

Issue NE-CW2105, released May 23, 2005, 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 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 22, 2005, above normal temperatures helped dry out wet soils while benefitting crop conditions, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Sporadic rain fell on the state, but amounts in excess of one-half inch were rare. Producer activities included taking the first cutting of alfalfa and opening pastures to cattle.

Weather Summary: Temperatures for the week averaged from 3 to 9 degrees above normal with the state averaging almost 7 degrees above normal. The highest temperature in the state, at 101, was recorded in the Red Cloud area. Precipitation since April 1 is still above normal in most areas with the exception of the South Central and Southwest Districts.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending May 22, 2005**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	1	1	17	12
Short	17	6	24	21
Adequate	79	78	54	63
Surplus	3	15	5	4
Subsoil				
Very Short	10	10	41	23
Short	24	20	28	31
Adequate	65	66	30	45
Surplus	1	4	1	1
Days Suitable	5.5	3.2	4.2	5.2

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 7 poor, 40 fair, 44 good, and 6 excellent. Fields were 95 percent jointed, behind last year at 98 percent but ahead of the average at 90. Fields were reported to be 23 percent headed, a week and a half behind last year at 63 and almost a week behind the average at 43.

Corn planting progressed to 97 percent complete, near last year at 98 but ahead of the average at 94. Corn emergence was at 70 percent, behind last year at 85 percent and just ahead of average at 68. Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 26 fair, 62 good, and 8 excellent.

Soybean planting had progressed to 71 percent, ahead of last year at 67 and the average at 60. Soybean emergence was at 25 percent, behind last year at 35 but near the average at 26.

Oat emergence has progressed to 98 percent. Conditions were rated as 3 percent poor, 23 fair, 59 good, and 15 excellent.

Sugar beet planting is near completion in the west with 99 percent of the crop planted.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 16 poor, 35 fair, 40 good, and 6 excellent.

Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending May 22, 2005

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	97	89	98	94
Corn Emerged	70	32	85	68
Oats Emerged	98	95	99	96
Sorghum Planted	41	15	36	36
Sorghum Emerged	8	1	10	11
Soybeans Planted	71	36	67	60
Soybeans Emerged	25	5	35	26
Wheat Jointed	95	83	98	90
Wheat Headed	23	4	63	43

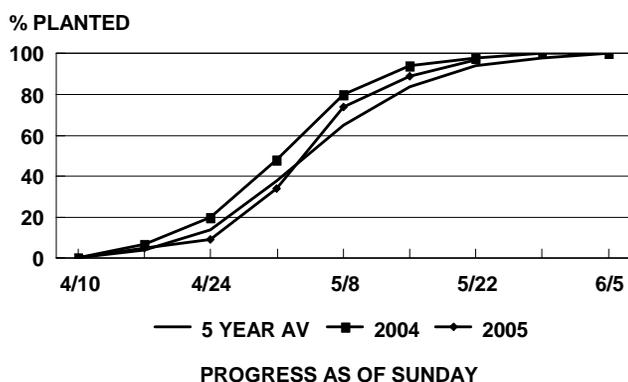
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 22, 2005

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	3	16	35	40	6
Corn	1	3	26	62	8
Oats	0	3	23	59	15
Wheat	3	7	40	44	6

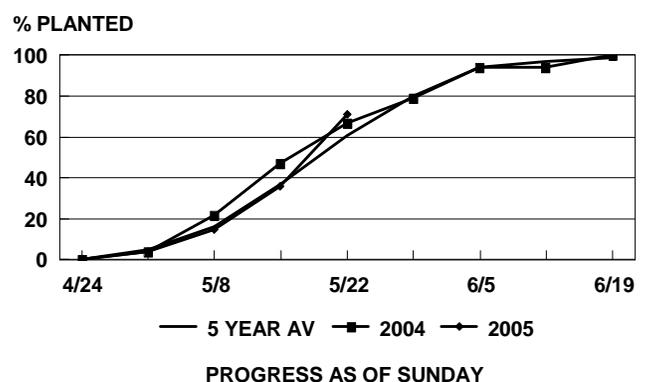
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 2 percent very poor, 11 poor, 30 fair, 50 good, and 7 excellent. Conditions continue to be well above last year and normal.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwth/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwth/2005.htm>.

