

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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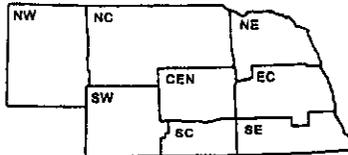
For Week Ending August 16, 1998

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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 across the State averaged from two degrees below normals in the Central and Northeast and up to two degrees above normals in the East Central. Precipitation was light in most areas, except for the Southwest and Northeast where an inch or more fell over large portions of the districts.

GENERAL

Mild and generally dry conditions prevailed last week, except in the Southwest, where extensive rainfall boosted soil moisture supplies according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers were active preparing for wheat seeding in the West and many irrigators were nearing their final irrigation for the season. Producers continued moving grain to local elevators and preparing for row crop harvest. Concern over low commodity prices again prompted many to consider marketing versus farm program options. Other producer activities included attending field days, hay harvest, livestock care and weed control

CROPS

Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 19% fair, 55% good, and 23% excellent. Dryland corn rated 77% in good or excellent condition and 78% of the irrigated corn rated in those categories. Acreage reaching the dough stage was at 71%, ahead

CROPS (Cont.)

of 62% last year and 49% average. Corn having reached the dent stage was at 16%, also ahead of 8% last year and 10% average.

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 14% fair, 66% good, and 18% excellent. Podding was occurring on 92% of the acreage, ahead of 86% last year and 72% average. Bean leaf beetles had reached treatable levels in some eastern fields.

Sorghum condition was 1% poor, 15% fair, 67% good, and 17% excellent. Heading had occurred on 91% of the acreage, ahead of 86% last year and 71% average. Sorghum coloring was just starting at 5%, ahead of 1% last year and equal to average.

Dry bean condition rated 6% poor, 32% fair, 44% good and 18% excellent. Blooming had occurred on 95% of the acreage, compared to 99% last year and 97% average. Dry beans podding was at 43%, behind 87% last year and 79% average.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 62% good and 10% excellent. Third cutting activities moved to 46%, ahead of 31% last year and 32% average. Wild hay condition rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 20% fair, 62% good, and 11% excellent

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 54% good, and 16% excellent. Pinkeye was causing concern in some areas and fly control was getting producer attention as well. Overall, livestock were doing well.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 16, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
% Corn Dough	21	42	72	68	80	49	90	89	71	42	62	49	
% Corn Dent	0	4	13	11	23	4	31	18	16	5	8	10	
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	79	94	86	91	72	95	95	92	69	86	72	
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	61	90	96	93	75	97	93	91	80	86	71	
% Sorghum Coloring	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	3	2	15	3	5	0	1	5	
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	n/a	22	43	35	72	74	85	68	46	94	31	32	
% Oats Harvested	75	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	99	90	99	97	
% Dry Beans Blooming	95	100	100	100	n/a	95	n/a	n/a	95	90	99	97	
% Dry Beans Podding	47	74	70	23	n/a	33	n/a	n/a	43	20	87	79	
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 14, 1998													
Days suitable	6.0	5.9	6.8	5.0	6.6	4.6	5.8	4.8	5.7	4.6	4.3		
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	9		
- Short	11	20	26	9	29	35	12	9	20	24	31		
- Adequate	89	76	73	90	69	59	86	89	78	71	55		
- Surplus	0	4	0	1	2	4	2	2	2	3	5		
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	1	0	0	0	12	0	0	2	2	15		
- Short	14	21	19	14	19	32	15	1	17	19	35		
- Adequate	86	75	80	85	80	54	85	97	79	78	44		
- Surplus	0	3	1	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	6		

n/a = not available

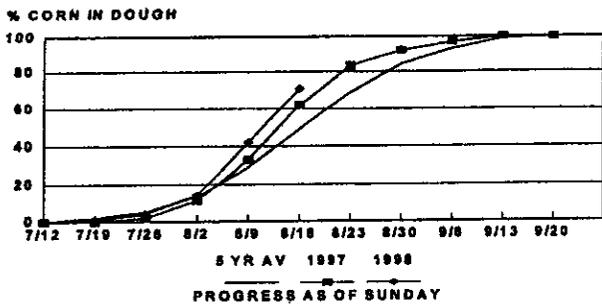
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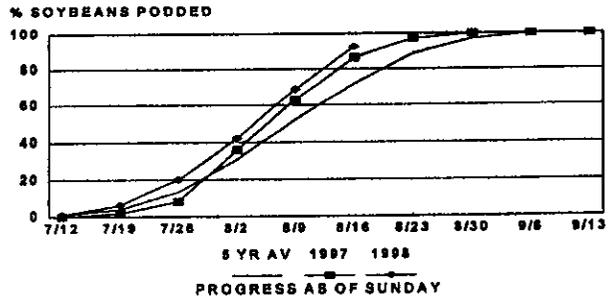
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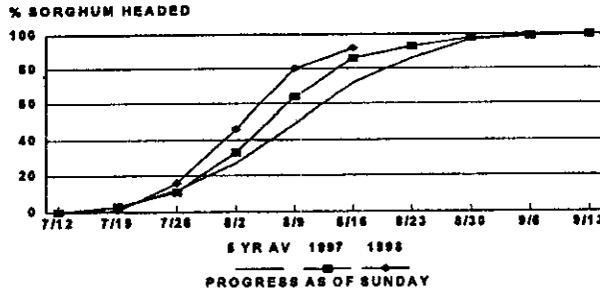
CORN DOUGH



