

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



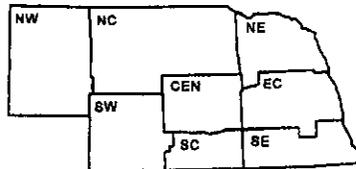
For Week Ending April 20, 1997

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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agricultural Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures across the State averaged from two to nine degrees below normals. Precipitation ranged from traces to over a half inch across the State.

GENERAL

Fieldwork activities were limited last week across much of the State due to the April 10 and 11 storm, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The additional soil moisture supplies were welcomed but have caused corn planting to be delayed due to wet soils and cool soil temperatures. Fieldwork activities were limited and included oats seeding, spring tillage, and fertilizer application. Producers focused on spring equipment preparation and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 50% good, and 7% excellent. Wheat

CROPS (cont.)

jointed was at 1%, compared to 3% last year and 9% for the five-year average. The crop has shown signs of freeze and wind damage to leaves, however, this damage was considered only to be cosmetic. Army cutworms were reported in some south central fields.

As of Sunday, oats seeding progressed to 54% last week, behind 76% last year and 59% for the five-year average. To date, 13% of the crop had emerged, compared to 20% last year.

Sugar beet planting was limited in the Panhandle.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 3% poor, 30% fair, 63% good, and 4% excellent. Calving was 90% complete, with greatest calf losses reported in the Panhandle. Scours in calves had been reported in many areas. Warmer temperatures would improve livestock health and encourage pasture growth. Feedlots were muddy in many counties.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 20, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
	PERCENT												
% Oats Sown	55	44	44	36	70	99	75	72	54	38	76	59	
% Oats Emerged	20	6	5	15	16	52	28	31	13	8	20	n/a	
% Wheat Jointed	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	n/a	3	9	
WINTER REPORTING AS OF APRIL 20, 1997													
% Cows Calved	95	89	81	94	89	94	92	83	90	86	89	n/a	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 18, 1997													
Days Suitable	2.8	4.0	1.1	1.6	1.6	3.9	2.2	0.0	2.3	1.9	4.3		
Topsoil Moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	21		
- Short	10	1	1	2	1	21	4	0	4	11	45		
- Adequate	89	98	78	85	90	76	95	78	87	77	34		
- Surplus	1	1	21	13	9	0	1	22	9	11	0		
Subsoil Moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17		
- Short	14	13	0	8	1	35	8	2	9	12	42		
- Adequate	86	86	82	84	97	65	92	95	87	84	40		
- Surplus	0	1	18	8	2	0	0	3	4	4	1		

n/a = not available.

