

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



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

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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68508

Week Ending 9/23/74

WEATHER

Temperatures averaged 1-6 degrees below normal for the period. Daytime highs the first three days of the period were as much as 16 degrees above normal with nighttime lows up to 18 degrees below normal the latter portion.

Rainfall was rather sparse. The heaviest reported amount was .40 inches at Merriman in the north central portion of the State.

CROPS

Nebraska farmers and ranchers main activities this past week were putting up silage, seeding wheat, and preparing for or actually harvesting fall crops. Nearly the entire week was suitable for fieldwork during the survey period (September 14-20). Topsoil moisture supplies declined and were short in 79% of the counties reporting. Subsoil moisture supplies also declined and were short in 87% of the counties.

Irrigated corn condition is reported as mostly good over the State. Some irrigated fields that would yield well below normal will be harvested as silage.

Dryland corn remains in poor to fair condition over the State. Drought and frost damaged crops are still being harvested for silage. Some farmers are pasturing the crop and some are still planning to harvest a grain crop.

In general, about 95% of both irrigated and non-irrigated corn is in or past the dent stage, normal is 97%. Over 50% of the crop is mature to date, with 72% being normal. Some corn is being harvested but in only a few areas. Moisture content is still running high.

Sorghum condition remained relatively unchanged from the previous week. Milo harvest has begun in many areas of the State. In some cases where the milo crop was poor due to unfavorable weather conditions, it was cut as forage along with the other forage crops. Nearly 80% of

CROPS (Cont.)

the crop has now turned, compared to the normal of 98%. About 30% has become ripe to date, normal is 48% by this time. Warm, dry weather is needed for maturity.

Soybean condition improved slightly over the previous week in most areas of the State. Of the counties reporting, 80% of the leaves have turned, 96% is normal. About 45% have shed the leaves, compared to the normal of 75%. To date, nearly 20% of the crop is mature, normal is 30%.

Wheat seeding is continuing throughout the State. Over 55% of the wheat has been seeded at this time; normally 70% has been seeded. Seeding in the Panhandle area is nearly 90% complete. Some farmers are waiting for additional moisture before seeding. Some wheat is being planted in dry topsoil; other wheat was sown up to four inches deep to reach moisture. Moisture is needed statewide for this crop.

Alfalfa condition declined slightly from the previous week. To date, nearly 40% of the fourth cutting has now been harvested. More rains are needed.

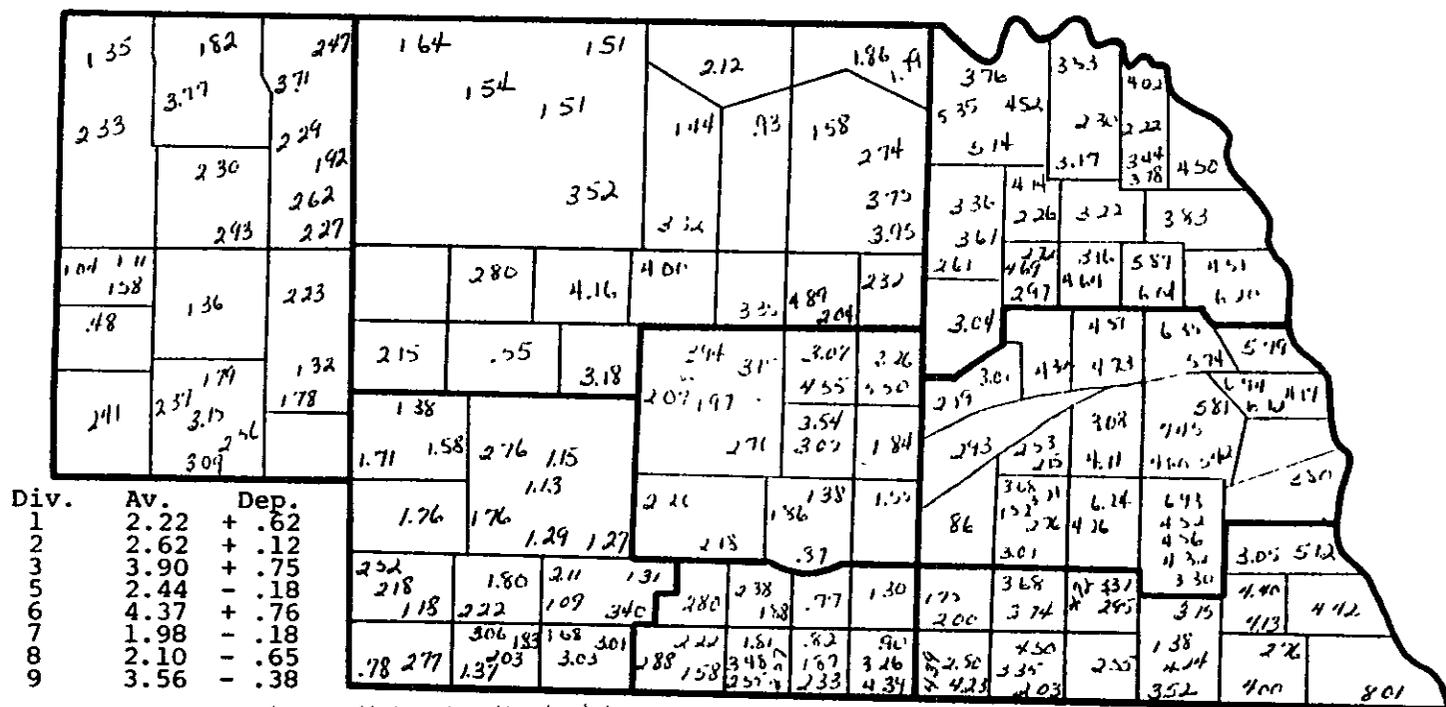
Dry edible bean harvest was in full swing last week. Yields and quality are reported to be excellent.