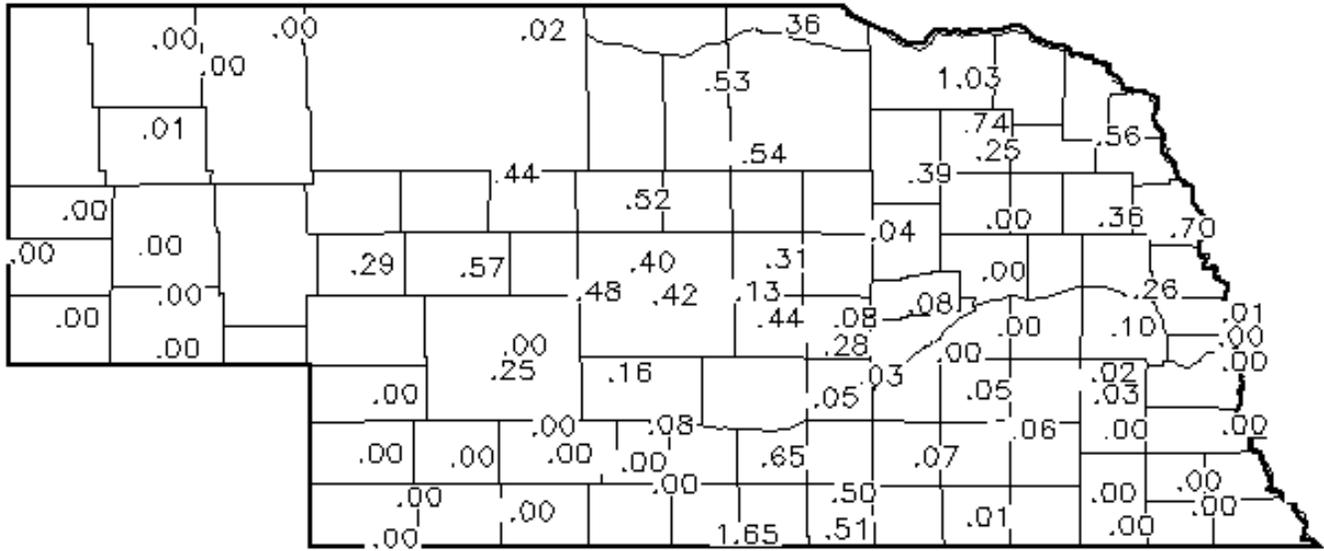
CORN



SOYBEANS



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. May 22, 2005



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 22, 2005

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	0.53	.47	.24	0.08	.00	.24	.01
Total since April 1	4.02	6.67	7.25	5.88	6.66	2.38	3.01	6.11
Normal since April 1	3.89	4.41	5.20	4.97	5.59	4.22	4.74	5.64
Total as % of normal	102%	152%	139%	116%	119%	56%	62%	108%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, May 22, 2005

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	94	39	64	+6
	Scottsbluff	95	42	66	+9
	Sidney	91	44	65	+6
NC	Ainsworth	85	48	66	+5
	Arthur	90	45	66	+6
	O'Neill	86	48	66	+5
NE	Concord	84	46	66	+3
	Elgin	89	51	68	+6
	West Point	85	49	67	+4
C	Grand Island	95	50	70	+8
	Lexington	91	51	71	+9
	Ord	91	46	68	+6
EC	Lincoln	90	52	70	+6
	Central City	93	50	69	+7
	Mead	91	47	69	+5
SW	Champion	96	41	68	+8
	North Platte	92	47	68	+7
	Curtis	91	46	69	+8
SC	Smithfield	92	46	70	+8
	Minden	94	47	70	+8
	Red Cloud	101	47	71	+9
SE	Beatrice	93	47	70	+6
	Clay Center	99	46	69	+7
	Nemaha	90	47	70	+6

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office

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