

U. S. Department of Agriculture
 Bureau of Agricultural Economics
 and
 U. S. Department of Commerce
 Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
 Division of Agr'l. Statistics
 and
 Agricultural Extension Service
 Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 2-3-53 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 2-2-53

WEATHER Temperatures averaged considerably above normal, with some unseasonably warm days over the south-central and western portions of the State. Light precipitation occurred over much of the northeastern portion of the State, but elsewhere there was very little or none.

CROPS After the snow melted winter wheat showed up green as usual. One western county reported wheat starting to green up. Reports from a few counties indicated a little shortage of moisture and a possibility of damage from winds. Reports range from wheat sprouting to wheat being pastured by cattle in some of the favored areas of the Panhandle. In general, the outlook has improved since last fall.

Feed grains range generally from ample to surplus, with only a few counties reporting a shortage. January 1 stocks of corn on farms totaled 190.5 million bu., or 39% more than last year and 9% above the 10 year average. Stocks of corn in all positions totaled 241 million bu., up 22% from a year ago. Farm stocks of oats and barley were considerably below those of a year ago.

About 81% of the counties report ample hay and forage and the balance report some local shortages. One county reported some cattle being sold because of feed shortage, while another county reported more hay for sale since the weather turned more favorable. January stocks of 4,086,000 tons of hay are down 14% from a year ago, but 22% above the average.

Reports from many counties commented on the drop in price of farm products, particularly cattle. One western county reported the drop in livestock prices is causing "not so mild" depression. A northeastern county reported that fewer farmers are paying 1952 income taxes because of money lost in cattle feeding. Another reports numerous farm sales including some bank foreclosure sales. Another reports cattle feeders not prosperous, some taking a loss, while still others are holding fat cattle for a better market, with some planning to hold until next summer.

Dairy cattle prices are holding up a little better in some counties. Stock pigs and sows are bringing a better price. The honey crop of 4.6 million lbs. was 43% above that of a year ago. About 30% was in producers' hands by the close of the year. The national honey crop was up 6% from 1951 and 23% above the 5 year average.

Prices of Nebraska farm products up to December 15 had dropped 20% from the peak in February 1951, 15% of which had occurred during the past year. This is a somewhat larger decrease than for the nation as a whole, which had a drop of 18% from the peak in February 1951 and 12% from a year ago.

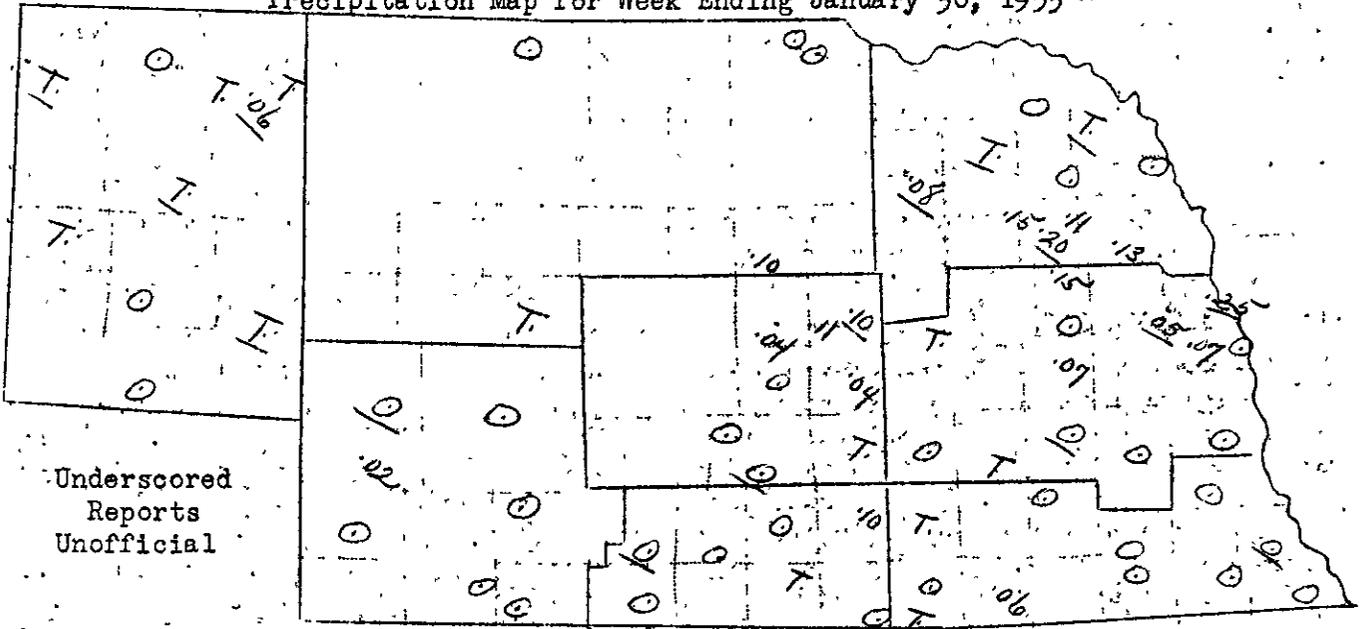
In southwestern Nebraska, where the weather has been a little more like spring than in the balance of the State, some farmers have started to cut stalks and disc corn land for spring small grain crops. This is in marked contrast to northeastern Nebraska, where some of the snow, especially drifts, had not melted by the close of the past week. Some roads were still blocked and in southeastern Nebraska some of the side roads are impassable from the recent thaw. Feed lots are muddy and in bad condition.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 2, 1953

<u>Eastern Division</u>		<u>Central Division</u>	<u>Western Division</u>		
Grand Island	0	Burwell	.10	Chadron	0
Lincoln	0	Lexington	0	Imperial	.02
Norfolk	.15	North Platte	0	Scottsbluff	0
Omaha	0	Valentine	0	Sidney	0
Sioux City	0				

1200
2-3-53

Precipitation Map for Week Ending January 30, 1953



Underscored Reports Unofficial

HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (for 24 hours ending in a.m.)

		January						February							
		27th		28th		29th		30th		31st		1st		2nd	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	48	27	39	18	44	30	53	28	47	27	55	33	60	29
	Scottsbluff	56	26	42	20	50	28	57	26	53	--	58	31	63	24
	Sidney	56	30	41	17	49	28	57	25	52	25	58	28	67	25
N-C	Burwell	52	33	38	12	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	38	21
	Valentine	50	29	36	22	39	27	56	28	51	28	42	23	59	29
NE	Norfolk	42	30	43	15	40	21	42	30	44	30	35	10	22	13
	Sioux City	--	--	40	5	39	14	39	27	39	25	34	6	19	11
CEN.	Grand Island	55	32	40	24	46	28	54	34	--	--	42	20	35	24
	Lexington	66	33	47	20	51	27	59	26	46	26	59	25	71	27
E-C	Lincoln	46	28	39	22	42	29	44	34	49	33	32	18	36	21
	Omaha	45	27	37	17	42	26	44	31	49	29	37	12	30	19
SW	Imperial	64	32	45	17	50	27	61	23	53	26	60	26	72	25
	North Platte	--	--	--	--	--	--	59	25	53	21	59	24	68	24

U. S. Department of Agriculture
 203 P. O. Building, Box 1911
 Lincoln 1, Nebraska
 * * * * *
 OFFICIAL BUSINESS
 Form BAE-A-2-53-810
 Permit No. 1001

Penalty for Private Use to Avoid
 Payment of Postage \$300