

AKM 1336
5-20-74

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
and U S Department of Commerce
Environmental Science Services Admn
National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr College of Agriculture

Release 5/20/74

Week Ending 5/20/74

WEATHER

Above normal temperatures over the State began cooling the first portion of the week and remained below normal until warming the latter portion of the period. Showers and thunderstorms occurred intermittently through the week over much of the State. The rainfall averaged from a trace to zero over the extreme west to a little over three inches southeast.

CROPS

Nebraska farmers and ranchers made good fieldwork progress during the week. Topsoil moisture supplies continued to decrease in many western areas. The wheat crop is heading in some eastern areas. Many farmers are cutting alfalfa to control alfalfa weevil.

Winter wheat condition is reported as good or excellent in 85% of the counties...about the same as last week's condition. However, in the northwest area of the State, wheat is reported only in good to fair condition. The stage of maturity varies considerably with most wheat in early to late boot stage. Fields in the eastern part of the State have headed or are heading. Leaf rust and wheat streak mosaic have been spotted and farmers should contact their county extension agents for information on control and application methods.

Corn planting is 85% complete, compared to 80% last year and 70% normal. Farmers in the southwest have delayed planting because of dry topsoil and other farmers were temporarily delayed by rain showers. Early plantings are up in most areas but showing slow growth due to cool temperatures.

Sorghum and soybean plantings are 20% complete, the same as last year.

Normal for this date for sorghum is 15% and for soybeans is 10%.

Alfalfa hay condition is reported as 55% good, 33% fair, 6% poor and 6% excellent. Alfalfa weevil populations continue to increase and the best control has been harvesting the first crop. Control chemicals are in short supply and expensive in most areas.

Wild hay condition is generally good with 70% of the counties good, 20% fair and 10% excellent.

GENERAL

During the week of May 11-17, 5½ days were suitable for fieldwork. Farmers and ranchers were busy fertilizing, planting row crops, applying herbicides and insecticides, branding calves, etc.

Topsoil moisture supplies are 48% short, 48% adequate and 4% surplus as of Friday, May 17. Moisture received over the weekend will help alleviate some shortages in northeast and south central areas. But in the western half of the State, topsoil moisture is generally reported short. Subsoil moisture supplies are generally adequate with 81% of the counties adequate, 16% short and 3% surplus.

LIVESTOCK

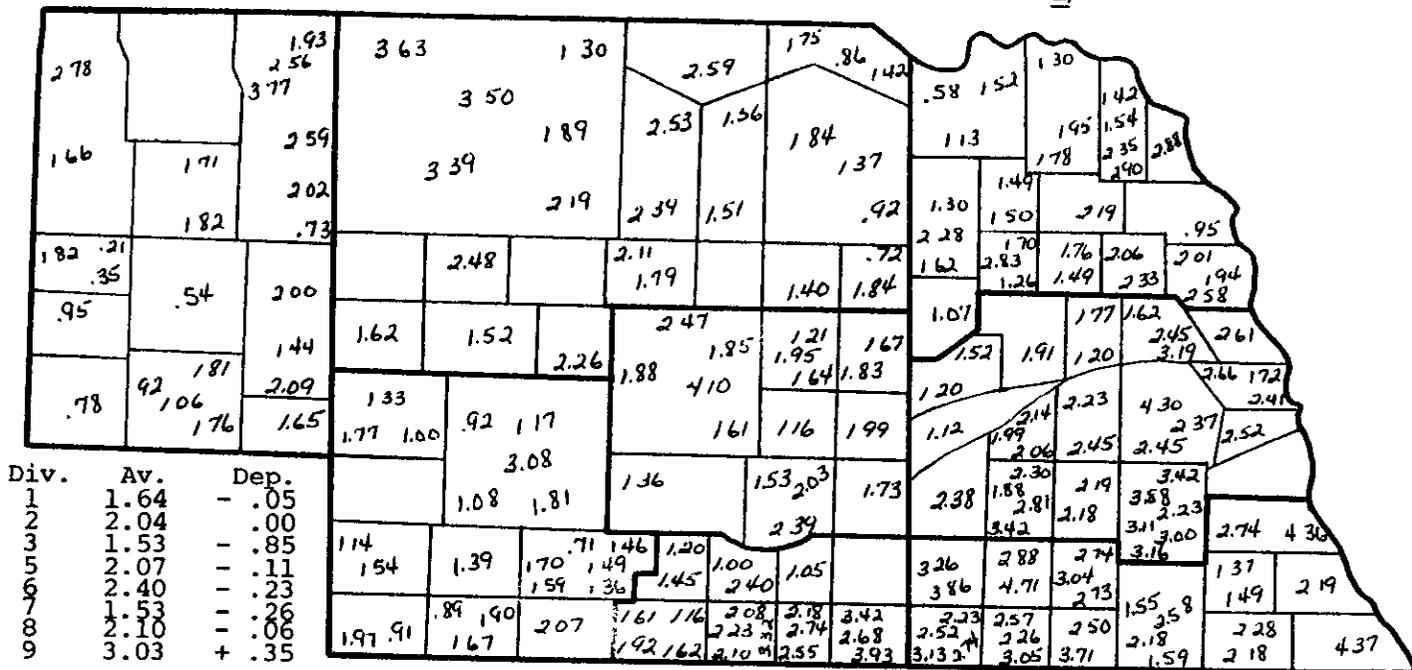
Range and pasture feed supplies are adequate in 77% of counties, short in 21% and surplus in 2%. Short feed supplies are appearing mostly in the Panhandle and north central areas.

