



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service
Nebraska Field Office

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Issue NE-CW1706

Released April 24, 2006

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 23, 2006, producers made excellent progress planting corn due to nearly a full week of acceptable field conditions, according to USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. The combination of high winds, especially in the panhandle, and no precipitation dried soils and allowed farmers to continue fieldwork. Fertilizer and chemicals were being applied when winds were calm. Other activities included discing, fixing fence, and getting ready to move livestock to pasture. In the southeast part of the state, farmers were cleaning up debris from tornadoes and storm damage that happened early last week.

Weather Summary: It was a dry week for the state with virtually zero precipitation reported. Temperatures ranged from 2 degrees below normal to 4 above but averaged mostly above.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending April 23, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	6	4	1	9
Short	31	19	7	19
Adequate	63	74	78	67
Surplus	0	3	14	5
Subsoil				
Very Short	15	14	11	21
Short	31	34	27	38
Adequate	54	51	61	41
Surplus	0	1	1	0
Days Suitable	6.3	5.8	2.4	4.3

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions were unchanged from last week and rated 4 percent very poor, 8 poor, 34 fair, 48 good, and 6 excellent, but below last year. Wheat jointed was at 22 percent, behind 38 percent last year but ahead of the average 21.

Corn planted increased significantly to 16 percent complete due to the dry field conditions. This is ahead of last year's 8 percent and the five-year

average of 11. In the southeast part of the state, a few fields showed corn emerged.

Oat planting increased from last week and rated 87 percent, behind last year at 90 but ahead of the average 80. Oats emerged was at 35 percent, behind 54 percent last year and 40 percent average.

Sugarbeet planting continued to show good progress from last week and was 49 percent complete, ahead of last year at 42.

Alfalfa conditions rated 2 percent poor, 25 fair, 55 good, and 18 excellent. This continues to be behind last year.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 23, 2006

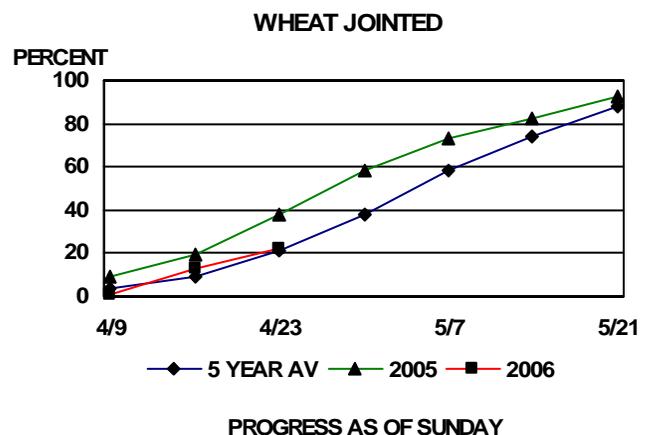
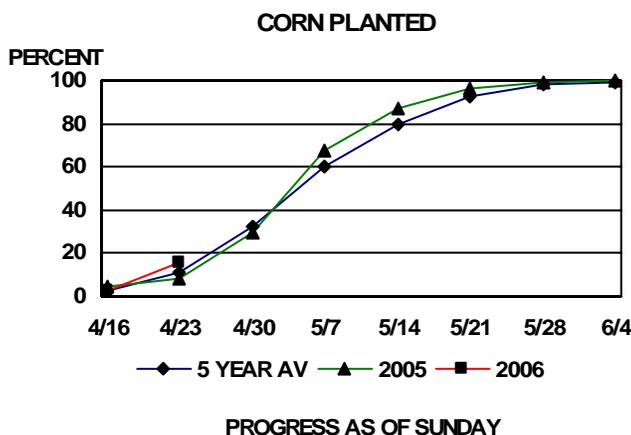
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	16	3	8	11
Oats Planted	87	73	90	80
Oats Emerged	35	14	54	40
Wheat Jointed	22	13	38	21

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 23, 2006

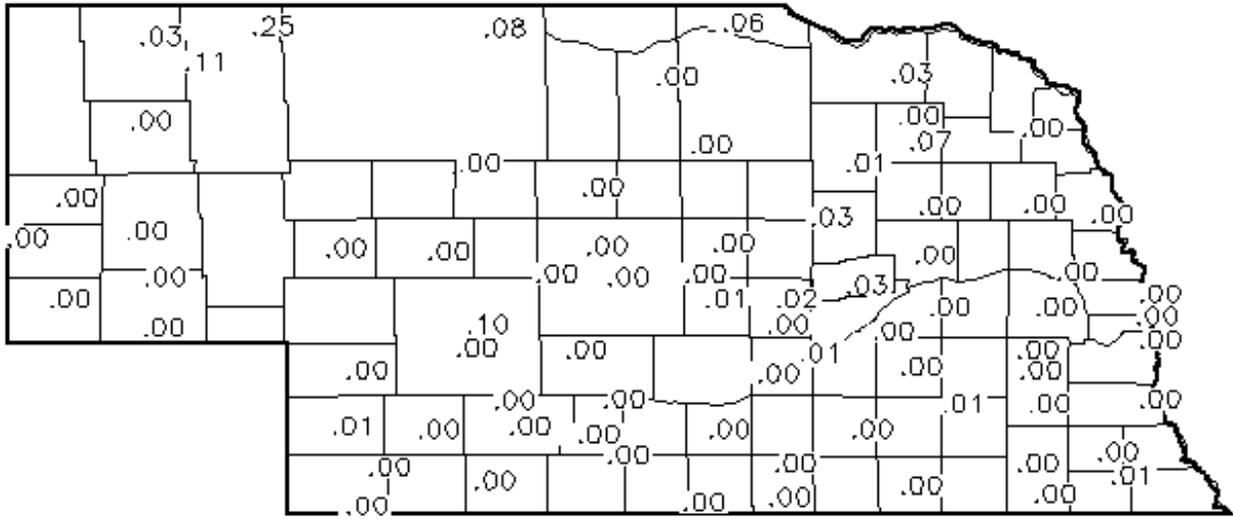
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	2	25	55	18
Wheat	4	8	34	48	6

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 36 fair, 51 good, and 6 excellent, above last year. Cattle and calf condition rated mostly good. Spring calving was 93 percent complete, same as year ago levels. Calf losses continued to rate average to below average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm.



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 23, 2006



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – April 23, 2006

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.03	.05	.01	.00	.01	.01	.00	.00
Total since April 1	.62	2.63	2.29	1.01	1.48	.41	.57	1.97
Normal since April 1	1.31	1.56	1.89	1.80	2.03	1.40	1.52	2.07
Total as % of normal	46%	169%	123%	56%	73%	29%	38%	93%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 23, 2006

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	79	26	48	0
	Scottsbluff	85	27	51	+2
	Sidney	80	25	49	-1
NC	Ainsworth	72	33	50	-2
	Arthur	76	30	51	0
	O'Neill	73	34	50	-2
NE	Concord	74	33	52	-1
	Elgin	72	35	51	-1
	West Point	76	35	53	-2
C	Grand Island	78	33	55	+3
	Lexington	78	32	55	+3
	Ord	74	31	53	0
EC	Central City	77	32	54	+1
	Lincoln	75	37	57	+2
	Mead	76	32	55	0
SW	Champion	82	26	53	+1
	Dickens	77	28	54	+2
	McCook	79	29	54	+2
SC	Minden	79	32	55	+3
	Red Cloud	80	32	56	+4
	Smithfield	79	32	55	+3
SE	Beatrice	78	35	56	+1
	Clay Center	79	30	54	+2
	Nemaha	78	40	59	+4

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