Sugar beet condition is reported to be in excellent condition. Harvest is expected to begin around October 1.

LIVESTOCK

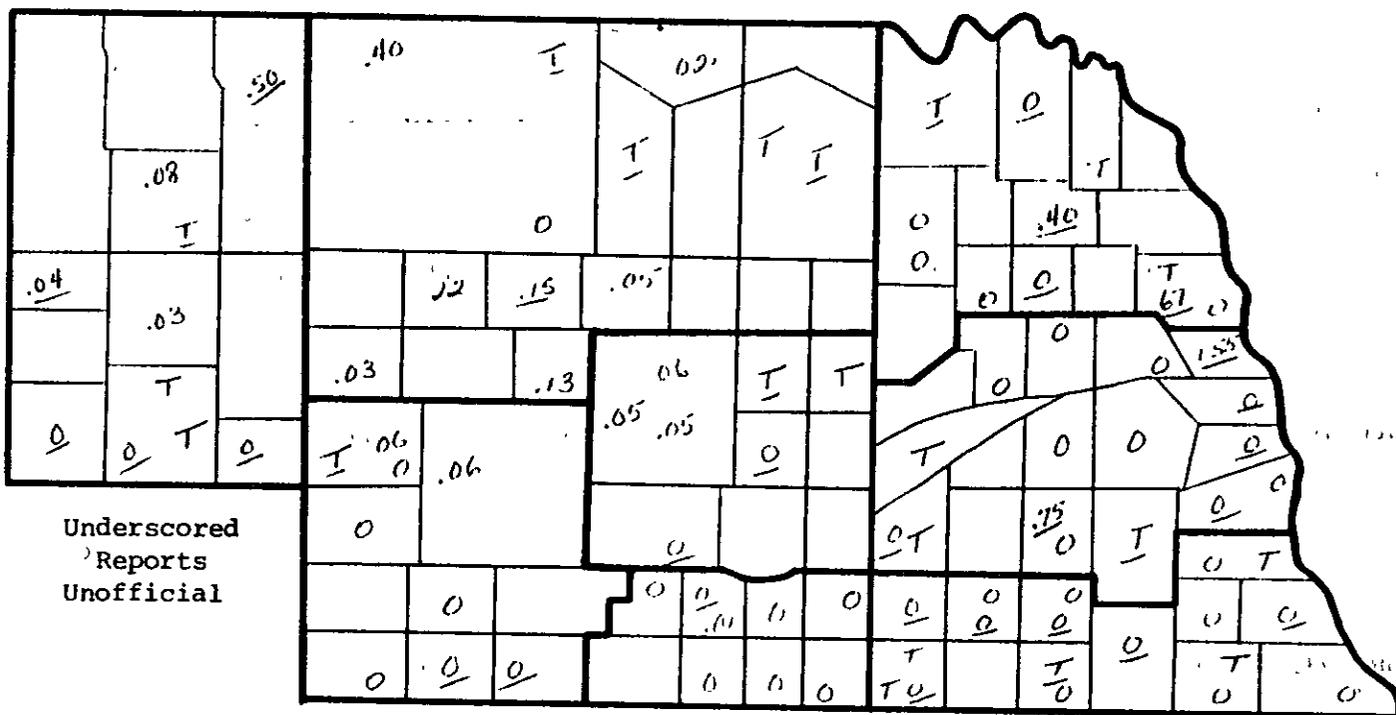
Range and pasture feed supplies are short in 86% of the counties reporting. Creep feeding and supplemental feeding are being used statewide to help stretch pastures. Hay is in short supply in some local areas of the State. In some areas, cattle are being put into stubble fields. Culling of herds is also continuing.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF AUGUST 1974 1/



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

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1974



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1974

| Station | Temperature | | | | Precipitation |
|------------------|-------------|-----|------|-----------|-----------------|
| | Extremes | | Mean | Departure | Total Inches 1/ |
| | Max | Min | | | |
| NW Chadron | 89 | 34 | 58 | -- | .25 |
| Scottsbluff | 83 | 34 | 55 | -5 | .04 |
| Sidney | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| NC Burwell | 91 | 34 | 58 | -- | .01 |
| Valentine | 90 | 32 | 59 | -1 | .07 |
| NE Norfolk | 90 | 36 | 61 | -1 | T |
| Sioux City | 90 | 32 | 61 | -1 | T |
| CEN Grand Island | 91 | 38 | 62 | -1 | .02 |
| EC Lincoln | 89 | 35 | 62 | -3 | T |
| Omaha | 88 | 34 | 61 | -4 | T |
| SW Imperial | 85 | 33 | 58 | -- | 0 |
| North Platte | 88 | 29 | 55 | -6 | .05 |

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Precipitation, April 1 - September 20, 1974

| | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total past week..... | .10 | .10 | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 |
| Total since April 1..... | 8.20 | 11.20 | 16.00 | 13.40 | 14.70 | 11.30 | 11.80 | 13.70 |
| Normal since April 1.... | 12.28 | 14.92 | 17.71 | 16.22 | 19.09 | 14.01 | 16.43 | 20.92 |