

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



Issued by the
NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending April 22, 2001

Issue: 06-2001
Released: 4/23/2001 3:00 p.m.

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GENERAL: Rain and snow last weekend slowed fieldwork activities, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. With 4.7 days suitable for spring tillage and planting operations last week, producers were chopping stalks, disking, fertilizing and putting planters to work. Topsoil moisture rated mostly adequate while subsoil moisture rated mostly adequate to short.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center.

WEATHER: Temperatures last week averaged two degrees below normals across the State except in the north central which was two degrees above normals. Precipitation occurred statewide in the form of rain and snow over the weekend.

CROPS: **Winter Wheat** crop rated 2% very poor, 12% poor, 31% fair, 50% good, and 5% excellent.

About 3% of the crop had jointed, this compared to 29% last year and 13% for the five-year average. Some comments from the Southeast District indicated above average winterkill. **Corn** planting progressed to 2% across the State last week before the weekend storms halted activities. Last year at this time, 11% had been planted with the average at 6%. **Oat** planting progressed to 54% sown to date. This compares with 97% last year and 75% for the five-year average. Thirteen percent had emerged by Sunday, well behind last year at 66% and average at 35%. **Sugar beet** planting was about one-third complete at week's end.

Pasture and range conditions were rated at 6% very poor, 18% poor, 50% fair, 24% good, and 2% excellent. **Cattle and calves** condition rated 2% very poor, 12% poor, 41% fair, 39% good, and 6% excellent. Calving since January 1 had reached 90% statewide. Supplemental haying and feeding of cattle continued as most pastures need additional growing time to provide proper grazing potential. Cool temperatures continued to slow grass growth.

PROGRESS AND CONDITIONS, NEBRASKA, AS OF APRIL 22, 2001

ITEM	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS									STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
PERCENT													
% Wheat Jointed	0	0	1	0	9	2	11	4	3	2	29	13	
% Corn Planted	0	0	1	2	2	1	2	5	2	0	11	6	
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	4.9	4.7	4.1	4.3	5.4	5.3	4.9	4.3	4.7	1.6	5.0		
Topsoil Moisture													
- Very short	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	1	23		
- Short	3	1	2	8	8	9	8	3	4	4	41		
- Adequate	97	94	88	78	86	57	89	95	87	84	36		
- Surplus	0	5	10	14	6	28	3	2	8	11	0		
Subsoil Moisture-													
- Very Short	0	7	0	3	5	8	9	9	6	6	44		
- Short	32	26	28	31	35	44	27	57	35	34	37		
- Adequate	68	66	71	66	59	47	64	34	59	58	19		
- Surplus	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0		

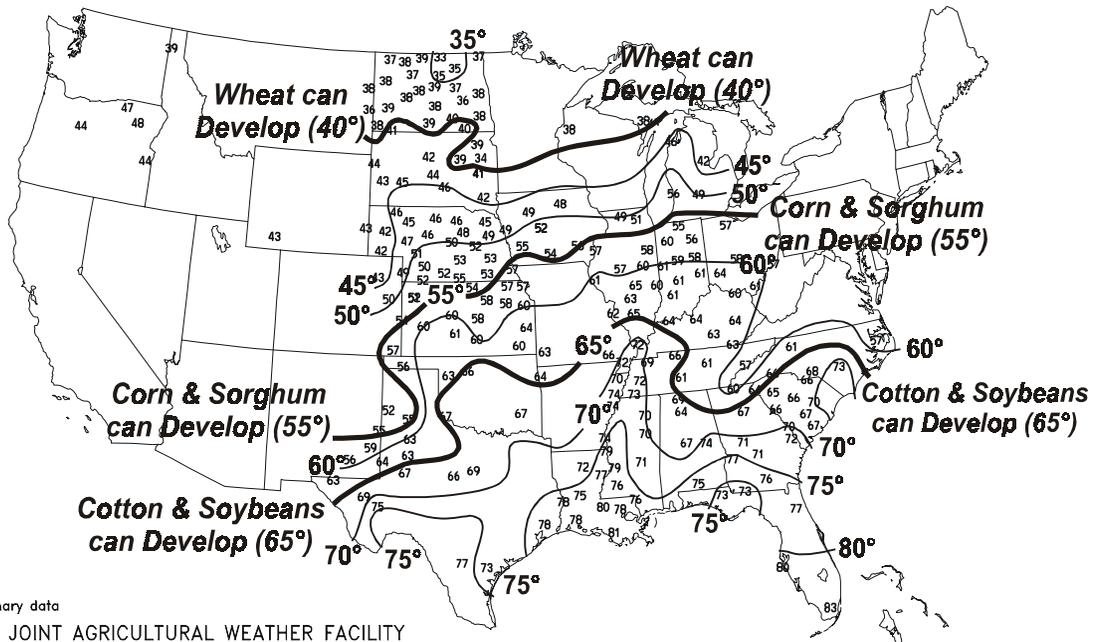
TEMPERATURE DATA, NEBRASKA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2001

