

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

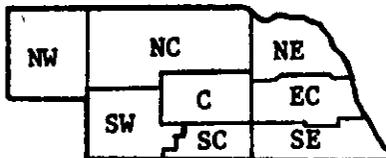
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For Week Ending April 21, 1991

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WEATHER

The week was cool and mild. Temperatures averaged two to five degrees below normals. Precipitation occurred midweek with amounts from a tenth of an inch in the east central up to over seven-tenths of an inch in the southwest and northeast.

GENERAL

The main activities of Nebraska farmers and ranchers this past week included calving activities, spring field work where surface moisture conditions permitted, and equipment readiness activities in anticipation of planting corn. Field work, where possible, consisted of fertilizer and herbicide applications, chopping and shredding corn stalks, discing, oat and alfalfa seeding, and limited spring crop planting.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated as 24% poor, 49% fair, 24% good, and 3% excellent. Due to the over winter problems of winter kill and short soil moisture, producers have in some cases applied weed control chemicals and in a few cases have "torn up" badly injured wheat fields. Topdressing continued on fields where conditions permitted.

Oat seeding made good progress this past week and has reached 90% completion statewide, ahead of last year and average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Alfalfa regrowth this spring has been slow due to cool conditions and short winter moisture. Winterkill injury in the central and western part of the State has been reported to have caused plant death in parts of fields to entire fields. Producers with these problems are exploring their options.

Field preparations for corn planting continued in a few areas. Most producers are waiting for the soil to warm a little more or are waiting for the fields to dry sufficiently to begin planting.

Sugar beet planting continued with some producers completed. The concern remains for soil moisture supplies. Moisture is needed to ensure proper germination and further growth.

Soil moisture supplies improved this past week due to rains received. Subsoil moisture supplies improved slightly, but additional moisture will continue to be necessary.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was reported as 71% of normal, in the poor to fair category. Pastures continue to green up slowly due to cool conditions and lack of deep soil moisture. The cool, damp weather has brought some scours problems to spring calves. Calves were being worked in anticipation of moving cattle to pastures. Some cattle have been moved to pasture while producers in other areas await further grass regrowth.

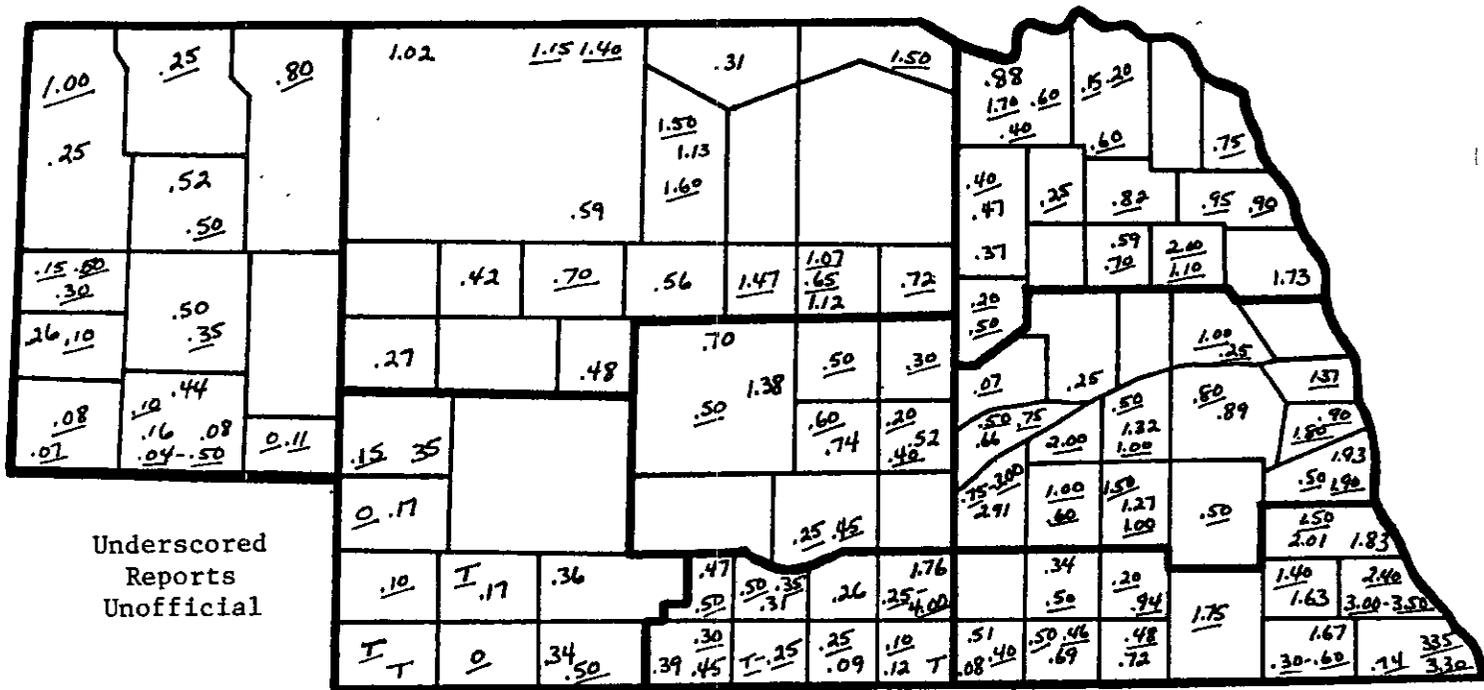
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 21, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% wheat jointed	0	13	1	3	6	5	6	23	6	0	12	5	
% corn planted	1	1	1	4	4	2	3	4	3	1	2	4	
% oat acreage planted	66	93	92	86	82	100	100	100	90	74	84	81	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 19, 1991													
Days suitable	4.9	4.0	2.2	4.8	1.1	6.5	5.4	2.3	3.6	5.0	6.2		
Topsoil moisture - Short	61	8	0	18	4	60	58	16	25	34	33		
(Percent) - Adequate	39	75	82	82	71	40	42	73	64	58	67		
- Surplus	0	17	18	0	25	0	0	11	11	8	0		
Subsoil moisture - Short	78	58	53	46	48	100	100	79	68	73	90		
(Percent) - Adequate	22	42	47	54	52	0	0	21	32	27	10		
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 1991



Precipitation, April 1 - April 19, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week32	.66	.81	.84	1.32	.23	.43	1.05
Total since April 150	1.22	2.08	1.45	2.70	.47	1.04	1.53
Normal since April 1	1.04	1.33	1.52	1.51	1.71	1.11	1.33	1.71

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1991

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 1		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW Chadron	59	25	43	---	.59	---	---	---
Scottsbluff	66	26	43	-4	.69	111	126	84
Sidney	67	21	42	---	.13	83	96	95
NC Valentine	58	26	42	-5	.93	123	136	67
NE Norfolk	65	33	48	-2	.25	---	---	---
Sioux City	62	36	48	-3	.76	---	---	---
Concord	---	---	---	---	---	115	139	103
Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	106	123	93
West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	123	149	109
CEN Grand Island	66	36	48	-4	.36	157	175	101
Ord	65	30	46	---	.07	116	137	114
EC Lincoln	65	37	49	-4	.11	175	197	113
Omaha	62	40	49	-3	.53	153	172	90
Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	139	159	101
York	---	---	---	---	---	141	161	114
SW Imperial	75	30	45	---	.65	---	---	---
North Platte	69	32	45	-4	.76	**111	**126	**114
SC Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	129	149	129
SE Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	151	179	146
Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	138	162	129

* Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 1.