

Issue NE-CW3305, released August 15, 2005, by USDA NASS Nebraska Field Office. 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](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending August 14, 2005, cooler temperatures and beneficial rainfall helped replenish soil moisture levels and relieve crop stress, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service Nebraska Field Office. Heavy rains in portions of the state allowed producers to stop irrigation for a few days. Producer activities included irrigating, putting up hay, providing supplemental feed to livestock, and marketing of old crops.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures ranged from 6 degrees below normal to 1 degree above with most highs ranging from the mid-to-upper nineties. Widespread rainfall, with many stations reporting over 2 inches, improved soil moisture conditions throughout much of the state. Precipitation since April 1 was above normal for five of the eight districts and improved to near normal across the east-central and southern portions of the state.

Sorghum conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 14 poor, 37 fair, 39 good, and 5 excellent, lower than last year but better than average. Eighty-six percent of the crop had headed, ahead of 73 last year and the average at 76. Sorghum coloring was at 6 percent, behind last year at 7 and average at 12.

Dry Bean conditions rated 3 percent poor, 21 fair, 69 good, and 7 excellent. Ninety-six percent of the crop had bloomed, ahead of 83 last year and the average at 94. Eighty-five percent of the crop had set pods, ahead of last year at 43 and the average at 70. One percent had begun turning color.

Alfalfa conditions rated 9 percent very poor, 15 poor, 32 fair, 38 good, and 6 excellent. Third cutting was 67 percent complete, ahead of last year at 56 and the average at 59.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending August 14, 2005**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	14	26	19	41
Short	28	38	42	34
Adequate	57	36	38	24
Surplus	1	0	1	1
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	22	25	35	48
Short	34	30	35	32
Adequate	44	45	30	20
Surplus	0	0	0	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.0	6.5	6.4	6.5

**Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 14, 2005**

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	67	48	56	59
Corn Dough	74	51	67	70
Corn Dented	23	5	11	22
Sorghum Headed	86	71	73	76
Sorghum Coloring	6	1	7	12
Soybeans Setting Pods	95	80	85	82

**Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 14, 2005**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	9	15	32	38	6
Corn	5	9	20	48	18
Dry Beans	0	3	21	69	7
Sorghum	5	14	37	39	5
Soybeans	4	14	29	42	11

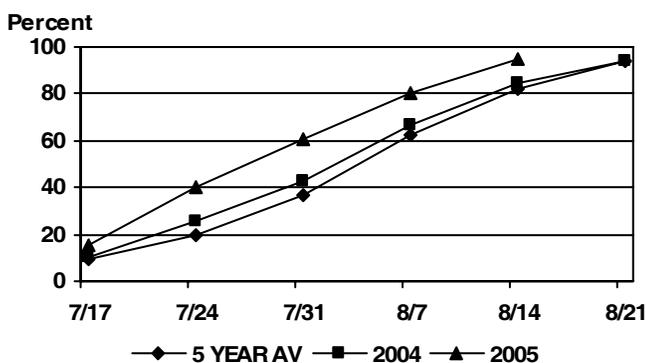
**Field Crops Report:** Corn conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 9 poor, 20 fair, 48 good, and 18 excellent. Irrigated fields improved to 85 percent good or excellent and dryland fields improved slightly to 37. Combined conditions remain below last year but still above average. Seventy-four percent of the crop was in the dough stage, ahead of 67 last year and the average at 70. Twenty-three percent of the crop had dented, ahead of 11 last year and 22 for the average.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 11 percent very poor, 19 poor, 36 fair, 32 good, and 2 excellent. Conditions are behind last year but still above normal.

Ninety-five percent of the soybean crop had set pods, ahead of 85 last year and the average at 82. The crop had begun coloring at 1 percent. Conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 14 poor, 29 fair, 42 good, and 11 excellent. This is still above average but below last year.

