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NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending August 18, 1991

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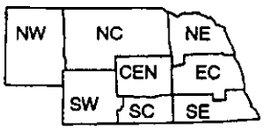
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



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

Temperatures averaged one to four degrees below normals. Precipitation amounts varied from less than a tenth of an inch in the western half of the State up to two to three inches in the eastern portion.

GENERAL

Scattered light rain showers last week were beneficial, but most areas of the State continue to need moisture for stressed dryland crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Irrigation systems continue to pump water to crops, although the cooler temperatures and local rains have allowed some producers to catch up with crop requirements and shut down their systems for a few days. Other farm activities included alfalfa and wild hay harvest, fall seeding preparations, fall wheat equipment preparations, and general livestock care.

CROPS

All corn condition was rated at 3% very poor, 8% poor, 24% fair, 53% good, and 12% excellent. Dryland corn continued to show deterioration from lack of moisture and heat stress with only 20% rated at good or better. Irrigated corn was rated at 85% good or better. Some dryland corn was being cut for silage in an effort to salvage

CROPS (Cont.)

some value from the stressed crop. Overall, crop development continued ahead of normal.

Soybean condition declined last week and was rated at 4% very poor, 16% poor, 42% fair, 33% good, and 5% excellent. Walking beans and chemical week control continued. As with other dryland crops, non-irrigated soybeans need moisture to realize decent yields.

Sorghum condition also declined slightly last week and was rated at 6% very poor, 21% poor, 49% fair, 21% good, and 3% excellent. Cooler temperatures coupled with the lack of moisture has slowed crop development. At week's end, heading was at normal and coloring was slightly ahead of normal. Some southern fields or parts of fields have not headed out properly due to dry weather and this remains a concern to those producers.

Alfalfa was rated at 8% very poor, 23% poor, 35% fair, 33% good, and 1% excellent. Third cutting activities progressed well but remain behind last year and the 5 year average. Wild hay harvest continued, although many producers have completed their summer haying activities.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 77% of normal. Reports continue to indicate that supplemental feeding was required where poor grazing exists or where grazing needs to be extended.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 18, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn dough stage	80	89	77	90	88	89	89	94	86	69	61	75
% corn dented	9	18	18	40	44	23	42	64	35	16	9	27
% sorghum headed	96	95	94	93	95	80	85	83	88	79	79	88
% sorghum turning color	0	13	17	7	25	8	6	28	21	9	4	19
% soybeans setting pods	0	95	95	88	84	100	95	85	89	69	65	85
% alfalfa third cutting	23	40	37	54	57	67	72	53	46	30	57	53
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 16, 1991												
Days suitable	6.7	6 5	6.3	4 8	6.4	6 5	4.3	6.5	6.1	5 2	5	
Topsoil moisture - Short	64	89	92	50	87	80	50	100	79	71	33	
(Percent) - Adequate	36	11	8	50	13	20	50	0	21	27	64	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	
Subsoil moisture - Short	36	78	92	62	65	60	83	100	73	67	43	
(Percent) - Adequate	64	22	8	38	35	40	17	0	27	33	57	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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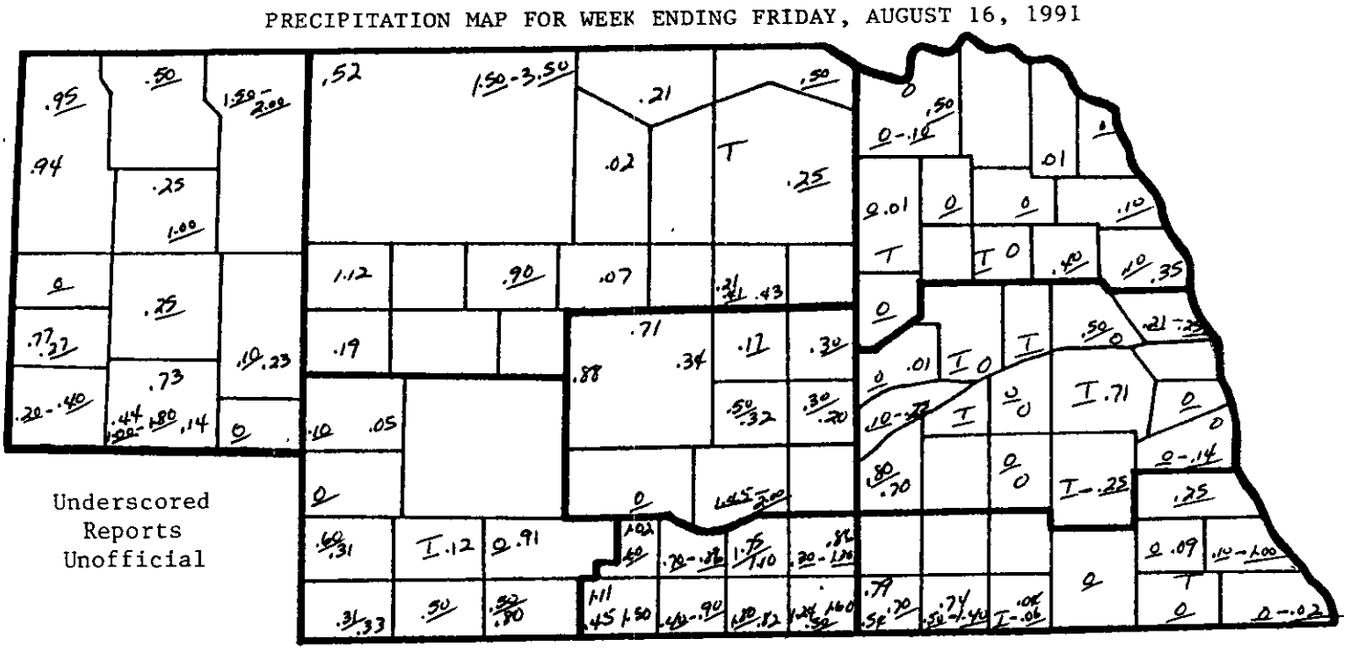
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1991



Underscored Reports Unofficial

Precipitation, April 1 - August 16, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.50	.60	.06	.45	.18	.42	1.03	.36
Total since April 1	12.29	12.82	14.90	12.91	17.56	13.51	14.94	13.06
Normal since April 1	11.06	13.40	15.32	14.43	16.20	12.27	14.48	16.88
Total as % of normal	111%	96%	97%	89%	108%	110%	103%	77%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 1991

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	95	50	72	---	.14	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	92	52	71	-1	.07	1833	1975	2026
	Sidney	93	51	70	---	1.16	1788	1915	1985
NC	Valentine	95	50	70	-3	1.40	1939	2073	2054
NE	Norfolk	91	54	72	-2	.03	---	---	---
	Sioux City	90	57	73	-1	.47	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2062	2209	2303
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2080	2231	2248
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	2191	2343	2354
CEN	Grand Island	90	50	71	-4	.41	2220	2366	2337
	Ord	---	---	---	---	---	2124	2262	2310
EC	Lincoln	93	56	75	-1	T	2385	2549	2427
	Omaha	89	59	73	-1	2.03	2336	2500	2344
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	2334	2489	2385
	York	---	---	---	---	---	2299	2449	2444
SW	Imperial	92	55	70	---	.63	---	---	---
	North Platte	94	50	70	-3	.10	**1968	**2102	**2194
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2172	2307	2382
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2370	2524	2558
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2240	2376	2424

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * 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 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.