

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



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For Week Ending September 5, 1999

Issue: 26-99

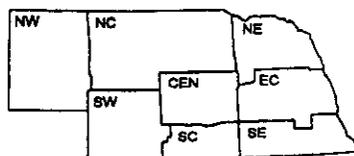
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WEATHER

Across Nebraska, temperatures for the week averaged from three degrees above normals in the Panhandle up to eight degrees above normals in the northeast. Precipitation was widespread but averaged from less than two tenths of an inch in the south-central portion of the State up to two inches in the Panhandle.

GENERAL

Lack of rain continues and dryland crops are showing stress, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Dry beans and dryland corn were maturing early. Dry bean harvest began and was noted to have some good and not so good yields. Some farmers began harvesting high moisture corn with moisture content in the mid to upper twenties. Alfalfa will need some Fall rain to get ready for the Winter. Producer activities included moving grain, haying prairies, preparations for seeding wheat, fertilizer applications, irrigating, field demonstrating of seed companies' test plots, tilling summer fallow, silage cutting, marketing of yearlings, and preparations of harvest equipment.

CROPS

Corn conditions rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 48% good, and 21% excellent. Dryland corn rated 56% and irrigated corn rated 78% in good and excellent conditions. Corn reaching dough stage was at 96%, just below 98% last year, but ahead of 95% average. Corn denting moved to 75%, behind 91% last year, but ahead of 65% average. Corn was 9% matured, just above 8% last year, and 6% average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean conditions rated 7% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 38% good, and 15% excellent. Coloring was noted on 22% of the acreage, compared to 33% last year and 28% average. Soybeans dropping leaves rated 4%, same as last year, but slightly below the 6% average.

Sorghum heading was near completion at 99%, just below last year's 100%, but same as average. Sorghum turning color moved ahead slowly to 49%, compared to 76% a year ago and 55% average. Sorghum conditions rated 1% very poor, 8% poor, 32% fair, 52% good, and 7% excellent.

Dry beans turning color rated 93%, well ahead of 74% last year, and 79% average. Dry beans dropping leaves was at 48%, above 35% last year, 37% average. Dry bean conditions rated 20% poor, 27% fair, 46% good, and 7% excellent.

Alfalfa conditions rated 2% very poor, 8% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, and 8% excellent. Alfalfa third cutting was 90%, above last year's 88%, and 84% average.

Wheat seeded rated 3%, behind 8% last year and average. Serious threats to winter wheat crop were noted due to severe hail. Producers have been advised to make an effort to minimize the occurrence of disease by controlling volunteer wheat and adjusting their planting dates.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions rated 5% very poor, 13% poor, 27% fair, 45% good, and 10% excellent. Pastures are starting to dry up due to lack of moisture. Feed supplies remain adequate. Calves were being weaned and fall calving was beginning.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	61	34	27	11	44	21	16	22	6	33	28
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	n/a	0	9	4	0	0	2	2	4	n/a	4	6
% Corn Dough	87	96	94	93	100	94	99	96	96	91	98	95
% Corn Dented	27	71	71	68	86	68	87	80	75	52	91	65
% Corn Mature	1	0	12	7	4	15	10	12	9	2	8	6
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	100	100	99	100	100	100	99	99	94	100	99
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	30	50	36	67	75	36	46	49	28	76	55
% Dry Beans Turning Color	93	98	n/a	76	n/a	97	n/a	n/a	93	70	74	79
% Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	72	15	n/a	5	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	48	n/a	35	37
% Proso Millet Harvested	15	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	n/a	0	6	n/a	n/a	n/a
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	64	94	95	96	98	97	98	94	90	83	88	84
% Wheat Seeded	5	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	n/a	8	8

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1999

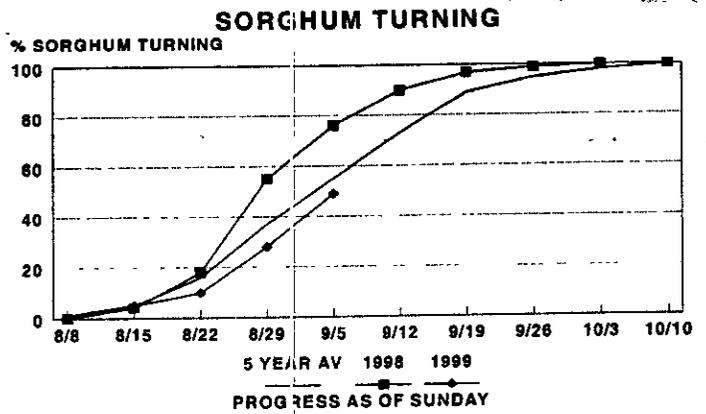
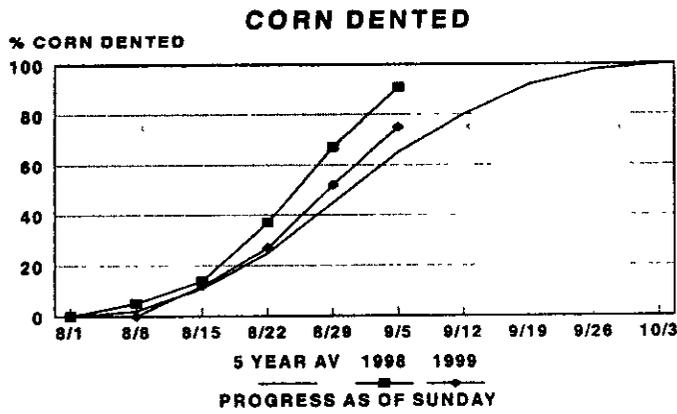
	2.5	5.2	6.5	6.7	6.2	4.0	5.5	7.0	5.3	7.0	6.9
Days suitable											
Topsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	0	34	11	6	0	16	34	12	9	5
- Short	15	75	37	34	36	4	44	42	36	42	39
- Adequate	69	25	29	54	58	81	40	24	48	46	56
- Surplus	16	0	0	1	0	15	0	0	4	3	0
Subsoil moisture - Very Short (Percent)	0	4	29	5	3	0	16	25	10	7	5
- Short	14	8	28	35	45	6	39	45	26	34	29
- Adequate	72	88	43	59	52	90	45	30	61	58	65
- Surplus	14	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	3	1	1

n/a = not available.

