



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 27, 2008, below average temperatures and wet weather at the end of the week hindered row crop planting, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Soil temperatures warmed and averaged 50 degrees or more for the first time this season. Producers were able to get in the fields earlier in the week and start planting corn until precipitation limited progress. The cool temperatures have created concern among beet growers for emerging stands. Pasture and rangeland growth has been slow due to the below normal temperatures during much of April. As calving season nears completion, producers were focused on working cattle and preparing to move livestock to pasture.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 6 degrees below normal across the state with highs near 80 in the eastern areas to lows of 20 in the Panhandle. Precipitation was widespread, with portions of central and southeastern Nebraska receiving over an inch and a half of moisture. There were reports of snow in the Panhandle as well as the northeastern part of the state; hail was reported in the Southwestern District.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending April 27, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	5	2	1	4
Short	10	12	7	17
Adequate	69	70	80	73
Surplus	16	16	12	6
Subsoil				
Very Short	8	6	6	19
Short	21	24	20	32
Adequate	67	65	69	47
Surplus	4	5	5	2
Days Suitable	3.8	2.8	2.6	3.8

Field Crops Report: Wheat condition rated 1 percent very poor, 7 poor, 33 fair, 51 good, and 8 excellent, above last year's 51 good or excellent and the average. Wheat jointed

was at 12 percent, behind last year's 41 and 11 days behind the 39 average.

Corn planted was 9 percent complete. This is behind last year's 13 and 6 days behind the average of 21.

Oats planted increased to 81 percent, the same as last year but behind the 88 average. Oats emerged was at 28 percent, well behind last year's 38 and 51 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 4 percent poor, 25 fair, 65 good, and 6 excellent, well above last year's 33 percent good or excellent condition and the average of 57 good or excellent.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 27, 2008

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	9	2	13	21
Oats Planted	81	57	81	88
Oats Emerged	28	14	38	51
Wheat Jointed	12	5	41	39

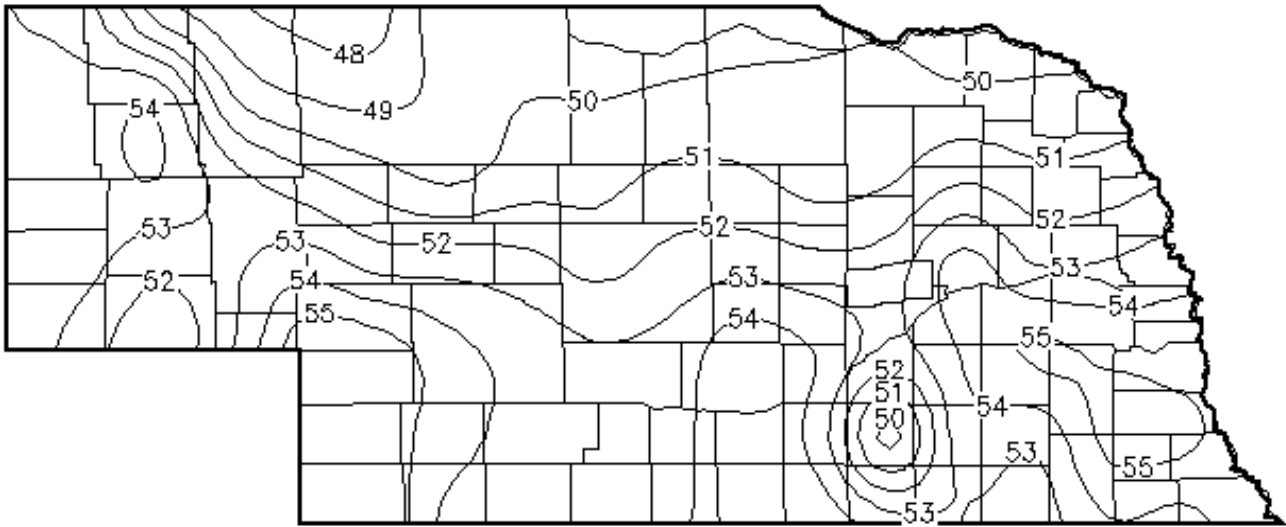
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 27, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	4	25	65	6
Wheat	1	7	33	51	8

