

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

Plan 2750 4-2-79

Nebraska
Crop & Livestock
Reporting
Service

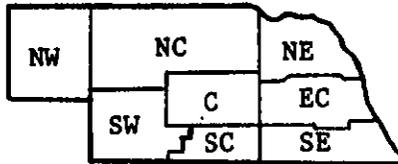
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Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

Phone: (402) 471-5541

Release 4/2/79

Period Ending 3/31/79

Economics, Statistics, & Cooperatives Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UNL

WEATHER

Temperatures averaged near or slightly below normal with the coldest readings in the north central and northeast. Precipitation over Nebraska as a whole averaged from .30 to .40 inch with near a .50 inch average in the southeast.

GENERAL

Above normal precipitation through March has left most of the State with a soil moisture condition rated as adequate or better on April 1. Thirty-six percent of the counties report topsoil moisture as surplus, 63% report adequate levels, and only 1% reported supplies as short. Subsoil moisture was rated as adequate in 80% and short in the remaining 20%. Moisture supplies were similar to the levels of a year ago. Fieldwork has been limited and will require several drying days before widespread operations can begin. Manure spreading, stalk shredding, fertilizing and livestock handling were the most common operations being accomplished last week.

CROPS

The winter wheat crop has begun greening up with 44% of the acreage rated in good condition, 49% in fair condition and 7% considered poor. Some winter kill damage was evident in a few southern and western wheat fields, but only minor losses were evident at this time. Adequate topsoil moisture was a favorable factor.

Spring seeding of oats and barley was very limited with about 5% of the expected acreage planted. Planting was reported from the southern Panhandle and extreme south central areas.

Some field preparation for sugar beets was underway in the Panhandle.

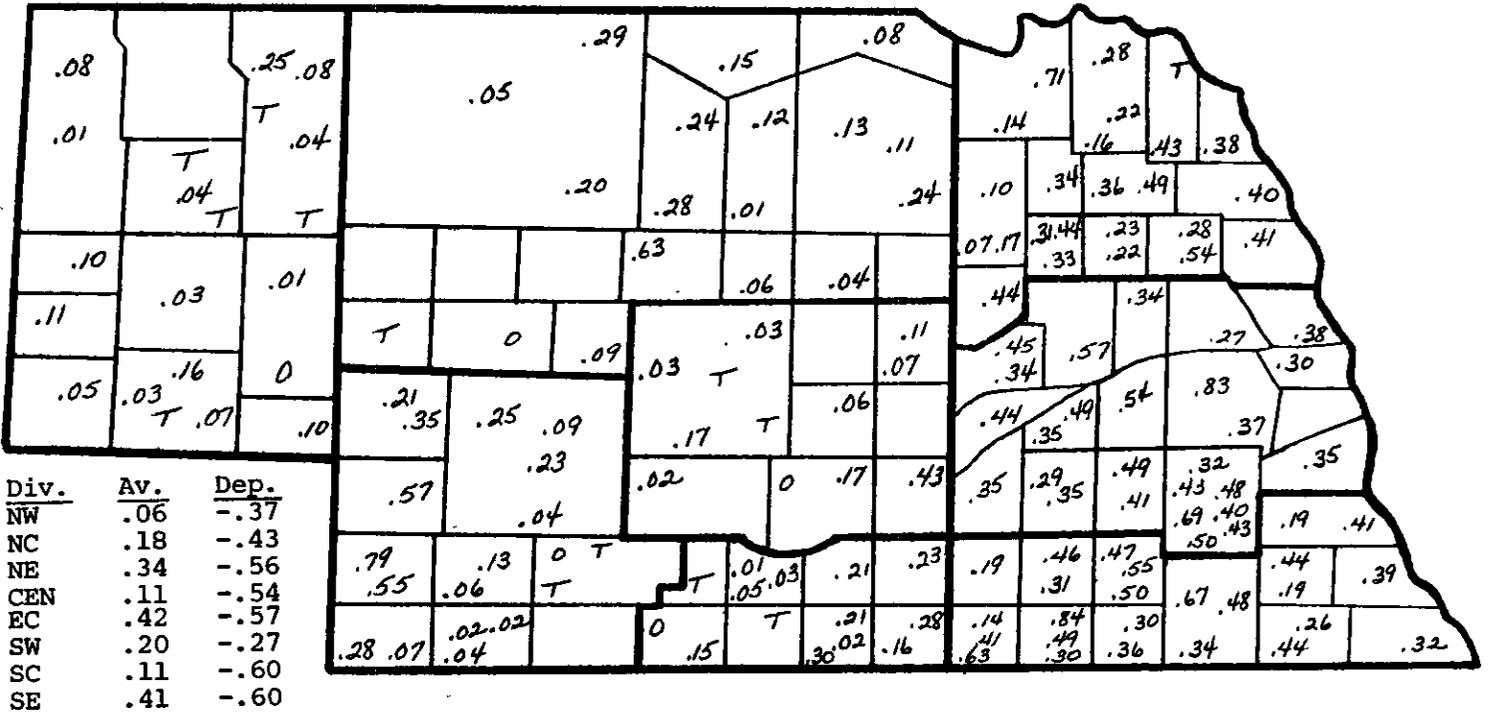
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies were rated adequate in 66% of the counties and short in 34%. Some operators have continued to utilize stalk fields until tillage operations begin. Hay supplies were generally rated as good with prices remaining high. Some losses of baby calves, pigs and lambs have been reported but overall losses do not appear to be above normal in most areas. Range grasses were beginning to grow but are not providing significant forage at this time.

