

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

(Jun 1900 5/23/88)  
**NEBRASKA**  
**AGRICULTURAL**  
**STATISTICS**  
**SERVICE**

Week Ending May 22, 1988

Issue: 11-88

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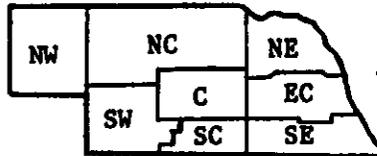
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 National Weather Service



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## WEATHER

The week started out warm but cooled off toward the end. Temperatures averaged near normal in the western half while the eastern section averaged five degrees above normal. Precipitation occurred the latter half of the week and ranged from around two inches in the eastern half up to four inches in the northwest.

## GENERAL

Much needed moisture occurred state-wide late in the week, replenishing soil moisture supplies and improving crop conditions, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn, soybean and sorghum planting was active during the week before being halted by the rain late in the week. The rains also caught some hay growers with their first cutting on the ground. Irrigation was taking place across the State to improve emergence of seeded crops and to promote herbicide activation. High winds in the Northwest prompted replanting of some sugar beet acres which were blown out. Spraying pastures for weeds and rotary hoeing corn acres were also active during the week. The number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.5.

Soil moisture levels improved significantly from the weekend rainfall but were still reported critically short on Friday prior to the major rainfall. Topsoil moisture rated 75% short, 20% adequate and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 37% short, 60% adequate and 3% surplus. Last year, topsoil moisture rated 3% short, 70% adequate and 27% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 3% short, 81% adequate and 16% surplus.

## CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 13% poor, 55% fair, and 32% good. The crop

## CROPS (Cont.)

was 85% jointed compared to 97% last year and 84% average. Heading stood at 35% of the crop compared to 58% last year and 29% average. Russian wheat aphids continued to reach control levels in the Panhandle. Wheat streak mosaic continued to be a concern to producers over most areas of the State.

Corn planting reached 94% complete compared to 96% last year and 83% average. The crop was 65% emerged compared to 74% last year and 45% average. Poor emergence and stands in some early planted fields caused by cool, dry soil conditions and soil crusting prompted replanting of these fields.

Soybean planting reached 55% complete compared to 56% last year and 33% average. Bean leaf beetles were present in some early planted, east central fields. The crop was 15% emerged compared to 27% last year and 11% average.

Sorghum planting stood at 45% complete compared to 50% last year and 32% average. The crop was 10% emerged compared to 22% last year and 9% average.

Alfalfa hay condition rated 7% poor, 58% fair and 35% good. The first cutting of alfalfa hay is 9% complete compared to 21% last year and 9% average. Alfalfa weevils were present in the crop over most of the State prompting spraying and early harvesting in some fields in the Southwest, Central and Southeast. Wild hay condition rated 11% poor, 57% fair and 32% good.

## LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed supplies rated 55% short, 42% adequate and 3% surplus. Pasture grass growth has been slow but the recent rains should bring it along. Producers continued to work calves and move cattle to pasture. Weather conditions have been favorable for livestock.

## Precipitation, April 1 - May 20, 1988

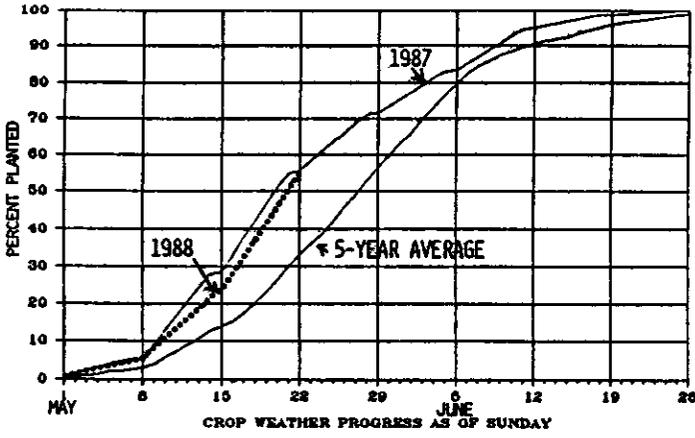
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week .....	3.06	1.05	.14	.25	.16	1.20	.02	.29
Total since April 1 .....	6.83	5.83	3.25	5.24	3.10	5.26	2.79	3.20
Normal since April 1 .....	3.73	4.31	4.91	4.71	5.38	3.77	4.43	5.34

