

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending August 2, 1998

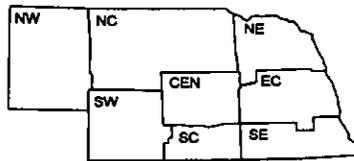
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## WEATHER

The week was cool and wet across the State. Temperatures averaged three to six degrees below normals for the entire State. Precipitation was widespread with amounts ranging from traces in the northeast to over eight inches in the southeast.

## GENERAL

Continued cool conditions coupled with widespread precipitation boosted conditions of crops and livestock, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Wheat harvest was virtually complete in all but a few areas of the west central Panhandle. Precipitation during the week reduced irrigation demands, however, locally heavy rain in parts of southern Nebraska resulted in flooding. Producer activities included harvest of oats and hay, weed control, summer fallow work, moving grains to market and livestock care.

## CROPS

Winter wheat harvest, was virtually complete at 96% cut, same as last year but ahead of 88% average. Remaining acres were in areas where rainfall had limited access

Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 59% good, and 22% excellent. Dryland corn rated 76% in good or excellent condition and 83% of the irrigated corn rated in those categories. Corn acreage silked was 94%, ahead of 88% last year and 76% average. Acreage having reached the dough stage was at 14%, ahead of 11% last year but near 13% average.

Soybean condition rated 3% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, and 18% excellent. Blooming was active on 90% of the acreage, same as last year but still ahead of 77% average. Podding had begun on 42% of the acreage, ahead of 36% last year and 31% average.

Sorghum condition rated 1% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, and 22% excellent. Heading was occurring on 46% of the acreage, ahead of 33% last year and 27% average.

Dry bean condition rated 2% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 56% good and 10% excellent. Blooming had occurred on 66% of the acreage, behind 86% last year and 70% average.

Oats harvest was near completion at 89%, just behind 92% last year but still well ahead of 76% average.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 61% good and 11% excellent. The second cutting activities were near completion at 93%, ahead of 88% last year and 85% average. Alfalfa third cutting activities were just underway with 3% of the harvest complete, compared to 4% last year and 6% average. Wild hay condition rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 56% good, and 17% excellent.

## LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 2% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 55% good, and 18% excellent. Pastures with adequate moisture were showing regrowth. Livestock conditions had improved with the moderate temperatures

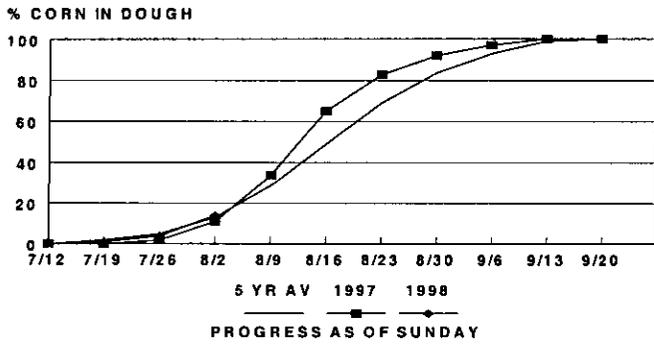
CROP PROGRESS AS OF August 2, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Harvested	93	98	100	100	100	100	100	100	96	92	96	88
% Corn Silked	82	87	96	95	98	88	97	99	94	87	88	76
% Corn Dough Stage	2	11	15	17	20	16	17	40	14	4	11	13
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	84	88	87	93	89	87	97	90	80	90	77
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	17	32	34	46	24	53	65	42	20	36	31
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	54	12	23	65	47	28	62	46	16	33	27
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	78	99	97	95	94	98	91	100	93	86	88	85
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	0	1	6	1	6	9	1	3	3	n/a	4	6
% Oats Harvested	49	98	93	100	94	96	84	100	89	70	92	76
% Dry Beans Blooming	65	45	91	80	n/a	75	n/a	n/a	66	42	86	70
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF July 31, 1998												
Days suitable	4 7	5 4	6 6	5 0	5 6	4 6	0 8	1 8	4 8	5 2	5 4	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	1	0	6	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	2	
(Percent) - Short	6	34	54	12	13	17	2	0	20	24	41	
- Adequate	91	66	40	79	85	78	76	96	75	71	36	
- Surplus	2	0	0	9	2	2	22	4	4	3	1	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	3	2	0	0	7	0	0	2	2	15	
(Percent) - Short	11	31	22	14	9	31	6	0	16	19	40	
- Adequate	88	66	76	81	88	62	77	97	79	78	45	
- Surplus	1	0	0	5	3	0	17	3	3	1	0	

