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NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 4/8/68

Week Ending 4/8/68

WEATHER On Wednesday a spring blizzard moved through the Panhandle and north central Nebraska leaving 20 inches of new snow at Harrison, 10 inches at Chadron and nine inches at Valentine, tapering off to less than one inch in the southeast. Strong winds caused considerable blowing and drifting through Thursday. Moisture amounts ranged from about one-fourth of an inch in the southwest to more than one and one-half inches across northern Nebraska and into the southeast.

Temperatures averaged from three degrees below normal in the Panhandle and north central to normal over the remainder of the State.

CROPS The wheat crop was aided by significant moisture over most of the State. High winds, blowing snow, and cold temperatures caused some stress to the crop in the Panhandle and portions of the southwest. Little snow remained on open fields after the storm. Some soil erosion and insect damage was noted in the southwest early in the week. Much of the State experienced high winds and warmer temperatures over the week end which greatly accelerated evaporation of the surface soil moisture supply.

Most field work was halted at mid-week and only four days were favorable for work. Farmers were back in the fields over the week end in areas which received lighter amounts of precipitation. Spring seeded crops will come up to a more even stand now but additional moisture will be needed. Sugar beet planting was 40 to 50 percent completed prior to the blizzard last Wednesday. Planting is expected to get under way again this week. Potato planting is expected to start as soon as the soil dries enough for equipment operation.

Cool season grasses were starting to make some growth. Rains greatly improved prospects for an earlier pasture.

LIVESTOCK The blizzard caused severe stress to all livestock in the Panhandle and north central counties. Some locally heavy losses were reported in these areas. Young calves and recently shorn sheep were hardest hit, but other matured animals including swine were lost. Some cattle losses occurred when they drifted into lakes and drainage ditches. Gains on fat cattle were greatly reduced in the Panhandle area.

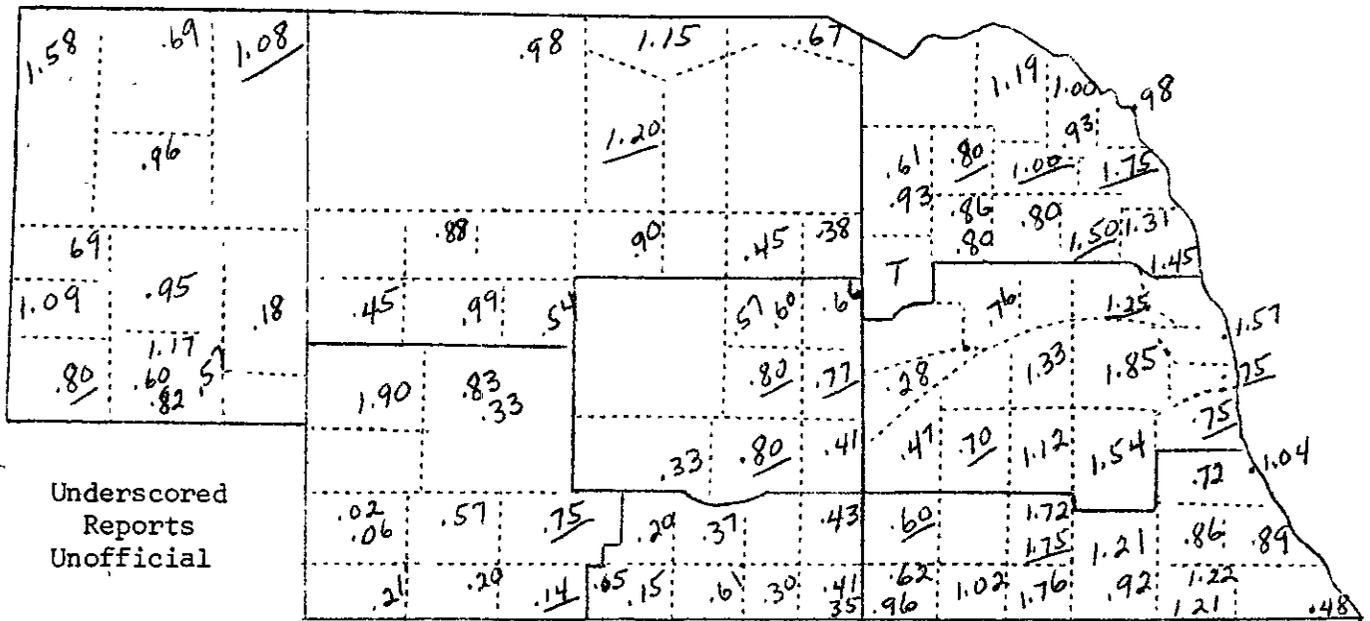
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 1968

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	.45	Burwell	.45	Chadron	.97
Lincoln	1.49	North Platte	.60	Imperial	.19
Norfolk	1.17	Valentine	1.51	Scottsbluff	.74
Omaha	.93			Sidney	.63
Sioux City	1.39				

Precipitation, April 1 - April 5, 1968

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.84	.74	.99	.52	.85	.58	.32	1.01
Total since April 1	.84	.74	.99	.52	.85	.58	.32	1.01
Normal since April 1	.27	.30	.34	.30	.34	.27	.30	.35

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 5, 1968



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 a.m., CST)

		April													
		1st		2nd		3rd		4th		5th		6th		7th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	69	43	53	19	23	5	34	13	53	32	53	32	46	31
	Scottsbluff	71	40	61	24	21	9	33	20	59	34	59	33	46	27
	Sidney	71	38	66	17	20	9	39	19	60	27	66	29	46	24
NC	Burwell	63	39	53	46	51	18	32	13	57	34	75	33	55	--
	Valentine	65	38	54	33	33	11	26	6	53	37	65	42	49	32
NE	Norfolk	61	40	48	45	68	24	36	15	51	37	72	47	60	37
	Sioux City	64	41	48	47	71	29	41	19	52	36	73	54	60	39
CEN	Grand Island	62	45	54	50	65	22	36	17	56	37	77	46	61	39
EC	Lincoln	62	46	56	49	70	30	41	22	52	39	71	52	60	40
	Omaha	61	40	46	46	72	29	38	17	48	36	72	52	57	40
SW	Imperial	68	42	72	40	43	14	36	17	63	30	72	32	51	30
	North Platte	65	46	63	49	51	15	33	14	60	35	72	31	53	30

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