

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending August 17, 1997

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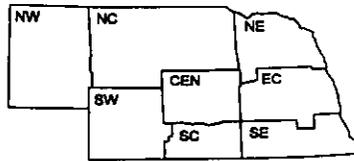
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Lincoln, NE 68501

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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and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

The week was wet and cool. The temperatures averaged seven to nine degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation was widespread across the State with amounts ranging from a few hundredths to over four inches.

GENERAL

Adequate moisture and below normal temperatures last week brought some relief to dryland crops and grassland, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall averaged from near one inch to over two inches in most areas allowing irrigation systems to be shut down in parts of the State. Spraying for insects (such as leaf hoppers, spider mites, and second brood corn borers) continued active. Producer's activities also included putting up hay, weed control, preparations for fall wheat seeding and moving old grain to market.

CROPS

Corn condition improved to 4% very poor, 6% poor, 24% fair, 49% good, and 17% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 79% good to excellent, while 37% of the dryland corn was good to excellent. Corn in the dough stage was at 66%, compared with 53% last year and 48% average. Denting had occurred on 9% of the acreage, compared with 8% last year and 11% average. Some producers were treating fields for insects.

Soybean condition improved slightly last week and rated at 2% very poor, 9% poor, 34% fair, 46% good, and 9% excellent. Pod set progressed to 89%, compared with 75% last year and 72% for the average. Statewide, 1% of the acreage had

CROPS (Cont.)

turned color, compared with 0% last year and same for the average. Chemical treatment continued as well as walking beans for weed control.

Sorghum condition declined slightly to 5% very poor, 15% poor, 41% fair, 35% good, and 4% excellent. Heading progressed to 89% as of Sunday, compared with 81% last year and 71% average. The percent turning color was at 1%, compared with 6% last year and 7% average.

Dry bean condition was rated 5% poor, 33% fair, 45% good, and 17% excellent. Pod set advanced to 89%, compared with 95% last year. As of Sunday, 2% of the acreage had turned color, compared with 8% last year.

Alfalfa condition improved to 7% very poor, 23% poor, 41% fair, 27% good and 2% excellent. Third cutting activities were 33% complete, compared with 32% last year and 34% average. Due to the dry conditions, regrowth has been slow. **Wild hay** condition rated 8% very poor, 22% poor, 34% fair, 34% good, and 2% excellent. Native grass haying continued active.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition improved to 14% very poor, 24% poor, 29% fair, 27% good, and 6% excellent. Pastures in the South Central District continued to be reported in the poorest condition statewide. Producers were supplemental feeding in many areas of the state, to stretch pasture grazing potential, or moving cattle off of the pastures. Some producers were haying or grazing CRP acres in central parts of the state due to limited growth on pastures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 17, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dough Stage	53	48	30	82	85	71	75	83	66	37	53	48
% Corn Dented	0	3	1	6	10	3	31	13	9	n/a	8	11
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	88	79	82	91	98	92	100	89	67	75	72
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	4	0	2	3	1	1	0	1	n/a	0	1
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	94	89	86	91	70	83	94	89	69	81	71
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	6	0	1	7	1	1	0	1	n/a	6	7
% Dry Beans Podded	85	89	56	100	n/a	94	n/a	n/a	89	72	95	n/a
% Dry Beans Turning	1	5	0	0	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	8	n/a
% Alfalfa Thrd Cutting	0	26	20	43	58	64	44	69	33	20	32	34
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 15, 1997												
Days suitable	3 8	5 0	5 1	3 2	2 5	4 9	3 3	5 4	4 3	6 0	5 1	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	1	0	5	16	4	21	32	9	29	0	
(Percent) - Short	12	26	46	25	15	35	35	53	31	41	11	
- Adequate	74	69	52	69	69	42	44	15	55	29	83	
- Surplus	14	4	2	1	0	19	0	0	5	1	6	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	2	3	4	32	17	6	44	39	15	21	1	
(Percent) - Short	13	27	36	36	35	47	44	53	35	41	17	
- Adequate	72	60	59	32	48	30	12	8	44	37	78	
- Surplus	13	10	1	0	0	17	0	0	6	1	4	

