

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

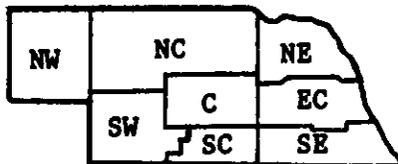
For Week Ending September 16, 1990

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
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WEATHER

The week began hot and humid; however, ended cool and dry. Temperatures averaged six to eight degrees above normal across the State. Little or no precipitation occurred throughout the period.

GENERAL

A fourth straight week of dry weather and above average temperatures continued the rapid maturing and drying of all row crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Dryland row crops continued to suffer and lose yield potential as the hot, dry weather continued. Many corn and sorghum fields were cut for silage, as well as a few drought-damaged soybean fields. Many fields were too dry even to be cut for silage and will be pastured or lost. The dry edible bean harvest continued with average to slightly above average yields and good quality reported. The main activities last week were: cutting silage, planting winter wheat, harvesting and moving forage crops, and preparing equipment for harvest. An average of 7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork last week.

Hot, dry winds combined with little or no rain reduced topsoil moisture to 99% short and 1% adequate. Subsoil moisture was 82% short and 18% adequate. Last year, topsoil moisture was 15% short, 61% adequate, and 24% surplus, while subsoil moisture was 55% short and 45% adequate.

CROPS

All corn condition was 2% very poor, 4% poor, 29% fair, 57% good, and 8% excellent. The irrigated crop was 85% good or better while only 23% of the dryland crop rated that high. The overall condition appears to have improved slightly but this was caused by some of the worst fields being cut for silage or abandoned. The crop matured rapidly as 97% of the acreage was denting compared with 93% last year and 95% average. The crop was 40% mature compared with 36% in 1989 and 50% average. Dryland fields, seed corn, and high-moisture corn were being harvested, accounting for 3% of the State's acreage compared with 2% last year and 3% average. Corn borer damage was becoming evident, as winds were causing stalk breakage in infested fields.

CROPS (Cont.)

Sorghum condition was 2% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 39% good, and 1% excellent. Sorghum turning color reached 95% compared with 78% last year and 87% average; 25% was mature compared with 22% in 1989 and 40% average. Harvest was getting underway in several counties as nearly 1% of the State acreage was harvested compared with none last year and 2% average. The combination of chinch bug damage, heat, and drought caused some lodging in some eastern and southern fields.

Soybean condition was 2% very poor, 23% poor, 53% fair, and 22% good. Soybean acreage turning color advanced to 80% compared with 65% last year and 77% average. Acreage dropping leaves reached 35% compared with 20% in 1989 and 35% average. Harvest was underway in a few areas at 1% complete compared with none last year and 1% average. Some growers reported harvesting beans with green stems and others reported leaves dropping without turning color first.

Winter wheat was 30% sown compared with 23% last year and 41% average. The crop was 6% emerged compared with 5% in 1989 and 20% average. Many growers were ready to plant but were waiting for some moisture first.

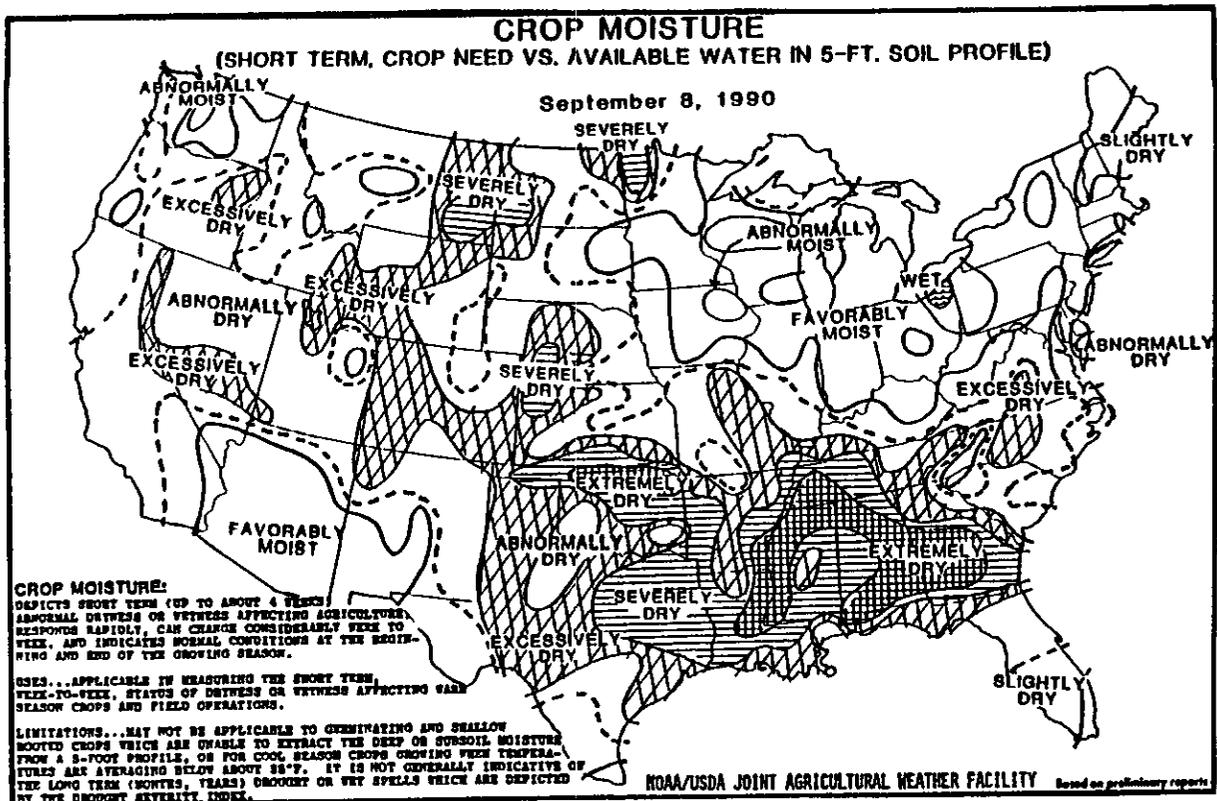
Alfalfa hay condition was 5% very poor, 21% poor, 42% fair, 31% good, and 1% excellent. The third cutting was 95% complete, equal to last year and slightly ahead of the five-year average of 94%. Many operators in the northeast and central areas were making a fourth cutting.