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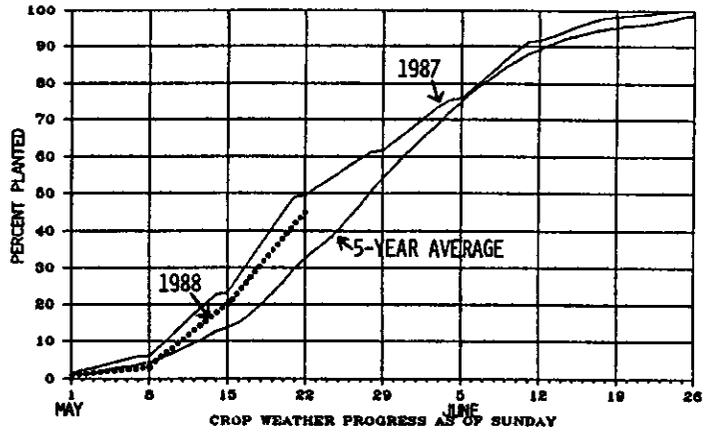
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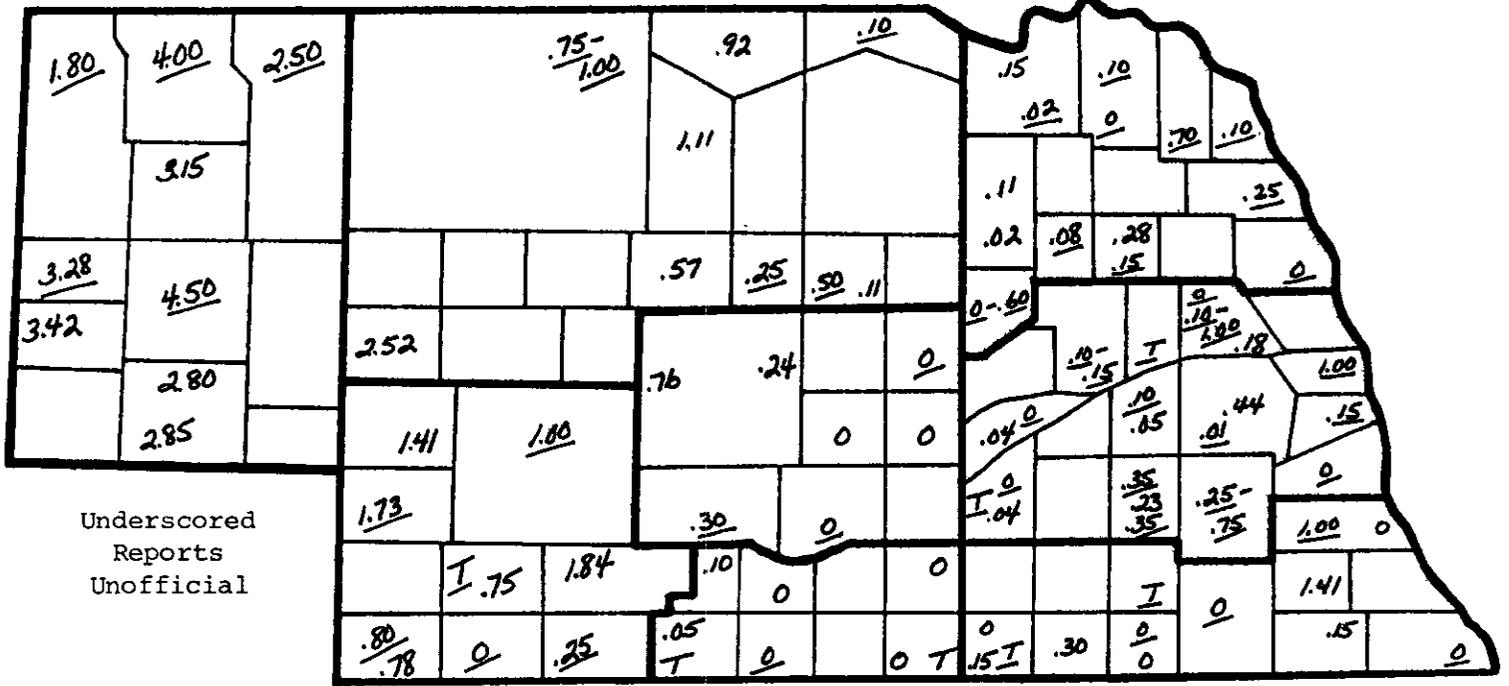
NEBRASKA -- SOYBEANS PLANTED



NEBRASKA -- SORGHUM PLANTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1988



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1988

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	93	32	55	--	4.01
Scottsbluff	92	42	57	-1	3.41
Sidney	90	40	56	--	2.68
NC Ord	92	40	65	--	NA
Valentine	91	35	58	0	2.00
NE Norfolk	91	44	67	+5	3.46
Sioux City	92	42	68	+5	1.60
CEN Grand Island	94	42	67	+5	.50
EC Lincoln	93	44	69	+6	1.99
Omaha	90	47	69	+6	2.17
SW Imperial	91	44	60	--	1.57
North Platte	91	41	60	+1	1.77

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. NA--Not Available.