

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending April 18, 1999

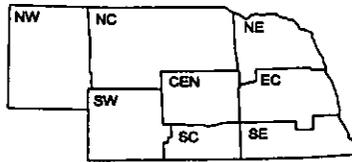
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn
National Weather Service



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

Temperatures for the week across the State averaged from two to five degrees below normals for the week. Rainfall was heavy in some areas with amounts ranging from traces around Imperial to nearly three and a half inches at Madison.

GENERAL

Rains during the week kept field work to a minimum in the eastern two-thirds of Nebraska and will delay planting of fields in low lying areas, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Hard freezing temperatures were recorded in many western counties last week, but crop canopy in most fields was expected to have limited damage. A few fields of corn were planted, but activity was limited. Army cutworms and alfalfa weevils were still problems in several areas. Producer activities included fence fixing, hauling grain, ordering supplies for field crops, applying fertilizer and herbicide, and moving cattle to summer pasture.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition continued to rate above year ago levels with 1% poor, 18% fair, 71% good and 10% excellent. Wheat jointed was 3%, same as last year, but behind 4% average.

Oats seeding was 74% complete, well ahead of last year's 35% and the average at 53%. Oats emerged was at 38%, compared to 11% last year.

Corn planted was 1%, same as last year and average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 3% poor, 18% fair, 69% good and 10% excellent. Hay supplies were plentiful coming out of the winter months. Calving was 85% complete, behind last year at 88%. Most reporters indicate that the favorable weather has been good for the spring calving season with below average calf loss in many counties.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF APRIL 18, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	PERCENT											
% Wheat Jointed	3	0	0	8	2	3	2	2	3	n/a	3	4
% Corn Planted	0	0	0	3	1	1	3	2	1	n/a	1	1
% Oats Sown	54	84	74	59	78	91	100	95	74	55	35	53
% Oats Emerged	33	59	34	17	30	40	65	48	38	14	11	n/a
% Cows Calved	89	83	78	84	88	89	92	92	85	76	88	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF APRIL 16, 1999												
Days Suitable	30	17	10	23	19	31	24	24	21	24	29	
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	- Short	7	2	2	1	0	11	4	0	3	7	6
	- Adequate	93	98	49	82	52	87	76	41	72	80	72
	- Surplus	0	0	49	17	48	2	20	59	25	13	22
Subsoil Moisture	- Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
	- Short	6	8	3	5	0	12	28	0	6	16	6
	- Adequate	94	92	60	85	80	85	52	91	81	80	82
	- Surplus	0	0	37	10	20	1	20	9	12	3	12

n/a = not available

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PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - APRIL 17, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week48	.51	2.14	1.72	2.76	.24	1.96	2.33
Total since April 1	1.85	2.60	4.53	3.33	4.22	1.20	3.21	3.56
Normal since April 199	1.19	1.36	1.35	1.53	1.02	1.16	1.53

**TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1999**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	72	20	43	---	.14
Scottsbluff	70	15	41	-5	.03
Sidney	67	20	40	---	.62
NC Valentine	74	20	44	-2	.02
NE Norfolk	67	29	45	-4	2.54
Stoux City	67	31	45	-5	1.54
CEN Grand Island	69	30	46	-4	2.44
Ord	69	28	46	---	1.58
EC Lincoln	70	30	47	-4	2.75
Omaha	66	33	46	-5	2.74
SW Imperial	75	22	44	---	.01
North Platte	71	19	43	-5	.23