

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending July 6, 1997

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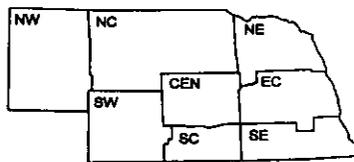
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn
National Weather Service



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

Temperatures for the week averaged four to seven degrees below normals across the entire State. Precipitation across the State averaged from near a tenth of an inch to nearly an inch and a half

GENERAL

Wheat combines began moving through southern fields last week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. However, below normal temperatures slowed crop development. Irrigation systems were in full swing in the southwest and central parts of the State due to short moisture supplies. Grasshopper activity was noted in many areas. Producers were busy cultivating soybeans, haying, spraying herbicides, irrigating crops, moving farm grain to market, and routine chores.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 44% good, and 3% excellent. As of Sunday, 92% of the crop had turned color, compared with 91% last year and 94% average. The crop was 29% ripe, compared with 28% last year but well behind 46% average. Statewide, wheat harvest was 3% complete, behind 10% last year and 16% average. This was about nine days behind average.

Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, and 17% excellent. Irrigated corn and dryland corn rated 83% good to excellent. Corn development continued about

CROPS (Cont.)

a week behind average. Some producers treated fields for corn borers.

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 17% fair, 68% good, and 13% excellent. Producers were busy cultivating fields last week. Blooming had begun in 4% of the crop, ahead of last year's zero percent but behind the average of 7%.

Sorghum condition rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 26% fair, 61% good, and 8% excellent.

Oats condition rated 7% poor, 35% fair, 52% good, and 6% excellent. The amount of acreage headed was 95%, compared to 99% last year.

Dry bean condition rated 5% poor, 32% fair, 55% good, and 8% excellent. Blooming had begun in some fields with 1% blooming as of Sunday, compared with 3% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 44% good and 9% excellent. The first cutting was virtually complete as of Sunday. Second cutting activities got underway last week with 5% harvested. This compared with 15% last year and 20% average. Wild hay condition rated 3% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 46% good, and 10% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 2% very poor, 10% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, and 3% excellent. Pastures looked good where moisture has been received, but the southwest and central counties continued to need more rain to promote growth. Reporters repeated concerns regarding short hay supplies.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 6, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning	76	80	86	67	94	100	100	100	92	75	91	94
% Wheat Ripe	0	1	11	2	4	33	59	51	29	1	28	46
% Wheat Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	5	3	n/a	10	16
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	0	3	6	0	0	4	9	4	n/a	0	7
% Oats Headed	82	100	93	96	98	99	100	98	95	88	99	n/a
% Dry Beans Blooming	0	0	0	0	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	3	n/a
% Alfalfa First Cutting	99	100	100	100	99	99	100	100	100	94	99	100
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	0	1	1	5	7	2	19	29	5	n/a	15	20
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 4, 1997												
Days suitable	63	36	56	53	37	63	68	38	50	42	64	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	2	0	1	4	0	3	15	0	3	1	5	
- Short	10	33	16	28	13	31	69	10	25	17	43	
- Adequate	88	63	83	68	82	65	15	84	70	74	51	
- Surplus	0	4	0	0	5	1	1	6	2	8	1	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	0	1	0	2	7	1	1	1	3	
- Short	8	19	9	29	14	25	37	19	19	15	21	
- Adequate	89	81	91	69	85	72	56	80	79	81	76	
- Surplus	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	3	0	

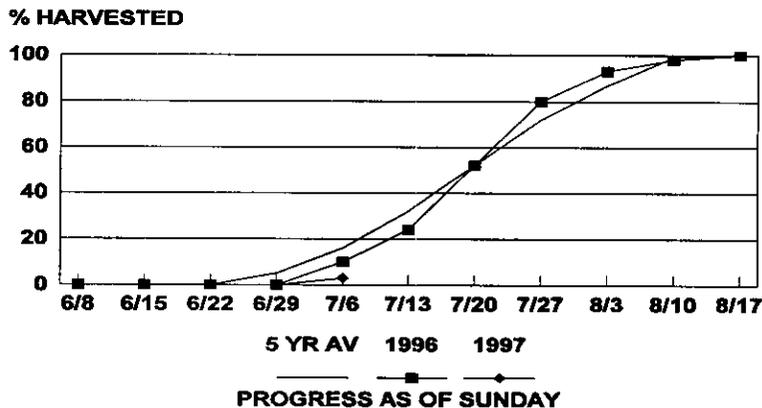
n/a = not available

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WINTER WHEAT HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 5, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	07	1 46	90	47	1 05	01	10	39
Total since April 1	10 53	9 66	10 51	7 41	10 29	8 18	7 64	11 43
Normal since April 1	8 17	9 53	10 98	10 62	11 70	9 03	10 36	11 57
Total as % of normal	129%	101%	96%	70%	88%	91%	74%	99%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1997

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	88	42	67	---	23	---	---
	Scottsbluff	93	44	66	-6	01	896	1036
	Sidney	94	40	66	---	T	835	969
NC	Valentine	94	41	68	-5	58	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	829	972
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	869	1017
NE	Norfolk	89	50	68	-6	2 90	---	---
	Sioux City	89	48	68	-7	70	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	904	1048
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	885	1035
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	968	1124
CEN	Grand Island	93	48	70	-6	80	954	1110
	Ord	93	42	70	---	0	913	1067
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	979	1139
EC	Lincoln	96	53	71	-6	1 19	1025	1194
	Omaha	91	52	70	-5	51	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	969	1121
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1014	1174
SW	Imperial	95	46	71	---	0	---	---
	North Platte	93	39	68	-4	02	940	1096
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1031	1194
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	961	1113
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1034	1209
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1003	1162
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	982	1136

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.