

-Run 2450
10-22-84

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending 10/21/84

Issue: 33-84

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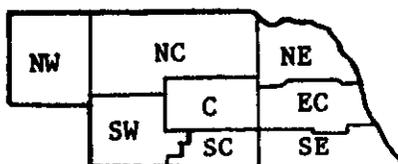
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WEATHER

Last week was wet and cold with precipitation varying from a quarter of an inch in the Panhandle to nearly three inches at some locations in the east. Average temperatures ranged from six to fifteen degrees below normal.

GENERAL

Cool, wet weather in Nebraska stalled harvesting operations again last week. Harvesting activities were at a standstill early in the week, except for a few isolated areas, and did not resume until the weekend. Some producers that decided to "mud out" their crop found combining slow and difficult and drying the grain a necessity due to elevated moisture levels. Several counties in central and eastern Nebraska reported lodging and spoilage problems in many fields, and much concern was expressed that continued wet weather could produce extensive field losses. On the other hand, the moisture spurred continued growth and development of the new wheat crop. Potato and sugar beet digging occurred in the western counties until stopped by rains. Other activities included working cattle, fence and building repair and reading the rain gauge. The number of days suitable for fieldwork was 1.5.

Topsoil moisture supplies rated 3% short, 47% adequate and 50% surplus. Subsoil supplies were 28% short, 64% adequate and 8% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture was 21% short, 67% adequate and 12% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 56% short and 44% adequate.

CROPS

Corn harvested showed little progress until the week's end. By Sunday, harvest was nearly 30% complete, well behind 75% last year and 45% average. Several reports from central and eastern counties indicated concern over some stalks rotting and deterioration of grain in the field from molding.

Soybean harvest was also stalled until the weekend. Approximately 35% of the soybeans were harvested, far behind 80% last year and 75% average. Growth of fungus, rotting and sprouting of beans in the pod were concerns expressed in the three eastern districts.

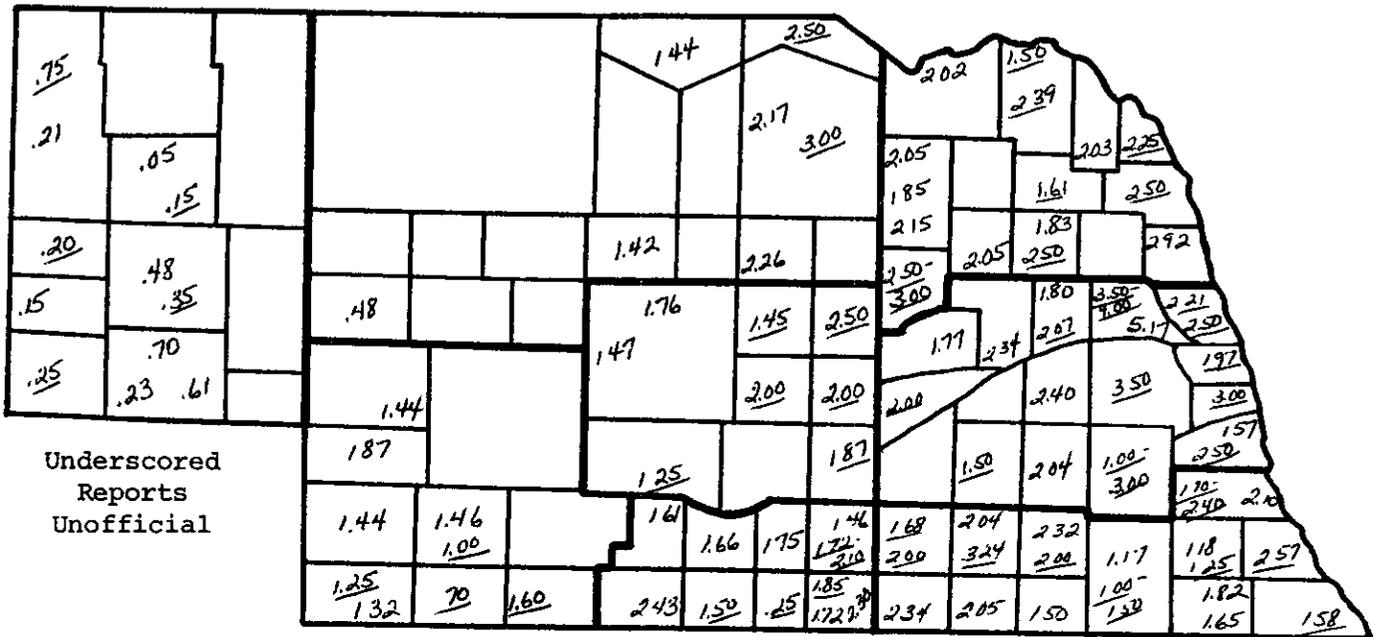
Sorghum harvest picked up over the weekend with thirty-five percent of the crop combined by Sunday. Last year 80% of the crop had been harvested and 55% average. Reports of lodging in grain sorghum were Statewide.

Winter wheat condition again showing improvement from the previous week, rated 2% poor, 27% fair, 68% good and 3% excellent. Virtually all the new wheat crop had emerged compared to 97% a year ago and 99% average.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies showed a sharp improvement to 38% short, 60% adequate and 2% surplus. Conditions have been favorable for growth of cool season grasses. Producers were busy weaning calves, culling yearlings and open cows and taking some livestock to market.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1984



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1984

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches ^{1/}
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	56	15	34	--	.25
Scottsbluff	55	20	35	-15	.27
Sidney	51	20	34	--	1.39
NC Ord	--	--	--	--	--
Valentine	56	18	39	-10	.40
NE Norfolk	57	31	45	-6	1.79
Sioux City	55	32	45	-7	2.23
CEN Grand Island	58	31	44	-9	1.80
EC Lincoln	62	30	46	-7	1.24
Omaha	58	34	46	-7	1.85
SW Imperial	55	26	42	--	--
North Platte	56	21	38	-12	.63

^{1/} Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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