LIVESTOCK

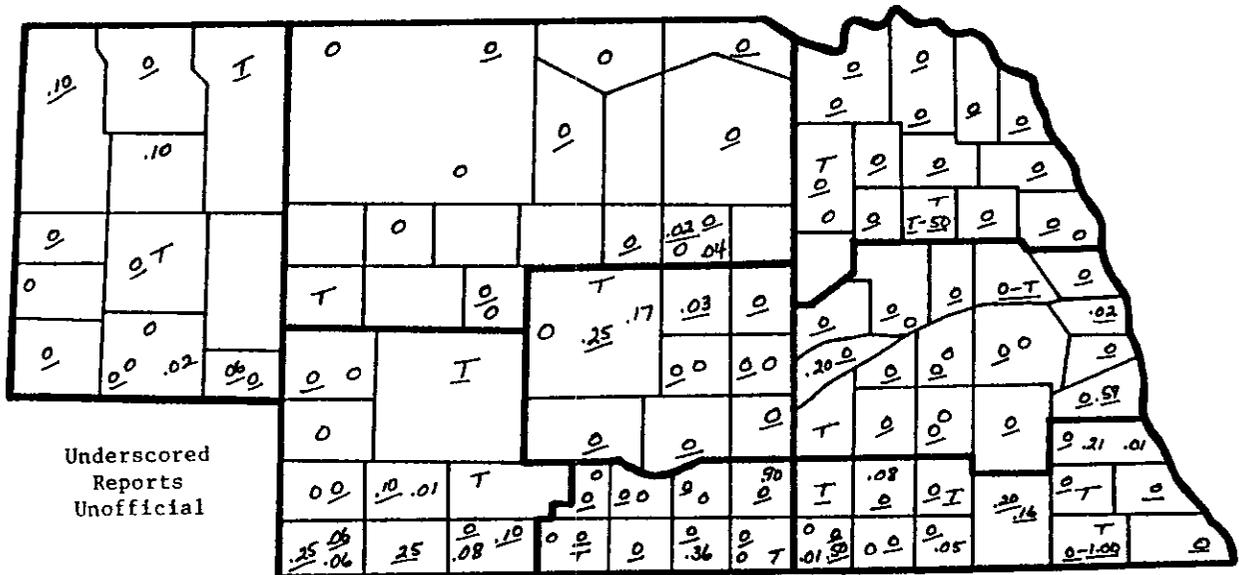
Pasture and range condition was 10% very poor, 43% poor, 34% fair, 12% good, and 1% excellent. Some producers were removing livestock from pastures and others were feeding hay until row crop fields are harvested and stalks are available. Cattle were beginning to move into the East Central area from the Sandhills, the Dakotas, and Montana, to take advantage of crop residues after harvest. The week's heat was again hard on livestock, causing reduced weight gains.

Precipitation, April 1 - September 14, 1990

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.02	.01	.01	.03	.03	.02	.14	.04
Total since April 1	10.28	14.04	19.15	14.45	19.01	10.62	16.36	18.17
Normal since April 1	12.47	15.44	17.94	16.76	19.40	14.02	17.08	20.41
Total as % of Normal	82%	91%	107%	86%	98%	76%	96%	89%



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1990



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1990

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches ^{1/}	
	Max	Min				
NW	Chadron	99	36	70	---	.08
	Scottsbluff	96	39	68	+6	0
	Sidney	97	39	67	---	0
NC	Ord	94	41	69	---	0
	Valentine	97	35	68	+6	0
NE	Norfolk	93	42	70	+6	0
	Sioux City	93	44	71	+6	0
CEN	Grand Island	92	43	71	+6	0
EC	Lincoln	97	48	74	+8	.05
	Omaha	93	47	73	+8	0
SW	Imperial	100	47	69	---	0
	North Platte	102	41	70	+7	0

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

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