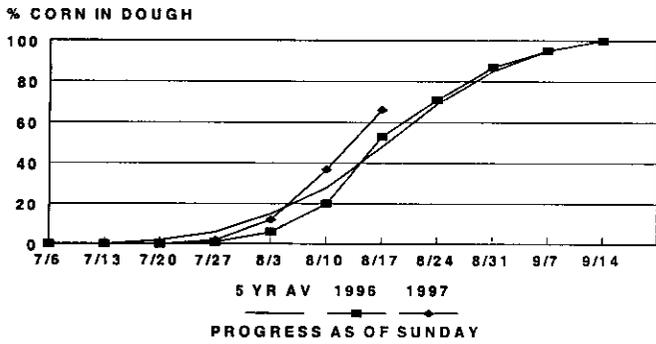
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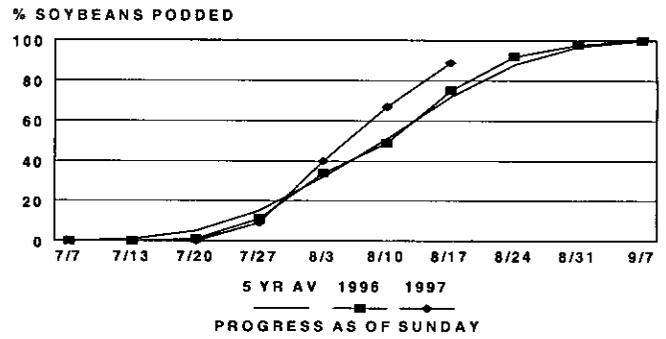
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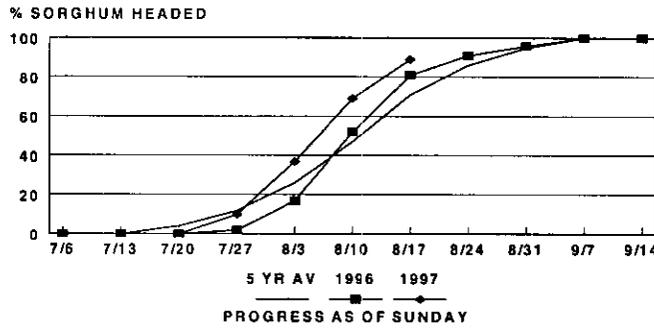
CORN DOUGH



SOYBEANS PODDED



SORGHUM HEADED



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 16, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	67	90	1 07	2.16	1 61	1 07	1 77	1 03
Total since April 1	13 39	14 58	13 67	11 15	14 73	12 94	10 84	15 71
Normal since April 1	11 11	13 52	15 16	14 84	16 22	12 71	14 76	16 55
Total as % of normal	121%	108%	90%	75%	91%	102%	73%	95%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1997

Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	88	53	65	---	45	---	---
	Scottsbluff	88	51	64	-8	86	1763	1880
	Sidney	91	51	65	---	29	1716	1832
NC	Valentine	83	53	65	-8	76	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1713	1834
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1831	1952
NE	Norfolk	91	51	65	-9	1.01	---	---
	Sioux City	89	53	67	-7	50	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1848	1968
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1852	1967
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1949	2079
CEN	Grand Island	92	53	67	-8	4 22	1931	2057
	Ord	93	55	66	---	1 85	1878	1996
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1964	2100
EC	Lincoln	92	55	69	-7	1 49	2096	2248
	Omaha	87	54	67	-7	1.82	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1928	2050
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2032	2179
SW	Imperial	94	50	68	---	39	---	---
	North Platte	89	51	66	-7	1 92	1861	1991
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2003	2148
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1925	2063
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2106	2269
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2006	2159
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1961	2095

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.