

Issue NE-CW3205, released August 8, 2005, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 7, 2005, varied temperatures and isolated rainfall did little to reduce stress on dryland crops and pastures, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producer activities included irrigating, putting up hay, weed control, maintenance, and marketing of last year's crops.

Weather Summary: Temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal to 4 degrees above with highs above 100 degrees common in many areas. Isolated rainfall fell during the week, ranging from southwestern to northeastern portions of the state along with portions of the Panhandle, but was absent across most of the state. Precipitation since April 1 was above normal for four of the eight districts, with the southern districts being the farthest behind normal.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 7, 2005

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	26	24	15	36
Short	38	33	31	32
Adequate	36	43	51	31
Surplus	0	0	3	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	25	18	30	41
Short	30	40	31	33
Adequate	45	42	39	26
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	6.5	5.7	6.2	6.5

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 8 poor, 27 fair, 44 good, and 17 excellent. Irrigated fields declined to 79 percent good or excellent and dryland fields declined to 35. Overall conditions are below last year but still above average. Corn silked was at 98 percent, ahead of last year and the average at 96. Fifty-one percent of the crop was in the dough stage, ahead of 41 last year and the average at 43. Five percent of the crop has dented, ahead of 3 last year but behind 8 for the average.

Ninety-eight percent of the soybean crop had bloomed, ahead of last year and the average at 94. Eighty percent of the crop had set pods, well ahead of 67 last year and the average at 63. Conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 14 poor, 33 fair, 40 good, and 10 excellent. This is still above average but below last year.

Sorghum conditions rated 6 percent very poor, 14 poor, 38 fair, 38 good, and 4 excellent, lower than last year but better than average. Seventy-one percent of the crop had headed, ahead of 54 last year and the average at 59. Sorghum coloring is at 1 percent, equal to last year but behind the average at 4.

Oat harvest is virtually complete, ahead of 94 last year and 93 for the average.

Dry Bean conditions rated 6 percent poor, 26 fair, 60 good, and 8 excellent. Eighty-nine percent of the crop had bloomed, ahead of 67 last year and the average at 86. Sixty-eight percent of the crop had set pods, ahead of last year at 26 and the average at 50.

Alfalfa conditions rated 10 percent very poor, 14 poor, 37 fair, 33 good, and 6 excellent. Second cutting was 98 percent complete, near last year and average at 99. Third cutting was 48 percent complete, ahead of last year at 34 and the average at 38. Wild hay conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 11 poor, 36 fair, 44 good, and 4 excellent.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 7, 2005

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	98	95	99	99
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	48	23	34	38
Corn Silked	98	96	96	96
Corn Dough	51	30	41	43
Corn Dented	5	0	3	8
Sorghum Headed	71	46	54	59
Sorghum Coloring	1	0	1	4
Soybeans Blooming	98	96	94	94
Soybeans Setting Pods	80	61	67	63

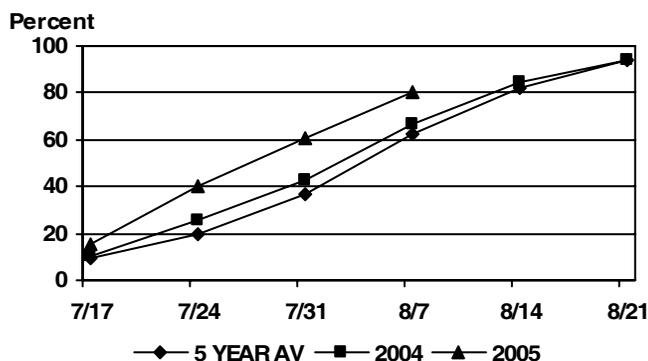
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 7, 2005

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	10	14	37	33	6
Corn	4	8	27	44	17
Dry Beans	0	6	26	60	8
Sorghum	6	14	38	38	4
Soybeans	3	14	33	40	10

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 11 percent very poor, 19 poor, 36 fair, 32 good, and 2 excellent. Conditions are behind last year but still above normal.

