

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 5-17-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 5-16-55

WEATHER Temperatures averaged near normal for the week. There was no precipitation of consequence except in the extreme southeastern corner of the state, where substantial rains fell on several days. There was much sunny weather. There was considerable wind, and blowing dust was reported from the western portion of the state Sunday.

CROPS Another marked slump in the condition of crops took place during the past week. Except for irrigated crops, there has been a marked deterioration since the first of the month. Showers ranging from moderate to heavy occurred in much of the panhandle and some of southwestern Nebraska yesterday.

The condition of winter wheat dropped heavily again following the decline of the previous week. Showers in the panhandle and part of southwestern Nebraska will revive the crop except in spots where it was damaged too badly. Generally, wheat in Gage, Lancaster, Saunders, Dodge, and Cuming counties east to the Missouri River is holding out well. Between these two eastern and western areas, deterioration has been marked. The outcome of some of the wheat in this area is questionable although substantial rain may yet stage a better comeback than expected.

The slump in the condition of oats was also marked again. The crop has made very little headway except in the extreme eastern area. Much of this drouth damaged crop can still recover with adequate moisture.

About 21% of the corn was planted up to the last week end as compared with 32% the same date a year ago. Reports indicate that some of the soil is too dry for corn to sprout. Some farmers are waiting for rain before planting. A few farmers have irrigated their corn, both before and after planting. If the dry weather continues, there may be a marked shift from corn to sorghum crops.

Some of the alfalfa has been harvested. The crop in extreme eastern Nebraska and irrigated alfalfa is very good. In the dry area, some of it is hardly worth cutting. A few reports indicate some of the old alfalfa, as well as newly seeded alfalfa, is dying from lack of moisture.

Pastures are not making any growth, and the average condition is low. Many of the farmers who have turned their cattle on pastures have to supplement pasture with hay. While stocks of hay are still quite large, some farmers are out of hay, and the price has advanced making it difficult to get hay.

The greatest deficiency in moisture for the seven month period, October 1 to May 1, is bounded on the west by Red Willow, Frontier, Buffalo, Custer, and Blaine counties eastward through Antelope to the Missouri River except for the area Cuming, Dodge, Saunders, Lancaster, and Gage counties east to the Missouri River. These central and northeastern areas are in very bad shape due to the marked deficiency in moisture since October 1. With few exceptions, the northern portion of Nebraska has fared somewhat better, as well as most of the panhandle and southwestern Nebraska; however, there is an area centering about Box Butte county that is about as short of normal moisture as any other part of the state.

LIVESTOCK Reports indicate an increasing number of livestock being marketed because of lack of pasture and hay. Some are even reducing their breeding herds. Prices have dropped at the local auction markets. Hay prices are higher, and it is difficult to get except at a high price.

NOTE The map on the back of this page, if reproduced by the press, would reveal the drouth areas, and the corresponding conditions of the crops would be of real timely interest and value.

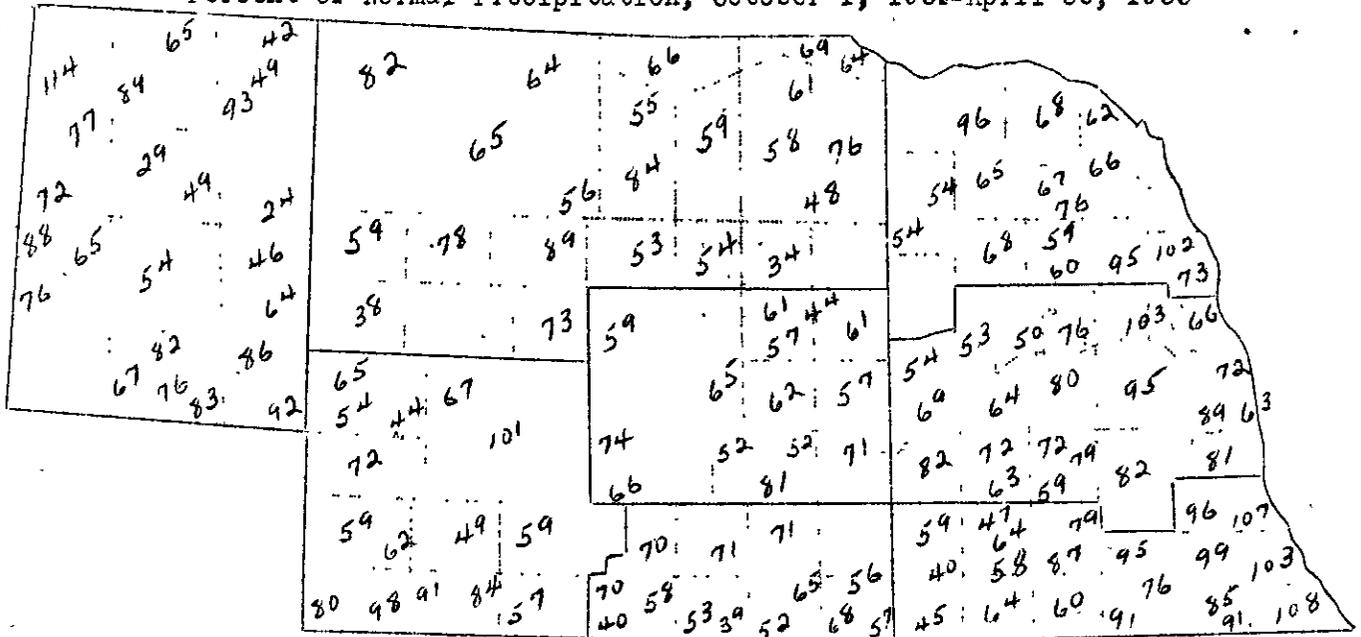
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 16, 1955