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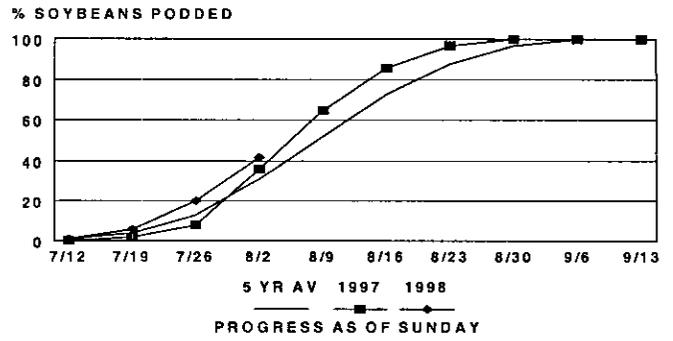
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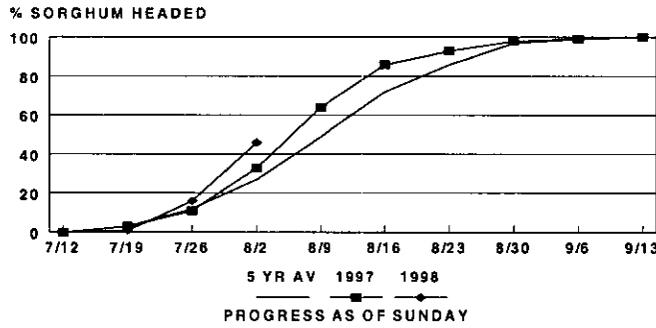
**CORN DOUGH**



**SOYBEANS PODDED**



**SORGHUM HEADED**



**PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 1, 1998**

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	76	66	73	86	62	98	1 68	1 69
Total since April 1	10 59	16 14	18 26	14 98	21 07	12 72	13 65	16 30
Normal since April 1	10 31	12 31	13 70	13 46	14 57	11 66	13 26	14 75
Total as % of normal	103%	131%	133%	111%	145%	109%	103%	111%

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,  
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1998**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data			
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Since April 15		
	Max	Min					Current	Normal	
NW	Chadron	92	56	73	---	---	---	---	
	Scottsbluff	92	57	71	-4	51	138	1596	1563
	Sidney	88	56	69	---	72	128	1500	1593
NC	Valentine	90	55	71	-4	61	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	132	1570	1713
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	138	1743	1833
NE	Norfolk	94	57	70	-6	71	---	---	---
	Stoux City	94	51	70	-6	01	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	133	1804	1890
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	135	1772	1877
CEN	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	139	1884	1995
	Grand Island	91	61	72	-5	46	149	1893	1900
	Ord	93	61	71	---	T	139	1812	1885
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	144	1879	1889
EC	Lincoln	91	60	73	-5	1 16	156	2062	2072
	Omaha	89	62	73	-3	04	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	144	1892	1920
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	150	2023	2057
SW	Imperial	90	58	71	---	1 05	---	---	---
	North Platte	90	57	70	-5	87	137	1740	1760
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	145	1844	1796
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	147	1887	1880
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	160	2134	1909
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	145	1970	2072
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	149	1938	1913

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.