

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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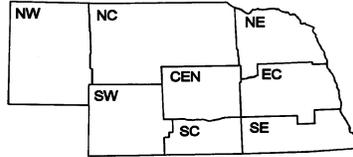
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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

Temperatures averaged mostly four to ten degrees below normals for the month of February. Measurable snowfall occurred in all but the second week of the month.

GENERAL

High demand for hay and forage during February continued to draw down producers supplies, according to the Nebraska Statistics Service. Limited availability of stalk fields and winter pastures, with reduced hay supplies, have left producers limiting purchases to immediate needs. While much of the snow melt has run off into creeks and rivers during warmer days, ponds have benefitted from the snow melt. Farm activities included tax work, planning and arranging supplies for the 2001 crop year, and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter Wheat crop rated 3% very poor, 12% poor, 35% fair, 42% good, and 8% excellent. Above normal precipitation across much of the southern third of the State boosted prospects for the coming season.

Hay and forage supplies were mostly short to adequate statewide, although most districts indicated very short supplies. The shortest supplies reported were in the southwest district.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

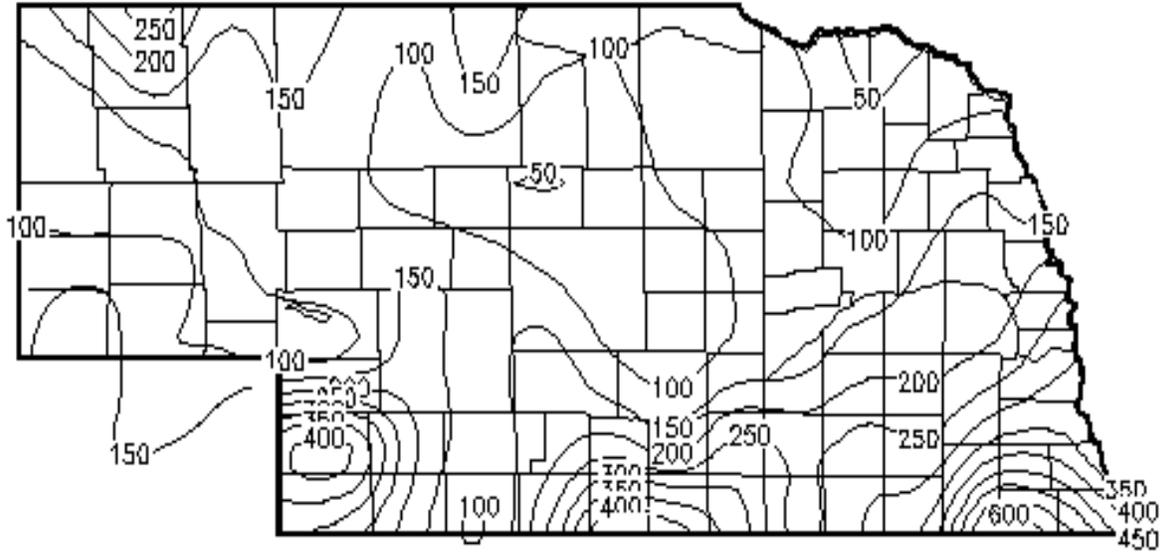
Cattle and calves condition rated 3% very poor, 17% poor, 39% fair, 38% good, and 3% excellent. Hay and grain feeding was necessary in most areas as stalk fields remained ice and snow covered. Calving since January 1 has reached 20% statewide, behind last year at 26%. Cold temperatures and snow cover have made it difficult for early calving.

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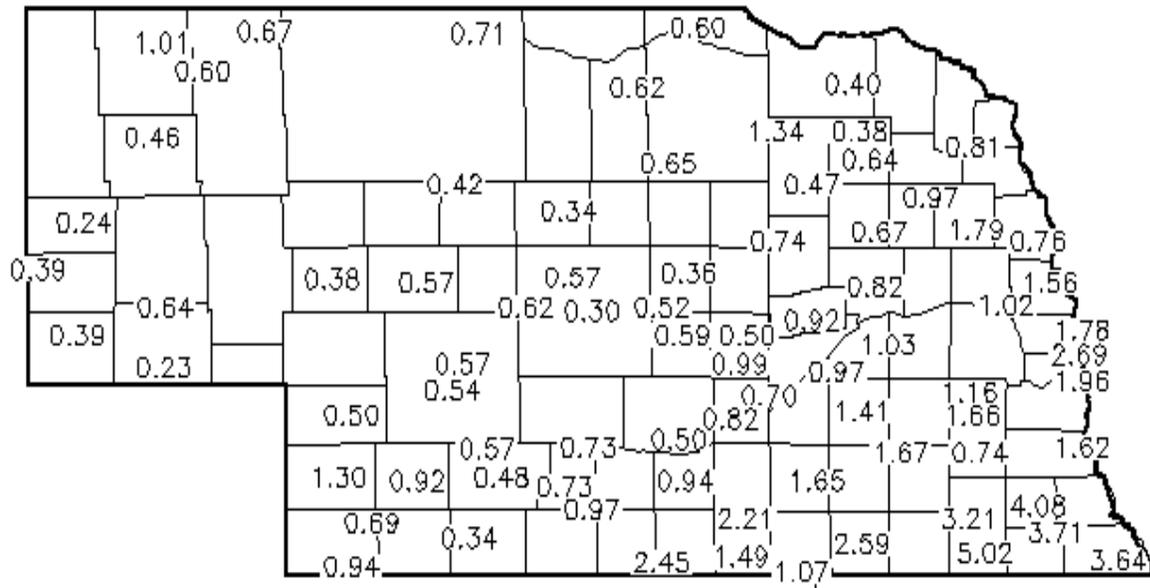
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FEBRUARY 2001 PRECIPITATION AS PERCENT OF NORMAL



FEBRUARY 2001 PRECIPITATION IN INCHES



Source: High Plains Climate Center