



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service
Nebraska Field Office

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 8, 2007, cold temperatures and damp soils kept producers out of the field, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistic Service, Nebraska Field Office. Temperatures approached record lows over several nights late in the week, dropping soil temperatures as much as ten degrees and lowering alfalfa production potential. The full impact of the hard freezing temperatures will not be evident until conditions warm up. In southwestern and central counties, producers were dealing with as much as 7 inches of snow that moved through the area late in the week. The cold, wet conditions kept livestock producers busy caring for newborn calves. Other activities included applying fertilizer and waiting to begin spring planting.

Weather Summary: The week started out warm with temperatures as high as the low 80's in the Southeast District, but turned frigid cold with single digit lows recorded in the North Central District. For the week, temperatures averaged fourteen degrees below normal across the state. Precipitation was limited except for snow. Driest soil moisture conditions continue in Panhandle counties.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork: Nebraska, Week Ending April 8, 2007

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	5	4	1	14
Short	7	12	10	26
Adequate	80	72	69	55
Surplus	8	12	20	5
Subsoil				
Very Short	16	13	13	27
Short	26	29	27	37
Adequate	56	55	59	36
Surplus	2	3	1	0
Days Suitable	2.0	2.5	2.9	4.7

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions declined slightly from last week and rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 34 fair, 52 good, and 8 excellent, but are still above last year. Wheat jointed was at 3 percent, ahead of last year and even with the average.

Oats planted increased to 32 percent, ahead of last year's 25 but behind the average of 44. Oats emerged was at 6 percent, ahead of last year and near the average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 19 poor, 36 fair, 37 good, and 5 excellent, well below last year.

Sugarbeet planting showed progress and was 14 percent complete, ahead of last year's 7.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 8, 2007

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Oats Planted	32	15	25	44
Oats Emerged	6	2	3	7
Wheat Jointed	3		1	3

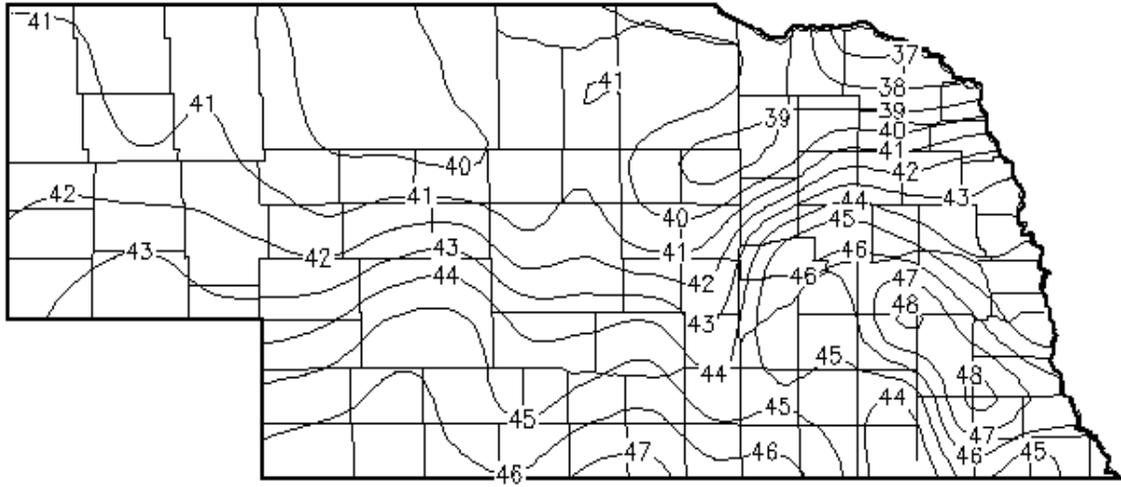
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 8, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	3	19	36	37	5
Wheat	2	4	34	52	8

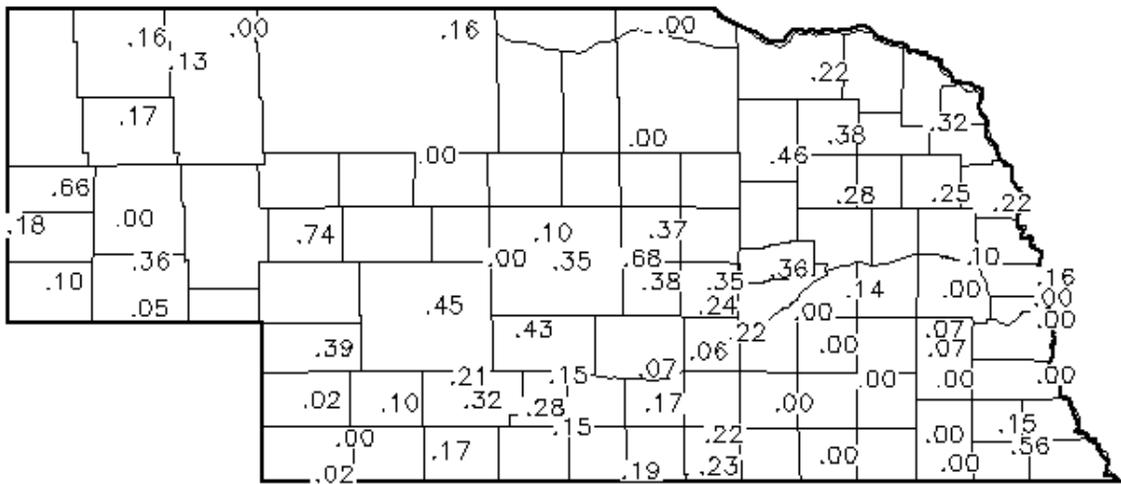
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 13 poor, 40 fair, 41 good, and 2 excellent, well below last year. Cattle and calf conditions rated 9 percent poor, 24 fair, 61 good, and 6 excellent. Spring calving was 82 percent complete. Calf losses rated 3 percent below average, 84 average, and 13 above average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil
April 2 – April 8, 2007**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 8, 2007



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – April 8, 2007

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.20	.16	.25	.26	.07	.18	.24	.07
Total since April 1	.20	.19	.86	.50	.44	.18	.35	.23
Normal since April 1	.44	.53	.63	.61	.69	.47	.51	.70
Total as % of normal	46%	36%	133%	83%	62%	37%	68%	32%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 8, 2007

Station	Temperature			
	Extremes		Average	Departure
	High	Low		
NW Alliance	62	10	30	-14
Scottsbluff	61	17	34	-10
Sidney	68	13	32	-13
NC Ainsworth	55	11	28	-18
Arthur	67	8	29	-16
O'Neill	55	9	29	-17
NE Concord	56	12	29	-17
Elgin	61	13	30	-17
West Point	65	15	32	-16
C Grand Island	71	13	34	-13
Lexington	74	12	33	-13
Ord	63	11	31	-15
EC Central City	71	8	34	-13
Lincoln	75	17	35	-13
Mead	71	16	34	-14
SW Champion	74	13	34	-12
Dickens	73	9	32	-14
McCook	79	14	34	-12
SC Minden	75	14	33	-13
Red Cloud	77	13	35	-12
Smithfield	73	12	32	-14
SE Beatrice	80	13	36	-13
Clay Center	75	11	34	-13
Nemaha	81	18	37	-12

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