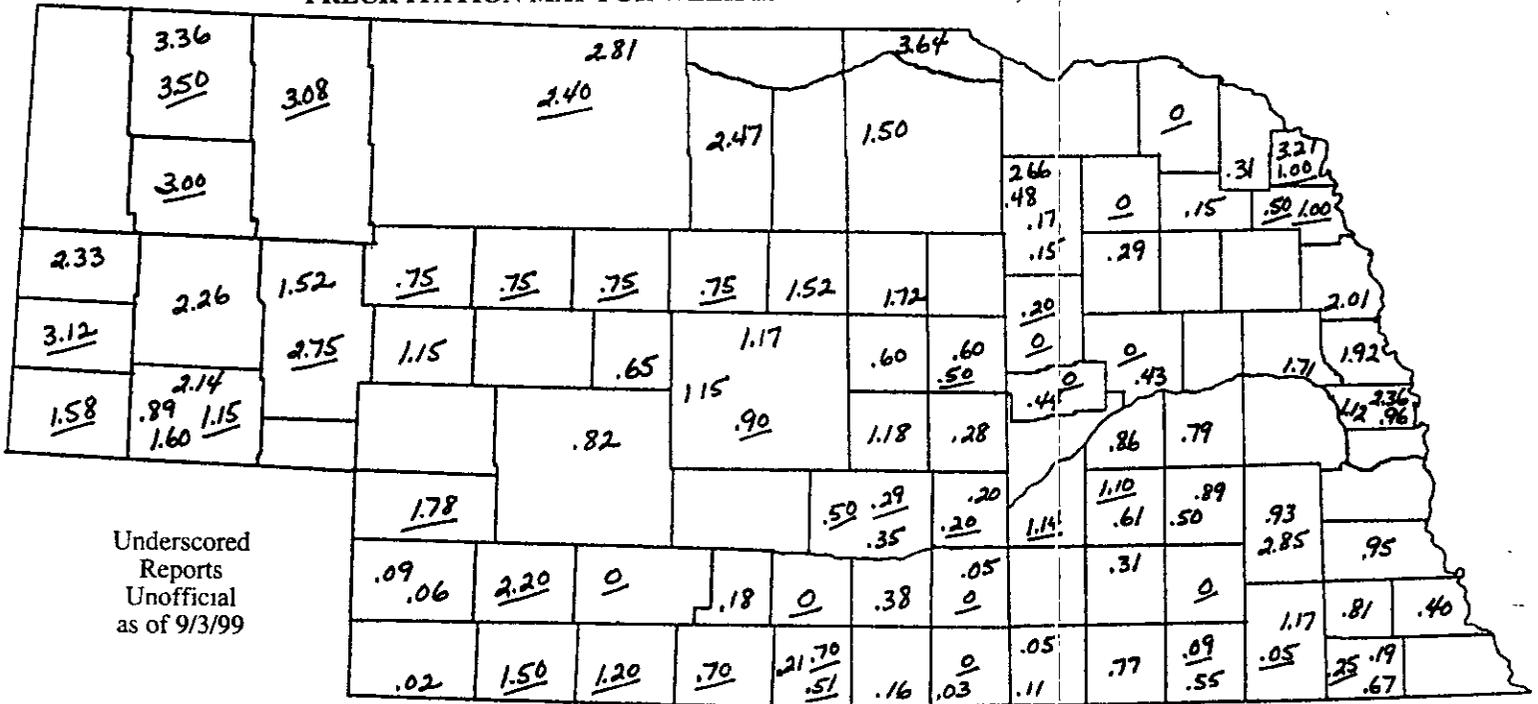
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1999



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 4, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	2.01	1.93	1.05	.69	1.17	.25	.17	.54
Total since April 1	16.49	18.35	22.33	21.32	24.73	18.62	20.43	20.75
Normal since April 1	12.06	15.00	16.87	16.52	18.34	13.95	16.50	18.86
Total as % of normal	137%	122%	132%	129%	135%	133%	124%	110%

**TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1999**

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal
	Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	98	47	69	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	94	48	70	+3	130	2243	2235
	Sidney	94	49	70	---	128	2145	2293
NC	Valentine	98	46	71	+4	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	132	2230	2418
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	163	2384	2566
NE	Norfolk	91	57	76	+8	---	---	---
	Sioux City	87	59	73	+4	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	166	2447	2616
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	166	2401	2623
	West Point	---	---	---	---	168	2485	2764
CEN	Grand Island	95	55	76	+7	---	---	---
	Ord	90	52	74	---	172	2559	2655
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	168	2471	2635
EC	Lincoln	93	62	77	+6	---	---	---
	Omaha	89	63	76	+7	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	186	2769	2906
	Mead	---	---	---	---	172	2605	2862
SW	Imperial	91	54	73	---	---	---	---
	North Platte	88	51	71	+4	---	---	---
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	155	2421	2495
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	159	2471	2532
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	167	2560	2609
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	192	2895	2685
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	179	2662	2906
		---	---	---	---	172	2523	2679

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.