NEBRASKA
CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORTING SERVICE
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Lincoln, Nebraska 68501
Official Business

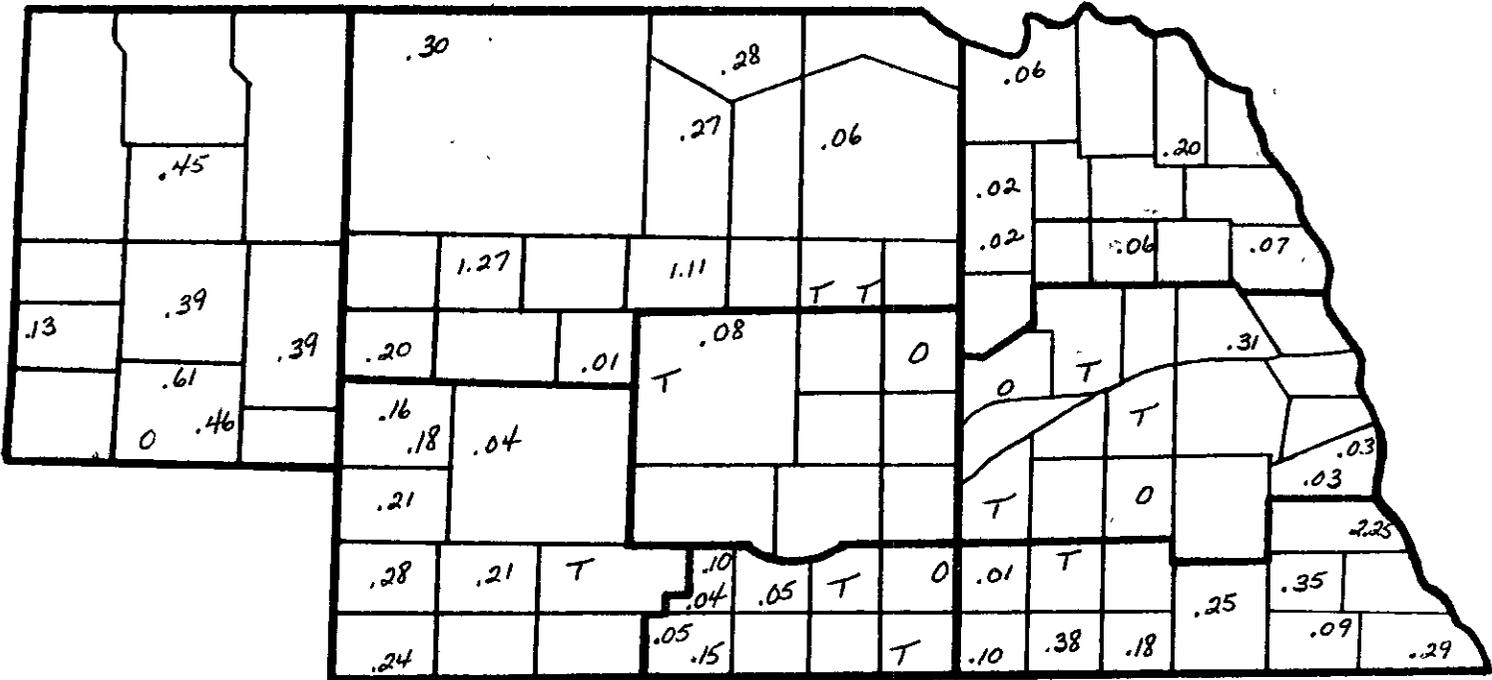
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1979 1/



1/ Courtesy Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1979



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 1979

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>	
	Max	Min				
NW	Chadron	69	13	37	--	.43
	Scottsbluff	63	27	41	+2	.47
	Sidney	62	22	36	--	--
NC	Burwell	--	--	--	--	--
	Valentine	50	14	32	-5	.49
NE	Norfolk	58	20	36	-3	.19
	Sioux City	62	19	37	-3	.37
CEN	Grand Island	71	24	40	-1	.26
EC	Lincoln	80	23	43	+1	.59
	Omaha	74	21	41	0	.41
SW	Imperial	71	23	38	--	.40
	North Platte	68	23	37	-2	.37

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.