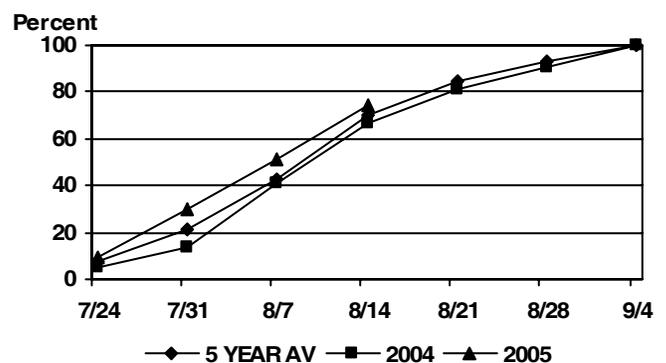
*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm). For those receiving an 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/cropwthr/2005.htm>*

**SOYBEANS SETTING PODS**



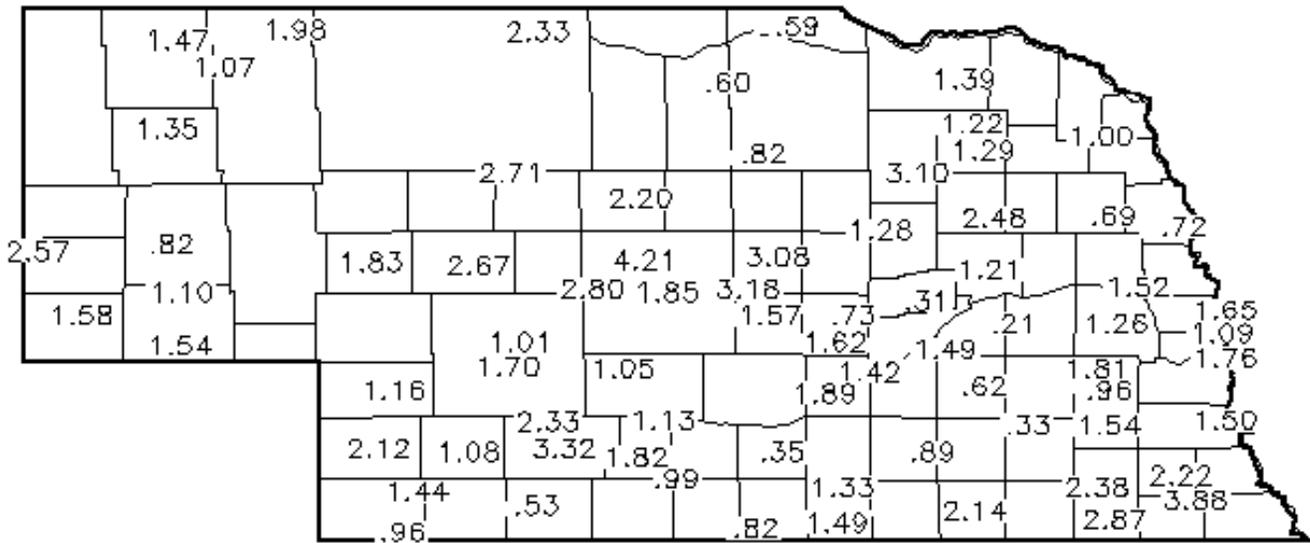
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

**CORN DOUGH**



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 14, 2005**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 14, 2005**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.42	1.47	1.49	2.31	1.13	1.56	1.11	2.08
Total since April 1	15.45	18.83	18.23	16.39	15.67	12.58	12.82	16.53
Normal since April 1	10.90	13.29	15.13	14.39	15.87	12.82	14.17	16.39
Total as % of normal	142%	142%	120%	114%	98%	98%	90%	100%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, August 14, 2005**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	96	49	66	-6	107	1675	1887
	Scottsbluff	94	52	67	-4	117	1807	1882
	Sidney	94	51	67	-5	114	1696	1945
NC	Ainsworth	98	51	71	-4	137	1931	2151
	Arthur	94	52	68	-6	120	1793	2072
	O'Neill	97	54	72	-3	142	2002	2185
NE	Concord	97	51	72	-3	147	2100	2272
	Elgin	97	51	72	-3	141	2073	2230
	West Point	96	52	73	-3	150	2219	2350
C	Grand Island	94	53	74	-1	157	2224	2200
	Lexington	96	55	73	-1	151	2211	2155
	Ord	95	55	72	-2	146	2093	2184
EC	Lincoln	95	55	76	0	172	2494	2411
	Central City	94	53	73	-2	153	2215	2237
	Mead	94	52	74	-3	158	2324	2398
SW	Champion	96	52	71	-3	136	1939	2093
	North Platte	97	56	72	-2	142	2020	2121
	Curtis	99	57	73	-1	149	2074	2126
SC	Smithfield	93	52	72	-2	144	2098	2162
	Minden	96	53	74	0	164	2209	2176
	Red Cloud	97	55	76	+1	163	2355	2222
SE	Beatrice	94	56	76	-1	166	2386	2411
	Clay Center	93	54	74	-1	159	2234	2221
	Nemaha	98	56	77	0	172	2515	2419

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