

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending July 27, 1997

Issue: 21-97

Phone: (402) 437-5541

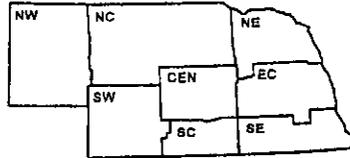
P.O. Box 81069

Released: 7/28/97 - 3:00 p.m.

Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

Lincoln, NE 68501

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



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

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged one to five degrees above normals across the State. Precipitation was scattered across the State averaging from a few hundredths to an inch.

GENERAL

Another hot, dry week was experienced across the State, stressing dryland crops, but providing excellent conditions for the remaining wheat harvest, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rain fell Sunday in eastern and southern counties providing some relief. Wheat was over two-thirds combined in the Panhandle and virtually complete elsewhere. Crops and grassland condition declined from previous week due to short moisture supplies. Reports indicated that the irrigated crops looked good but the condition of dryland acres was beginning to decline due to the dry, hot conditions. Grasshoppers and corn borer activity continued to be noted over much of the State. Producers were busy irrigating crops, haying, spraying herbicides, and doing routine chores.

CROPS

Winter wheat harvest was 88% complete as of Sunday, ahead of 79% last year and the average of 74%. Dry weather conditions allowed harvest to move quickly.

Corn condition rated 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 50% good, and 16% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 76% good to excellent, while dryland corn condition declined to 46% good to excellent. As of Sunday, 70% of the crop had silked, ahead of 65% last year and 57% average. Corn in the dough stage was at 2%, compared with 1% last year and 6% average. The hot temperatures combined with short moisture supplies, in many

CROPS (Cont.)

areas, stressed the dryland crop. Some producers treated fields for corn borer.

Soybean condition declined and rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 31% fair, 55% good, and 7% excellent. Blooming had reached 74% as of Sunday, ahead of last year's 62% and 58% average. Pod set had begun on 9% of the acreage, compared with 11% last year and 15% average.

Sorghum condition moved lower to 3% very poor, 12% poor, 46% fair, 38% good, and 1% excellent. Heading progressed to 10% as of Sunday, compared with 2% last year and 12% average.

Oats harvest for grain progressed to 82%, considerably ahead of 54% last year and 51% for the average.

Dry bean condition rated 5% poor, 47% fair, 42% good, and 6% excellent. Blooming progressed to 74% as of Sunday, compared with 68% last year. Pod set advanced to 26%, compared with 27% last year.

Alfalfa condition declined to 7% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 41% good and 2% excellent. Second cutting activities were 78% complete. This compared with 79% last year and 73% average. Alfalfa regrowth was limited due to lack of rainfall. Wild hay condition rated 4% very poor, 22% poor, 41% fair, 31% good, and 2% excellent. Native grass haying continued active.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 9% very poor, 26% poor, 40% fair, 22% good, and 3% excellent. Pasture regrowth was slow due to the hot, dry conditions. Some producers were supplemental feeding in central and southern counties due to short pastures. Producers were requesting CRP for haying and grazing. Heat limited livestock gains.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 27, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% Corn Silked	59	30	44	82	83	78	67	93	70	27	65	57	
% Corn Dough Stage	0	0	0	0	6	0	4	1	2	n/a	1	6	
% Wheat Ripe	93	100	98	100	99	100	100	100	97	89	96	96	
% Wheat Harvested	69	97	61	98	88	100	100	100	88	64	79	74	
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	43	65	55	76	79	80	90	74	52	62	58	
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	16	7	8	12	17	8	7	9	n/a	11	15	
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	33	28	1	35	12	1	8	10	n/a	2	12	
% Oats Harvested	37	92	88	99	80	91	63	93	82	36	54	51	
% Dry Beans Blooming	82	100	31	10	n/a	66	n/a	n/a	74	40	68	n/a	
% Dry Beans Podded	28	60	3	1	n/a	23	n/a	n/a	26	2	27	n/a	
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	33	78	70	99	88	90	99	97	78	62	79	73	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 25, 1997													
Days suitable	5.8	6.8	6.5	7.0	6.8	5.7	7.0	7.0	6.6	6.4	4.6		
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	1	5	19	62	24	21	76	40	29	11	1		
- Short	22	72	55	29	46	51	23	35	42	39	23		
- Adequate	77	23	26	9	29	28	1	25	29	50	71		
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5		
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	2	12	3	36	8	18	58	26	19	4	1		
- Short	12	33	42	47	48	42	36	46	38	35	23		
- Adequate	85	55	55	17	44	40	6	28	43	58	73		
- Surplus	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3		

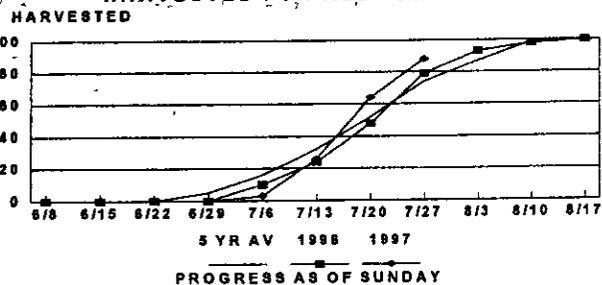
n/a = not available

Periodical Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

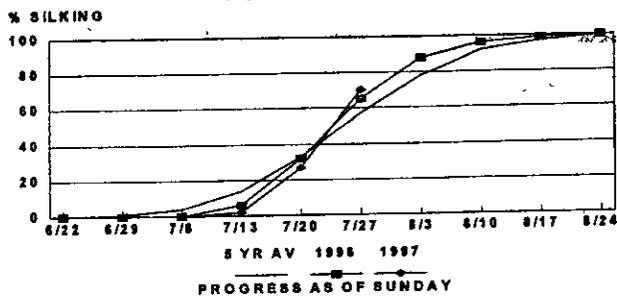
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501
7/28/97

