

Issue NE-CW3302, released August 19, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 18, 2002, crop conditions saw little change from the previous week despite cooler temperatures and rainfall, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Subsoil moisture supplies were short or very short over 97 percent of the State, well below last year and average. Irrigation systems continued in full use where water allocations permitted, although in some cases wells had to be lowered. Grasshoppers continued to present problems with chemicals being applied to control the pests. Producer activities included cutting dryland crops for silage or hay and livestock care.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Access weekly reports back to 1947 and current county specific comments at: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged from one to nine degrees below normals across the State. Precipitation was statewide and ranged in amounts from traces to over 3.0 inches.

Field Crops Report: All corn condition rated 30 percent good and excellent, well below the average of 64. Irrigated corn condition rated 50 percent good and excellent, below the five year average of 75. Dryland corn rated 4 percent good and excellent, far below the average of 48. There were 82 percent of the fields in the dough stage by Sunday, same as last year and above average at 77. The crop was 41 percent dented, ahead of last year at 38 and average at 27. Four percent was mature, ahead of last year at 2 and average at 1.

Soybean condition held steady again last week and rated 27 percent very poor, 28 poor, 31 fair, 13 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year and average. In 93 percent of the fields, pods were being set, ahead of last year at 88 and average at 90. Nine percent of the acreage had turned color, ahead of last year at 3 and average at 4.

Sorghum showed little change in condition and rated 38 percent very poor, 33 poor, 25 fair, and 4 good, well below last year and average. Eighty-one percent of the fields had headed, behind last year and average at 88. Fields were turning color on 24 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 9 and average at 11.

Dry bean fields had pods set on 93 percent of the acreage, ahead of last year's 89 and average at 81. Seventeen percent of the acreage had turned color, ahead of last year at 7 and average at 11. Condition rated 19 percent very poor, 29 poor, 27 fair, 22 good, and 3 excellent.

Alfalfa condition rated 43 percent very poor, 29 poor, 17 fair, 10 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year and average. Third cuttings made good progress where growth was sufficient for harvest and rated 72 percent complete, well ahead of last year at 61 and average at 54.

Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 65 percent very poor, 26 poor, 8 fair, and 1 good, well below average. Some producers continued to provide supplemental feed and haul water to cattle on pastures or dry lot cattle. Recent rains have given hope for fall grazing potential to some producers.

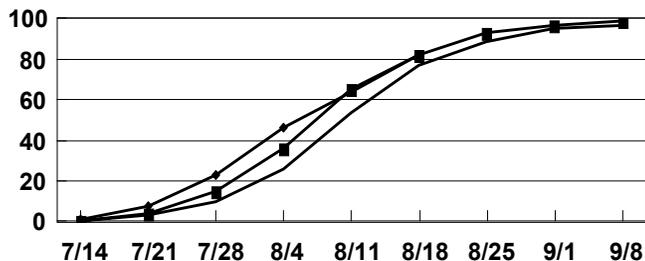
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of August 18, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dough	50	84	77	97	83	74	87	91	82	64	82	77
% Corn Dent	5	43	23	25	53	27	51	64	41	27	38	27
% Corn Mature	0	0	2	5	4	0	10	10	4	0	2	1
% Soybeans Setting Pods	¹	99	94	100	89	83	96	94	93	79	88	90
% Soybeans Turning Color	¹	17	5	6	11	10	9	12	9	0	3	4
% Sorghum Headed	0	86	78	95	83	55	69	90	81	71	88	88
% Sorghum Turning Color	0	1	33	20	28	14	26	26	24	12	9	11
% Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	16	100	78	50	79	95	85	95	72	62	61	54
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	7.0	7.0	5.3	6.0	6.0	7.0	6.7	5.2	6.1	6.2	5.7	5.5
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	96	85	19	49	65	76	76	73	69	66	11	17
- % Short	4	14	37	48	23	18	24	27	22	24	43	28
- % Adequate	0	1	43	3	12	5	0	0	9	8	45	53
- % Surplus	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	98	89	49	59	78	81	91	89	80	74	14	20
- % Short	2	10	38	41	19	16	9	11	17	19	44	29
- % Adequate	0	1	13	0	3	3	0	0	3	7	41	49
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2

¹ Data not available.