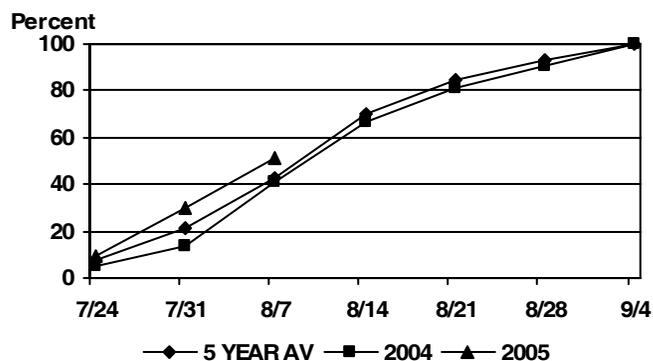
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>

SOYBEANS SETTING PODS



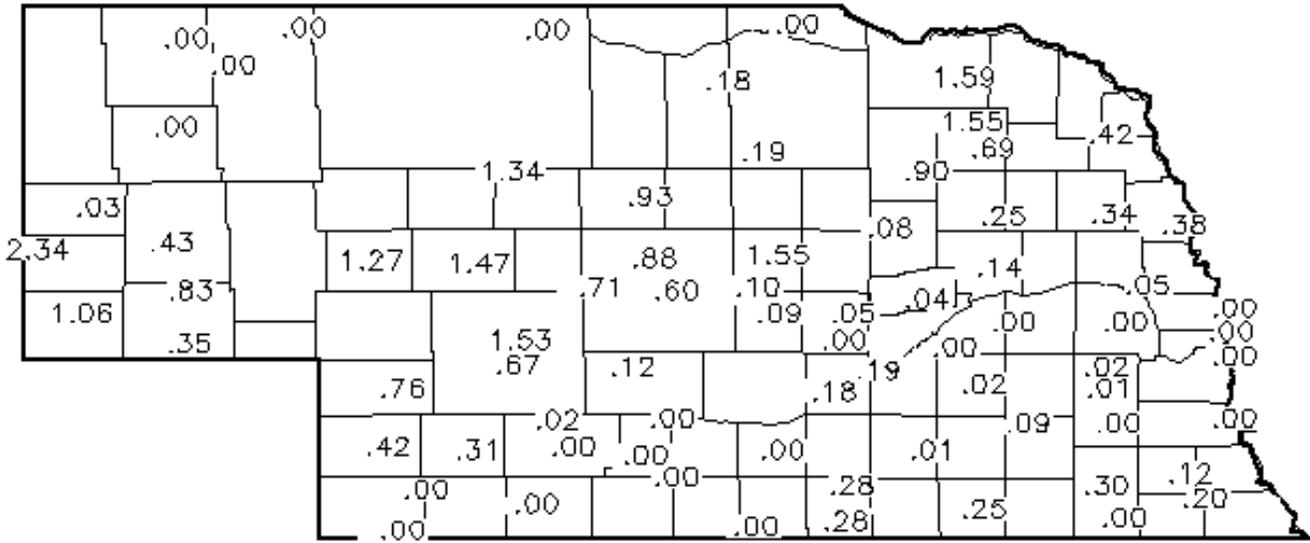
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

CORN DOUGH



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 7, 2005



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 7, 2005

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.62	.47	.70	.47	.02	.32	.04	.10
Total since April 1	14.03	17.36	16.74	14.08	14.54	11.02	11.71	14.45
Normal since April 1	10.52	12.73	14.48	13.75	15.10	12.30	13.50	15.55
Total as % of normal	134%	136%	115%	102%	96%	90%	86%	92%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, August 7, 2005**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	95	49	72	-1	135	1568	1739
	Scottsbluff	93	50	71	-2	135	1690	1734
	Sidney	97	48	70	-3	131	1582	1792
NC	Ainsworth	102	54	76	+2	162	1794	1984
	Arthur	98	49	72	-2	140	1673	1910
	O'Neill	102	51	76	+1	158	1860	2017
NE	Concord	97	52	74	-2	157	1953	2098
	Elgin	102	52	75	0	158	1932	2059
	West Point	97	49	74	-2	160	2069	2172
C	Grand Island	97	52	75	0	156	2067	2032
	Lexington	104	57	78	+3	169	2060	1989
	Ord	103	51	75	0	155	1947	2016
EC	Lincoln	97	53	77	-1	175	2322	2228
	Central City	94	49	73	-2	153	2062	2066
	Mead	94	47	73	-4	154	2166	2217
SW	Champion	99	53	74	-1	145	1803	1930
	North Platte	104	51	76	+1	155	1878	1957
	Curtis	107	54	79	+4	165	1925	1961
SC	Smithfield	99	54	75	0	157	1954	1996
	Minden	97	54	75	0	149	2045	2009
	Red Cloud	101	56	76	+2	168	2192	2052
SE	Beatrice	95	52	76	-2	167	2220	2228
	Clay Center	97	51	74	-1	153	2075	2051
	Nemaha	97	54	77	0	176	2343	2239

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