Livestock are in generally good condition. Ranchers have been busy branding yearlings and repairing fences.

Precipitation, April 1 - May 17, 1974

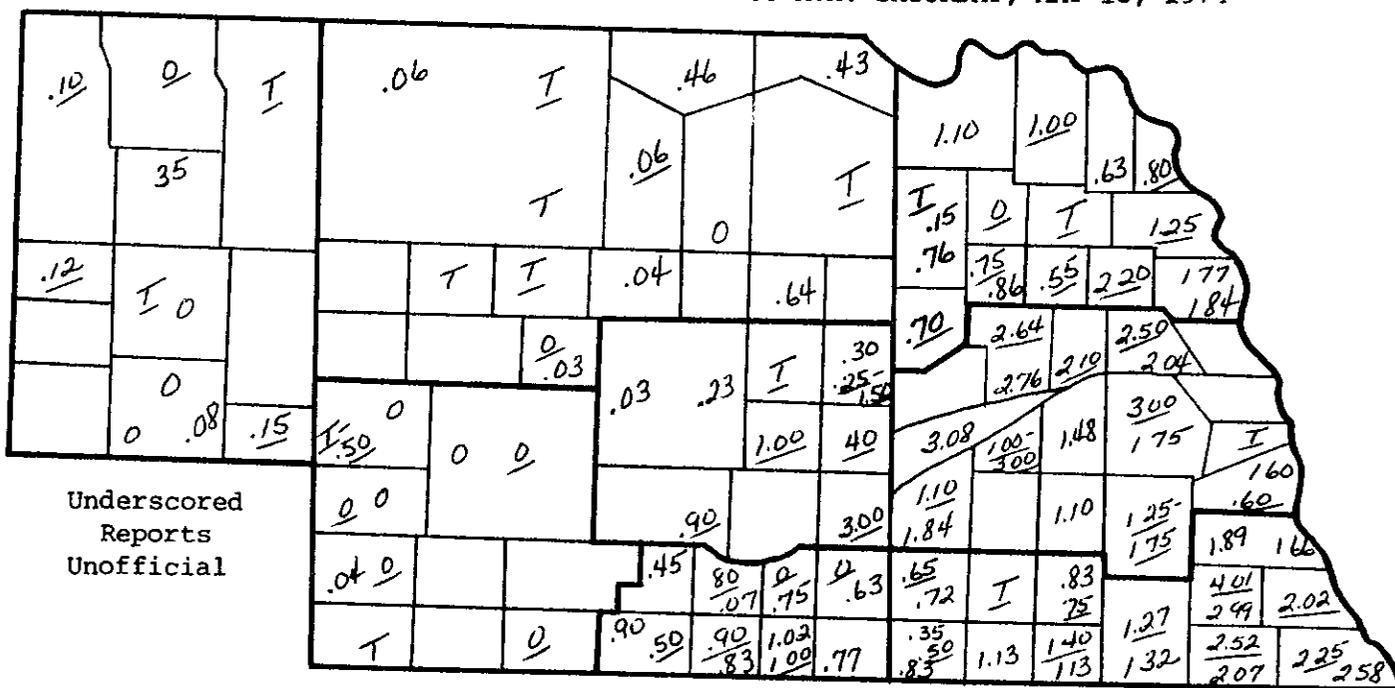
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.10	.20	1.00	.20	1.80	.00	.70	1.50
Total since April 1.....	1.70	3.00	3.80	2.80	4.90	1.60	3.70	5.80
Normal since April 1.....	3.35	3.76	4.13	4.01	4.25	3.55	4.03	4.64

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF APRIL 1974 1/



1/ Courtesy of Conservation & Survey Division, University of Nebraska.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1974



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1974

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	83	34	57	--	.01
Scottsbluff	88	33	58	+2	.01
Sidney	--	--	--	--	--
NC Burwell	83	37	61	--	.07
Valentine	86	32	56	-1	.85
NE Norfolk	78	39	61	+1	.31
Sioux City	78	38	61	0	1.44
CEN Grand Island	84	45	65	+5	.25
EC Lincoln	82	49	64	+2	1.84
Omaha	82	37	63	0	.63
SW Imperial	94	39	63	--	0
North Platte	87	37	62	+4	T

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
 211 Federal Building, Box 81069
 Lincoln, Nebraska 68501
 Official Business

POSTAGE PAID
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
 AGRICULTURE
 AGR-101