CORN DOUGH

% DOUGH

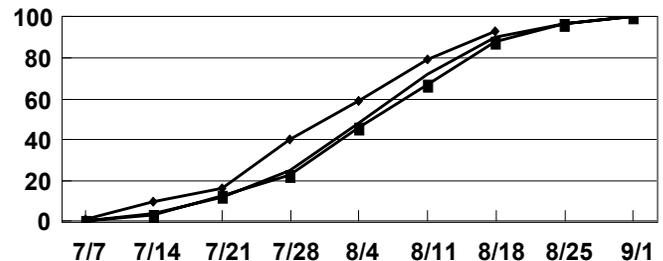


— 5 YEAR AV — 2001 — 2002

PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEANS PODS SET

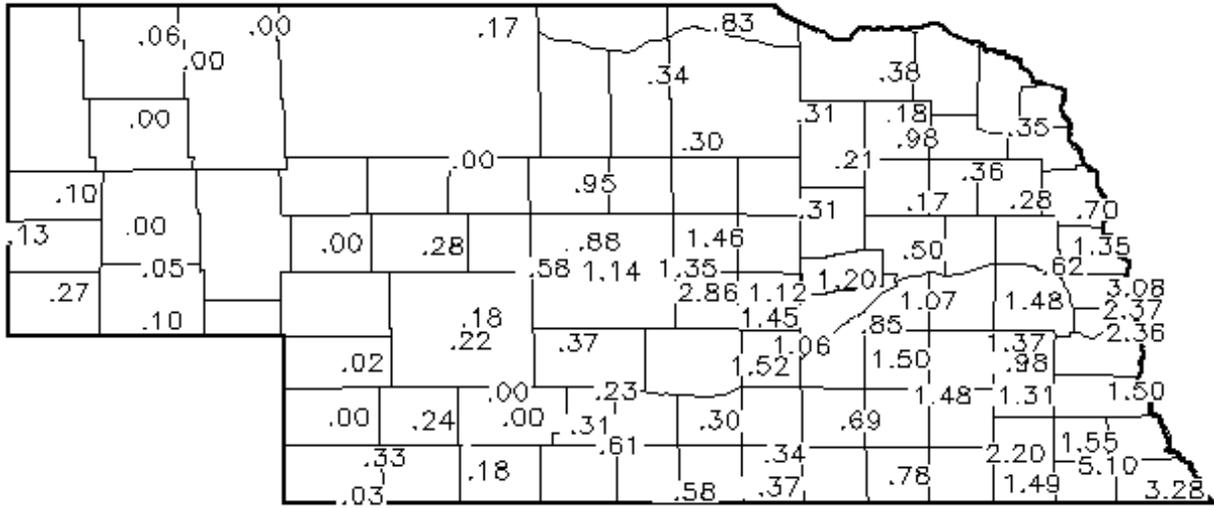
% PODS SET



— 5 YEAR AV — 2001 — 2002

PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending August 18, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - August 18, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.10	.27	.46	1.17	1.35	.14	.42	1.77
Total since April 1	4.88	7.80	13.23	8.35	13.12	6.30	7.62	12.55
Normal since April 1	11.11	13.70	15.50	14.75	16.31	13.11	14.61	16.88
Total as % of normal	44%	56%	84%	56%	80%	47%	52%	74%

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

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, August 18, 2002**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	100	41	65	-6	106	1939	1940
	Scottsbluff	99	43	65	-5	108	2045	1936
	Sidney	103	44	67	-4	111	2076	1986
NC	Ainsworth	101	48	67	-5	108	2230	2134
	Arthur	99	44	67	-6	111	2072	2089
	O'Neill	96	45	68	-5	115	2260	2224
NE	Concord	85	47	65	-8	109	2261	2273
	Elgin	92	48	67	-7	112	2294	2275
	West Point	87	46	65	-9	110	2318	2397
C	Grand Island	94	54	68	-5	121	2365	2300
	Lexington	95	52	69	-5	124	2415	2263
	Ord	96	50	67	-7	110	2312	2284
EC	Lincoln	95	58	72	-4	149	2614	2513
	Central City	93	53	68	-6	121	2386	2335
	Mead	89	51	68	-7	123	2448	2478
SW	Champion	102	46	67	-6	111	2194	2134
	North Platte	101	46	68	-5	114	2285	2156
	Curtis	102	52	71	-2	133	2346	2189
SC	Arapahoe	104	41	68	-4	117	2093	2082
	Minden	94	53	69	-5	127	2367	2270
	Red Cloud	95	55	73	-1	152	2593	2326
SE	Beatrice	92	56	72	-4	148	2521	2513
	Clay Center	93	51	69	-5	130	2358	2321
	Nemaha	90	57	73	-3	155	2647	2525

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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