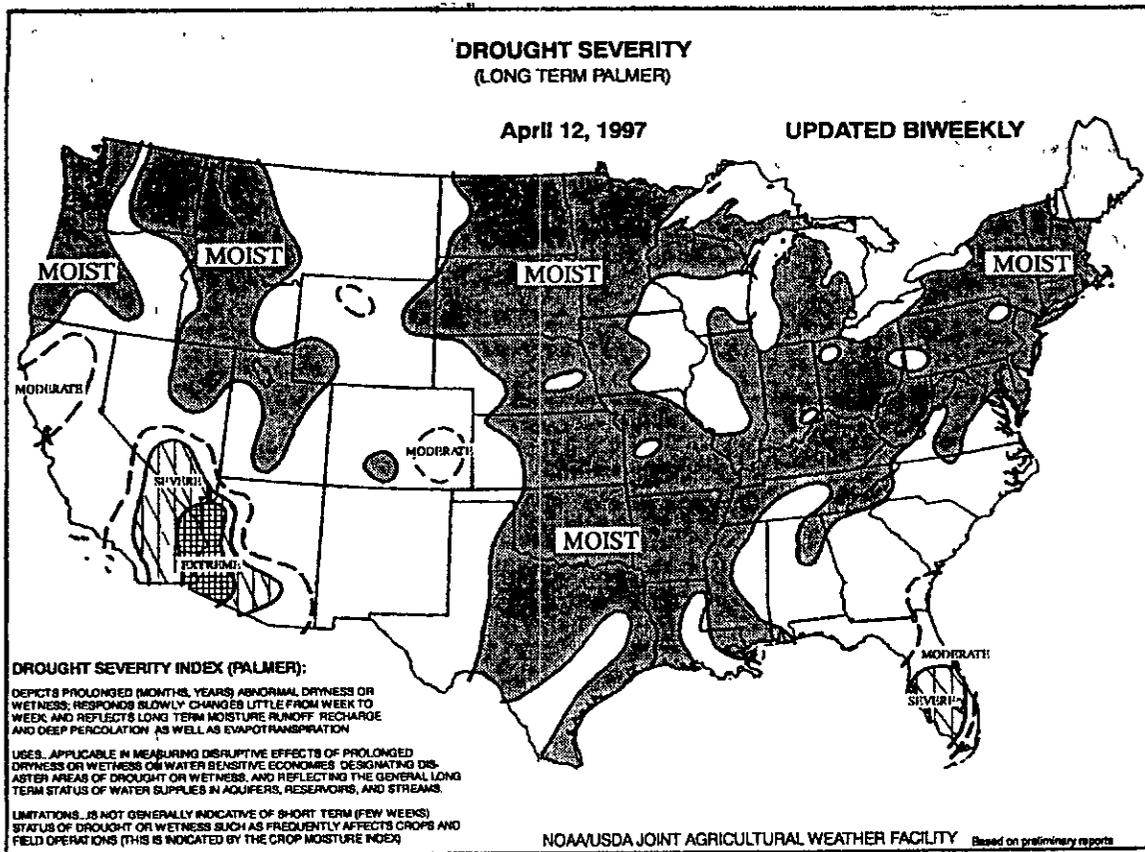
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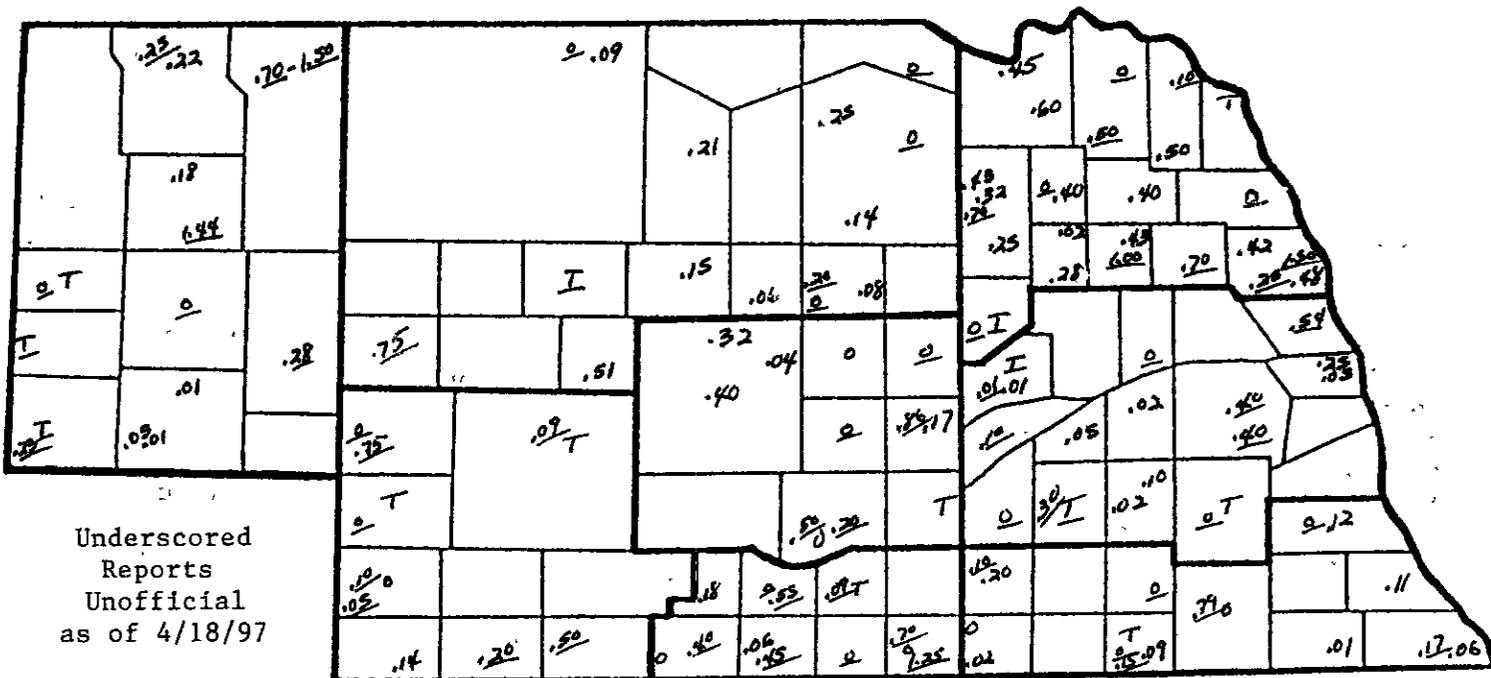
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1997



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - APRIL 19, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.08	.19	.36	.13	.06	.04	.05	.06
Total since April 1	1.63	1.75	1.72	1.40	1.62	.84	1.31	2.27
Normal since April 1	1.11	1.33	1.52	1.51	1.71	1.14	1.30	1.71
Total as % of normal	147%	132%	113%	93%	95%	74%	101%	133%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1997

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	79	4	45	---	.22
Scottsbluff	77	-2	45	-2	T
Sidney	78	6	46	---	.01
NC Valentine	77	3	44	-3	.09
NE Norfolk	75	17	44	-6	.02
Sioux City	74	17	42	-9	T
CEN Grand Island	82	17	48	-3	T
Ord	77	19	47	---	0
EC Lincoln	85	23	47	-5	T
Omaha	80	20	46	-6	.05
SW Imperial	82	10	50	---	0
North Platte	81	9	46	-3	T