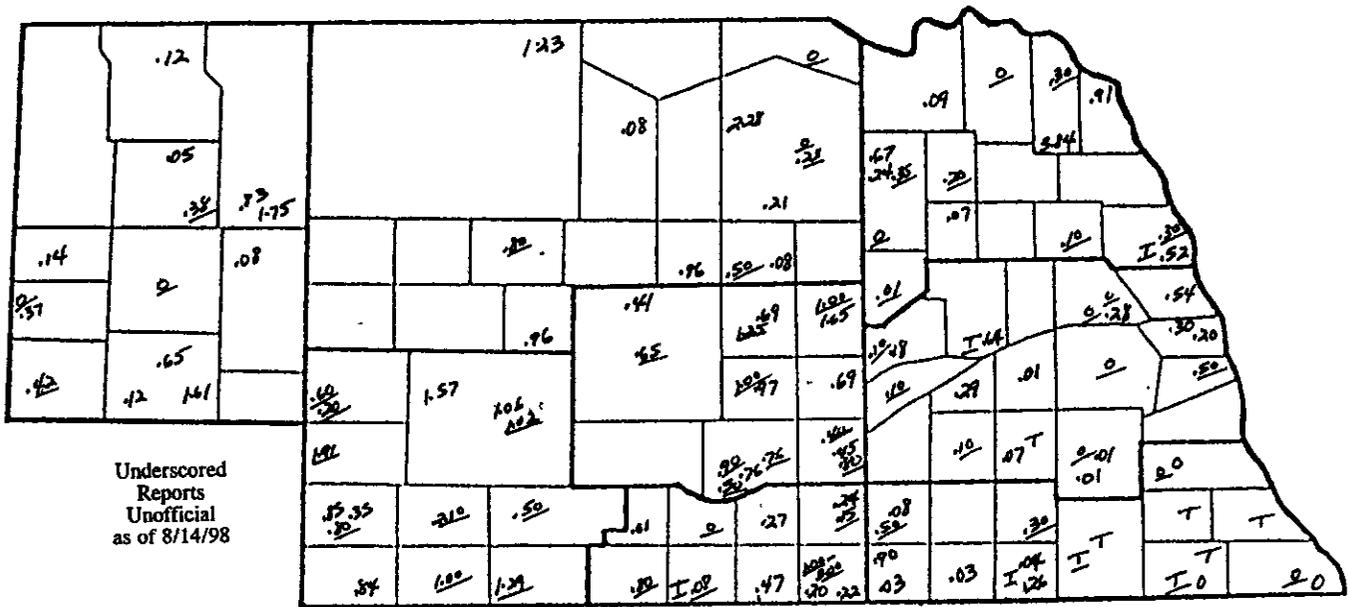
SOYBEANS PODED



SORGHUM HEADED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1998



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 15, 1998

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week57	.83	.91	.80	.21	.93	.24	.10
Total since April 1	11.71	17.71	20.47	16.20	22.20	13.86	14.44	16.83
Normal since April 1	11.06	13.44	15.07	14.75	16.11	12.64	14.66	16.43
Total as % of normal	106%	132%	136%	110%	138%	110%	98%	102%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1998

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data	
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Since April 15
	Max	Min			Current		Normal
NW	Chadron	96	53	74	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	93	51	73	0	1882	1857
	Sidney	91	52	71	---	1755	1892
NC	Valentine	90	58	74	+1	1.23	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	152	1847
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	158	2040
NE	Norfolk	89	53	73	-1	.07	---
	Sioux City	89	55	72	-2	.91	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	152	2087
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	163	2073
	West Point	---	---	---	---	158	2180
CEN	Grand Island	90	59	73	-2	.45	2195
	Ord	91	58	74	---	.69	2116
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	159	2180
EC	Lincoln	88	57	74	+2	.01	2382
	Omaha	89	60	75	+1	.20	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	153	2191
	Mead	---	---	---	---	161	2331
SW	Imperial	91	57	73	---	.35	---
	North Platte	89	56	73	0	1.06	2033
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	198	2184
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	160	2192
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	176	2476
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	159	2274
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	157	2243

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.