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	
	Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	82	16	45	---
	Scottsbluff	82	24	46	-2
	Sidney	81	21	46	---
NC	Valentine	94	16	50	+2
NE	Norfolk	76	26	49	-2
	Sioux City	80	27	47	-4
CEN	Grand Island	77	26	51	-1
	Ord	72	23	48	---
EC	Lincoln	77	28	51	-2
	Omaha	77	28	51	-1
SW	Imperial	86	21	50	---
	North Platte	82	19	48	-1

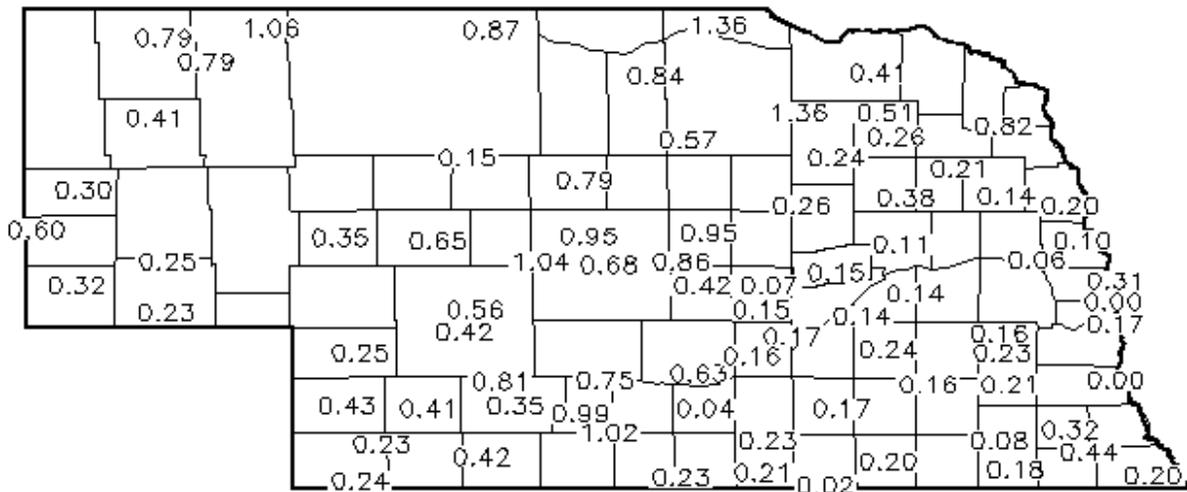
Source: National Weather Service, Valley, NE.

Average Soil Temperature (°F, 4" Bare)

APR 8 - 14, 2001



PRECIPITATION IN INCHES FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 22, 2001¹



Item	Precipitation, Nebraska, April 1 - April 22, 2001 ¹							
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.47	.76	.31	.56	.16	.35	.54	.17
Total since April 1	2.12	3.86	2.98	3.80	2.14	2.04	2.27	1.82
Normal since April 1	1.25	1.50	1.80	1.72	1.94	1.33	1.47	1.96
Total as % of normal	172%	257%	165%	222%	110%	150%	156%	91%

¹ Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m. Sunday.

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NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (USPS 679-770; ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March in Lincoln, Nebraska, and from other additional offices, by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NAASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents free to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE & at additional entry offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.