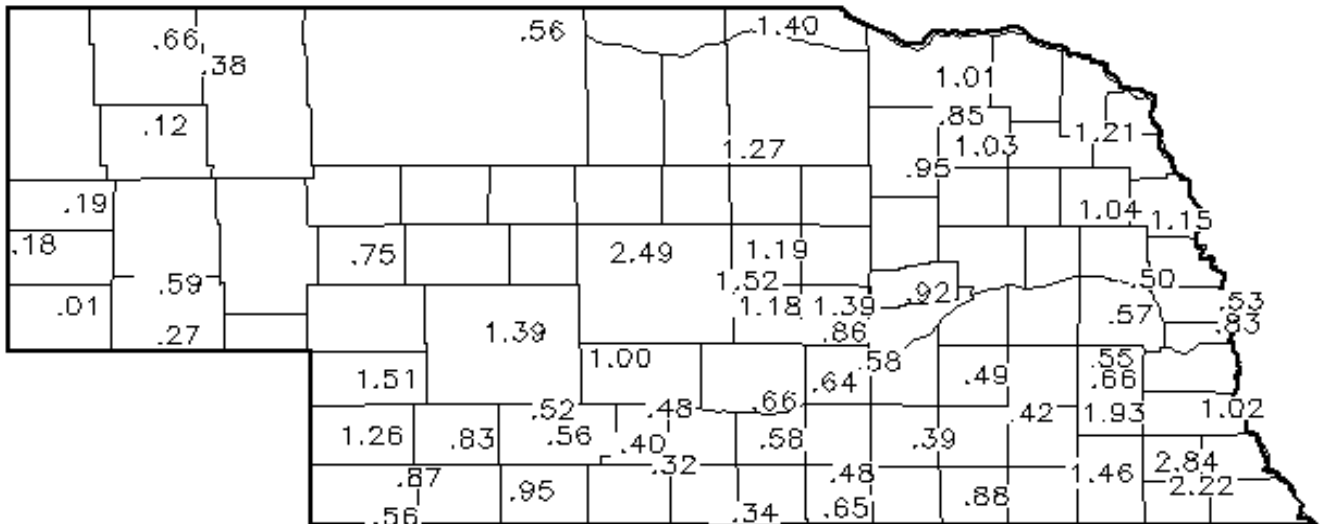
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 28 fair, 59 good, and 6 excellent, above last year. Spring calving was 93 percent complete. Calf losses rated 9 percent below average, 90 average, and 1 above average.

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 21 – April 27, 2008**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 27, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – April 27, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.28	1.10	.98	1.64	.79	.93	.47	1.56
Total since April 1	1.05	2.55	3.06	4.06	4.16	2.83	2.79	4.89
Normal since April 1	1.55	1.84	2.28	2.16	2.40	1.66	1.80	2.45
Total as % of normal	66%	136%	133%	188%	173%	169%	155%	200%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 27, 2008

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	74	20	43	-8
	Scottsbluff	79	22	47	-4
	Sidney	77	22	45	-6
NC	Ainsworth	74	27	44	-10
	Arthur	69	23	44	-9
	O'Neill	77	23	45	-9
NE	Concord	79	24	47	-8
	Elgin	76	29	46	-8
	West Point	79	30	50	-6
C	Grand Island	77	31	49	-5
	Lexington	75	26	47	-7
	Ord	75	27	47	-7
EC	Central City	79	29	49	-6
	Lincoln	78	33	53	-4
	Mead	80	30	52	-5
SW	Champion	78	22	48	-6
	Dickens	76	24	47	-7
	McCook	76	29	49	-5
SC	Minden	75	30	49	-6
	Red Cloud	73	28	51	-4
	Smithfield	73	28	47	-7
SE	Beatrice	77	31	52	-5
	Clay Center	75	28	49	-6
	Nemaha	77	32	56	-1

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