybean harvest began to pick up momentum at 8%, behind both 13% last year, and 11% average. A combination of dry pods and green stems were slowing harvest progress.

Sorghum acreage turning color moved ahead to 95%, compared to 100% a year ago and 96% average. Sorghum mature was at 55%, behind 84% last year and 59% average. Harvest was just beginning at 5% complete, same as last year and near 4% average. Sorghum conditions rated 1% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, and 12% excellent.

Dry beans harvest moved ahead to 75%, just ahead of 70% last year, 71% average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, and 6% excellent. Alfalfa fourth cutting, where possible, was at 57% complete, ahead of last year's 39%, and 42% average.

Wheat seeded rated 80%, ahead of 77% last year and 69% average. Wheat was 36% emerged, behind 43% last year but same as 36% average. Western stands were reported as excellent.

Proso Millet harvest was near two thirds complete at 63%.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions rated 7% very poor, 16% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, and 7% excellent. Day and night temperature differences were noted as having potential for respiratory problems. Supplemental feeding was underway in the driest regions of the State.

| CROP PROGRESS<br>AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 1999 | AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | STATE | LAST<br>WEEK | LAST<br>YEAR | AVER-<br>AGE |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | NW                                | NC  | NE  | C   | EC  | SW  | SC  | SE  |       |              |              |              |
| % Soybeans Turning Color                  | n/a                               | 100 | 100 | 96  | 97  | 99  | 99  | 96  | 98    | 85           | 100          | 94           |
| % Soybeans Dropping Leaves                | n/a                               | 98  | 92  | 79  | 65  | 82  | 83  | 65  | 75    | 35           | 89           | 72           |
| % Soybeans Harvested                      | n/a                               | 3   | 5   | 4   | 6   | 8   | 18  | 12  | 8     | 1            | 13           | 11           |
| % Corn Mature                             | 64                                | 88  | 86  | 74  | 88  | 57  | 97  | 90  | 84    | 44           | 91           | 66           |
| % Corn Harvested                          | 4                                 | 4   | 5   | 6   | 10  | 7   | 11  | 16  | 9     | 4            | 19           | 8            |
| % Sorghum Turning Color                   | n/a                               | 100 | 100 | 99  | 99  | 100 | 91  | 95  | 95    | 87           | 100          | 96           |
| % Sorghum Mature                          | n/a                               | 41  | 55  | 36  | 48  | 28  | 50  | 61  | 55    | 21           | 84           | 59           |
| % Sorghum Harvested                       | n/a                               | 1   | 10  | 5   | 10  | 0   | 0   | 6   | 5     | n/a          | 5            | 4            |
| % Dry Beans Harvested                     | 72                                | 90  | n/a | 20  | n/a | 75  | n/a | n/a | 75    | 53           | 70           | 71           |
| % Proso Millet Harvested                  | 62                                | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 90  | n/a | n/a | 63    | 33           | n/a          | n/a          |
| % Alfalfa Fourth Cutting                  | 38                                | 53  | 64  | 66  | 57  | 42  | 56  | 76  | 57    | 35           | 39           | 42           |
| % Wheat Seeded                            | 90                                | 83  | 75  | 63  | 64  | 76  | 64  | 57  | 80    | 52           | 77           | 69           |
| % Wheat Emerged                           | 51                                | 16  | n/a | 1   | 9   | 29  | 3   | 13  | 36    | 12           | 43           | 36           |

## DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 1999

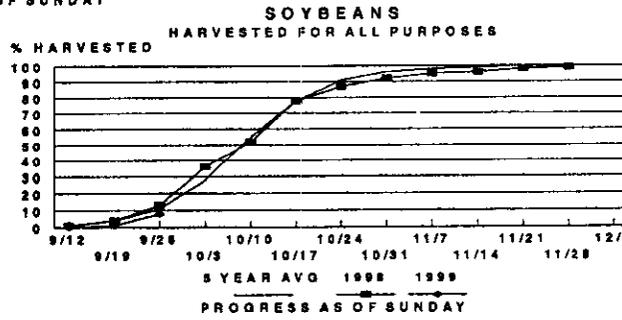
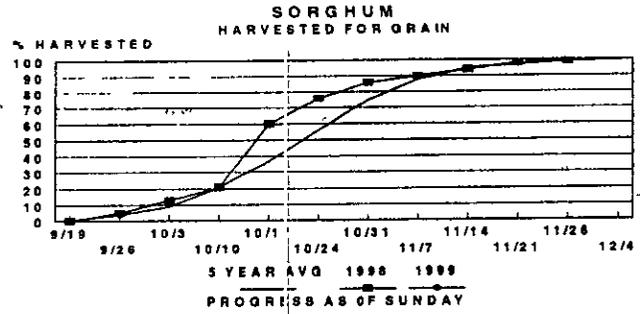
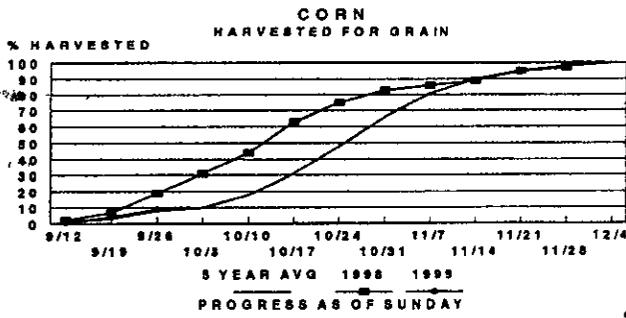
| Days suitable                           | 5 6 | 6 6 | 7 0 | 6 9 | 6 3 | 6 5 | 6 9 | 6 9 | 6 6 | 6 8 | 5 8 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent) | 0   | 2   | 46  | 3   | 7   | 1   | 3   | 42  | 14  | 9   | 10  |
| - Short                                 | 17  | 28  | 38  | 59  | 38  | 13  | 62  | 37  | 36  | 33  | 40  |
| - Adequate                              | 81  | 64  | 16  | 37  | 55  | 79  | 35  | 21  | 48  | 56  | 50  |
| - Surplus                               | 2   | 6   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 7   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 2   | 0   |
| Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent) | 0   | 3   | 29  | 7   | 6   | 2   | 2   | 37  | 11  | 8   | 8   |
| - Short                                 | 12  | 28  | 44  | 46  | 32  | 14  | 38  | 39  | 32  | 28  | 35  |
| - Adequate                              | 88  | 67  | 27  | 47  | 62  | 83  | 60  | 24  | 57  | 63  | 57  |
| - Surplus                               | 0   | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   |

1/ Revised n/a = not available

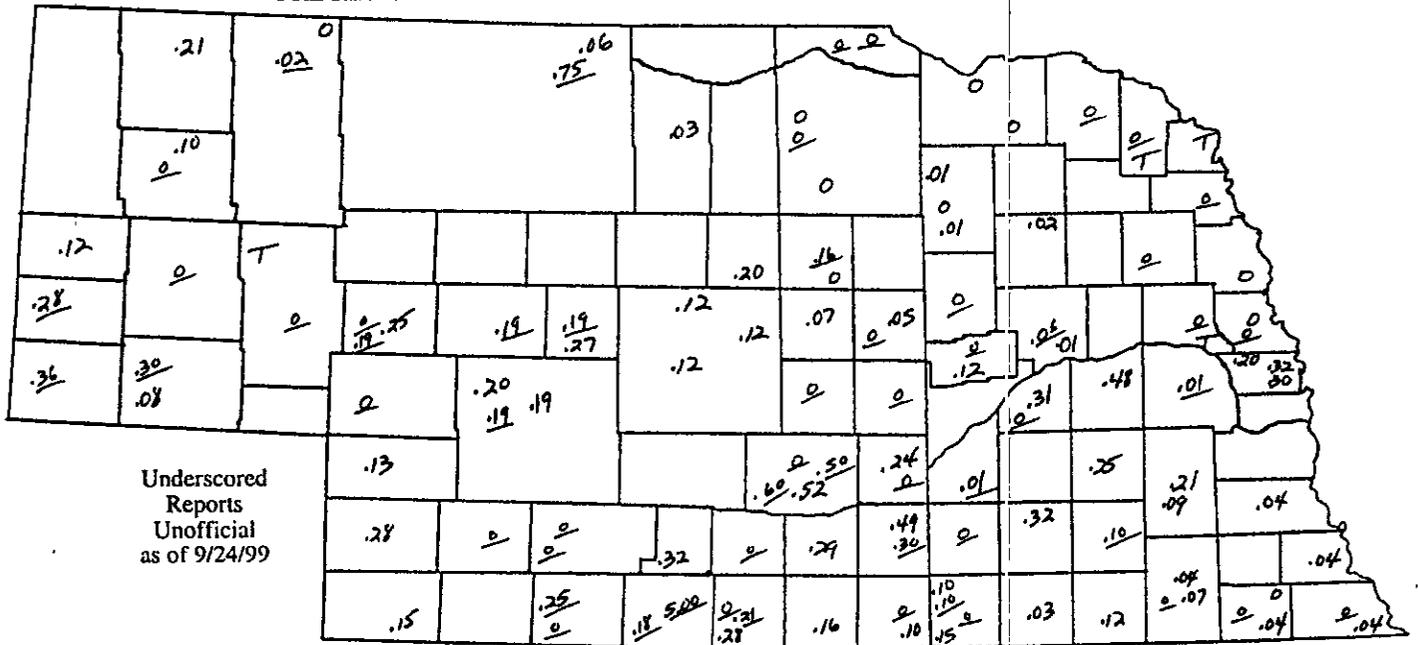
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**PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1999**



**PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 25, 1999**

|                      | NW    | NC    | NE    | CEN   | EC    | SW    | SC    | SE    |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total past week      | .09   | .10   | .01   | .18   | .19   | .19   | .27   | .08   |
| Total since April 1  | 16.83 | 18.80 | 22.45 | 21.67 | 25.09 | 18.94 | 21.03 | 21.00 |
| Normal since April 1 | 12.99 | 16.41 | 18.74 | 18.20 | 20.76 | 15.05 | 18.31 | 21.44 |
| Total as % of normal | 130%  | 115%  | 120%  | 119%  | 121%  | 126%  | 115%  | 98%   |

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,  
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1999**

| Station | Temperature  |     |      |           | Precipitation<br>Total<br>Inches | Growing Degree Data<br>Since April 15 |         |        |
|---------|--------------|-----|------|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|
|         | Extremes     |     | Mean | Departure |                                  | Last<br>Week                          | Current | Normal |
|         | Max          | Min |      |           |                                  |                                       |         |        |
| NW      | Chadron      | 89  | 38   | 61        | ---                              | 21                                    | ---     | ---    |
|         | Scottsbluff  | 86  | 33   | 57        | -2                               | 12                                    | 104     | 2517   |
|         | Sidney       | 86  | 36   | 58        | ---                              | 08                                    | 94      | 2401   |
| NC      | Valentine    | 91  | 34   | 59        | 0                                | 06                                    | ---     | ---    |
|         | Arthur       | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 94      | 2476   |
|         | O'Neill      | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 110     | 2656   |
| NE      | Norfolk      | 86  | 29   | 60        | -1                               | 02                                    | ---     | ---    |
|         | Sioux City   | 87  | 29   | 59        | -2                               | T                                     | ---     | ---    |
|         | Concord      | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 103     | 2722   |
|         | Elgin        | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 113     | 2682   |
|         | West Point   | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 104     | 2758   |
| CEN     | Grand Island | 88  | 36   | 62        | 0                                | 24                                    | 106     | 2851   |
|         | Ord          | 90  | 32   | 61        | ---                              | 07                                    | 111     | 2759   |
|         | Kearney      | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 103     | 2815   |
| EC      | Lincoln      | 89  | 32   | 62        | -1                               | 21                                    | 129     | 3078   |
|         | Omaha        | 87  | 35   | 62        | 0                                | 32                                    | ---     | ---    |
|         | Central City | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 110     | 2793   |
|         | Mead         | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 128     | 2892   |
| SW      | Imperial     | 88  | 41   | 61        | ---                              | 28                                    | ---     | ---    |
|         | North Platte | 86  | 33   | 58        | -1                               | 19                                    | 108     | 2702   |
|         | Curtis       | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 104     | 2750   |
| SC      | Holdrege     | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 102     | 2854   |
|         | Red Cloud    | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 125     | 3237   |
| SE      | Beatrice     | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 129     | 2964   |
|         | Clay Center  | --- | ---  | ---       | ---                              | ---                                   | 110     | 2814   |

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.