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

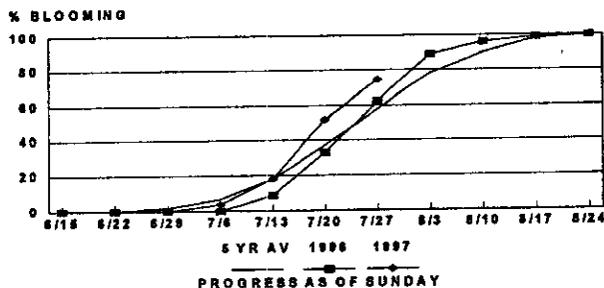
WINTER WHEAT HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES



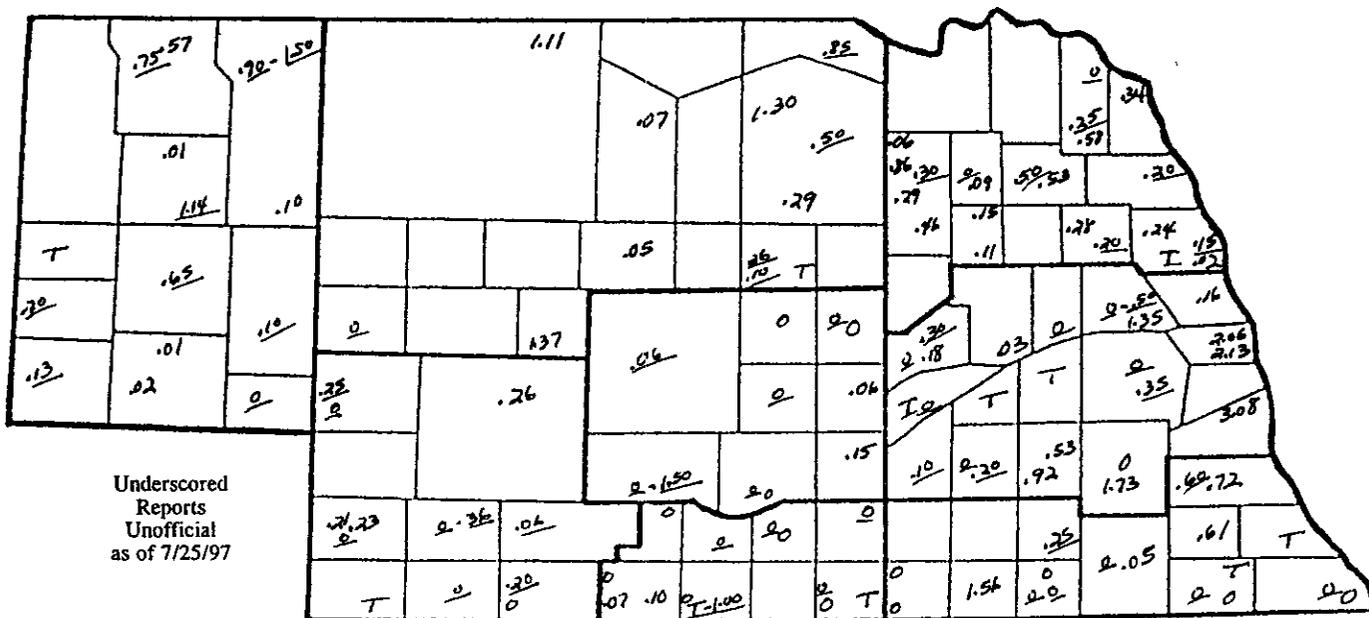
CORN SILKING



SOYBEANS BLOOMING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1997



Underscored Reports Unofficial as of 7/25/97

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 26, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.12	.60	.31	.04	1.00	.14	.02	.27
Total since April 1	11.05	12.17	12.05	8.62	12.44	9.90	17.80	12.74
Normal since April 1	9.85	11.67	13.08	12.81	13.91	11.09	12.61	14.03
Total as % of normal	112%	104%	92%	67%	89%	89%	141%	91%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1997

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	98	58	77	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	95	58	76	+	1308	1494	1464
	Sidney	98	55	77	---	1260	1449	1453
NC	Valentine	98	63	78	+2	111	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	1258	1456	1580
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	1332	1556	1703
NE	Norfolk	96	62	80	+4	.15	---	---
	Sioux City	95	63	80	+4	.34	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1354	1575
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1352	1568
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1443	1665
CEN	Grand Island	100	64	82	+5	.15	1428	1639
	Ord	98	63	80	---	0	1379	1589
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1458	1670
EC	Lincoln	103	69	84	+5	0	1541	1783
	Omaha	97	67	81	+5	2.06	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1434	1648
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1506	1732
SW	Imperial	103	62	80	---	23	---	---
	North Platte	99	63	79	+4	.26	1389	1588
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1505	1717
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1428	1638
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1548	1780
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1491	1711
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1454	1668

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.