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	0	Burwell	0	Chadron	.05
Lincoln	.28	North Platte	0	Imperial	0
Norfolk	0	Valentine	0	Scottsbluff	.15
Omaha	.25			Sidney	.02
Sioux City	0				

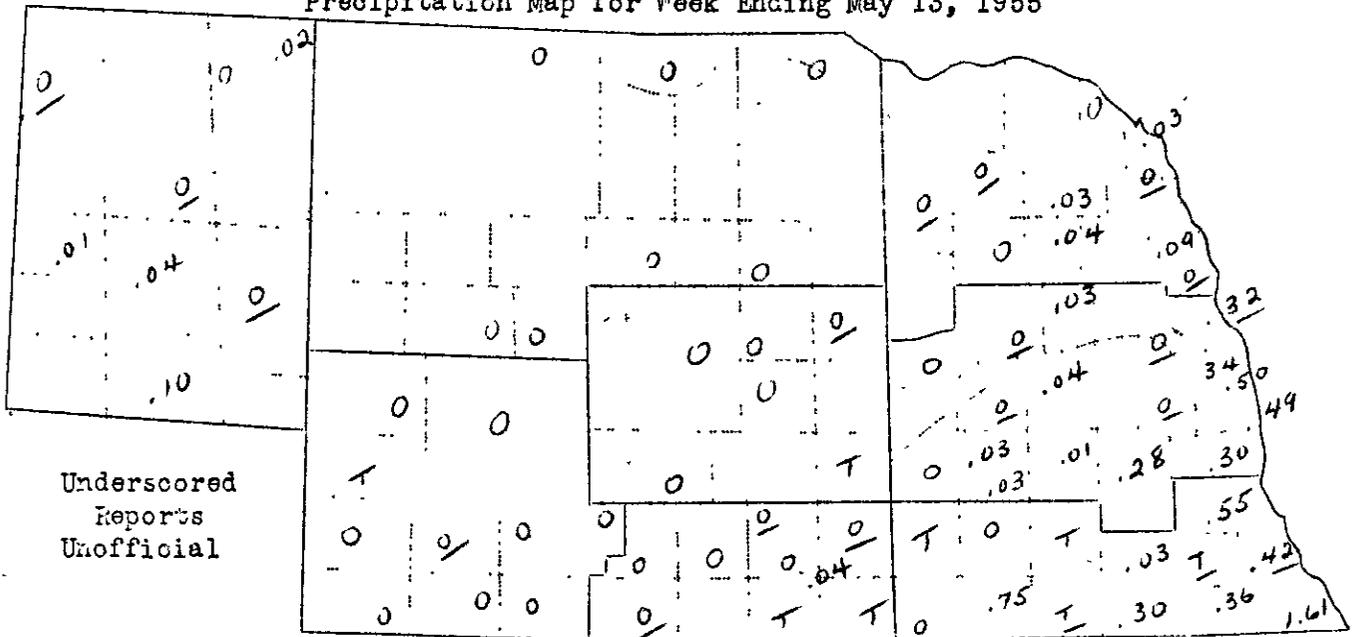
Precipitation, April 1-May 13, 1955

	Eastern Div.	Central Div.	Western Div.
Total past week	0.22	T.	.02
Total since April 1	1.87	0.72	1.32
Normal since April 1	4.12	3.59	3.12

Percent of Normal Precipitation, October 1, 1954-April 30, 1955



Precipitation Map for Week Ending May 13, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		May 10th		11th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	62	33	77	43	82	43	86	55	90	57	78	60	83	50
	Scottsbluff	60	34	72	41	79	44	83	43	88	54	77	56	83	49
	Sidney	62	40	67	36	75	37	83	38	85	51	68	51	83	48
N-C	Burwell	71	33	77	42	..	..	..	..	..	..	81	..	..	..
	Valentine	64	32	76	45	78	49	84	52	..	..	79	60	83	55
NE	Norfolk	72	38	75	45	79	41	77	42	74	48	81	55	84	53
	Sioux City	72	42	75	45	78	48	76	46	78	49	80	52	82	53
Cen.	Grand Island	72	42	74	46	75	43	76	45	77	49	80	55	83	54
	Lincoln	76	50	71	46	71	56	70	48	74	49	78	54	81	56
E-C	Omaha	68	51	71	45	72	47	68	47	73	48	79	52	80	53
	Imperial	70	37	70	34	75	38	84	42	83	50	77	57	86	57
SW	North Platte	68	35	72	40	76	39	82	47	81	51	77	60	82	59

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