



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending July 6, 2008, wheat harvest got underway in southern counties, eight days behind last year and ten days behind average, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Many producers began irrigating this week as fields started to dry out. Producers were finishing replanting, harvesting hay, hilling corn for irrigation, and applying herbicides.

**Weather Summary:** For 13 of the last 14 weeks temperatures have been below normal, with this week averaging 3 degrees below. Temperatures ranged from highs near 100 degrees in the Panhandle and southwest to lows in the upper 40's in the northern parts of the state. Precipitation was light in most districts with heaviest amounts in the southeast.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending July 6, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	3	4	11	11
Short	26	16	31	31
Adequate	66	71	56	56
Surplus	5	9	2	2
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	5	7	8	19
Short	17	14	26	31
Adequate	73	70	66	49
Surplus	5	9	0	1
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.3	5.0	6.6	6.0

**Field Crops Report:** Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 22 fair, 55 good, and 17 excellent, well below last year's 81 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields improved to 69 percent good or excellent but were still below last year. Dryland fields rated 78, well above year ago levels. Corn silked was 1 percent, well behind last year's 20 and the average of 11.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 20 fair, 62 good, and 12 excellent, below last year's 78 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans blooming were 8 percent, behind last year's 30 and six days behind the 27 average.

Wheat conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 8 poor, 27 fair, 52 good, and 9 excellent, above last year's 57 good or excellent rating. Wheat turning color was 96 percent, behind last year's 99 and the average of 98. Wheat ripe was 32 percent, well behind last year's 69 and eight days behind the average of 64. Wheat harvested was 6 percent, well behind last year's 32 and ten days behind the 36 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 21 fair, 59 good, and 15 excellent, well above last year's 64 percent good or excellent condition. First cutting was 98 percent complete, behind last year and the average of 100. Second cutting was 12 percent complete, behind last year and the average of 47.

Oat conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 2 poor, 16 fair, 58 good, and 24 excellent, well above last year's 72 percent good or excellent condition. Oats headed was 95 percent, near last year's 99 and 97 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 30 fair, 59 good, and 8 excellent, well below last year's 76 percent good or excellent condition.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 poor, 43 fair, 52 good, and 0 excellent, well below last year's 79 percent good or excellent condition. Dry beans emerged was 96 percent, behind both last year and average of 99. Blooming had begun on a few fields.

Proso millet planted was 96 percent, behind last year's 100 but ahead of the 94 average.

Wild hay conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 2 poor, 14 fair, 65 good, and 19 excellent, well above last year's 75 percent good or excellent condition.

**Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 6, 2008**

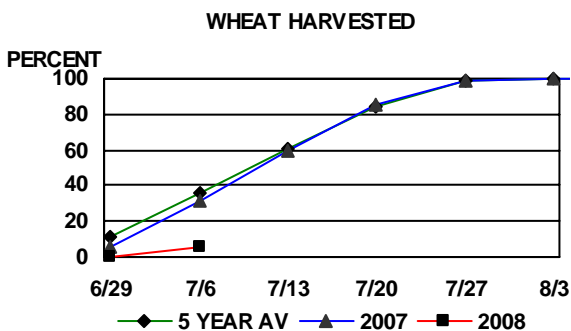
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	98	90	100	100
Alfalfa 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	12	4	47	47
Corn Silked	1		20	11
Dry Beans Emerged	96	92	99	99
Dry Beans Blooming	4		10	7
Oats Headed	95	87	99	97
Proso Millet Planted	96	90	100	94
Soybeans Blooming	8		30	27
Wheat Turning Color	96	77	99	98
Wheat Ripe	32	3	69	64
Wheat Harvested	6		32	36

**Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 6, 2008**

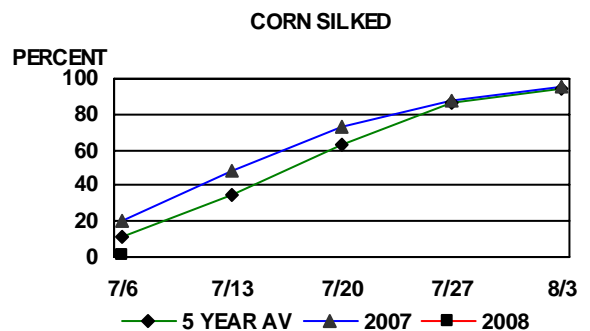
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	1	4	21	59	15
Corn	2	4	22	55	17
Dry Beans	0	5	43	52	0
Oats	0	2	16	58	24
Sorghum	0	3	30	59	8
Soybeans	2	4	20	62	12
Wheat	4	8	27	52	9
Wild Hay	0	2	14	65	19

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 20 fair, 53 good, and 21 excellent, well above last year's 66 percent good or excellent condition.

*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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics%20by%20State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop%20Progress%20&%20Condition/cmts_cur.htm)*

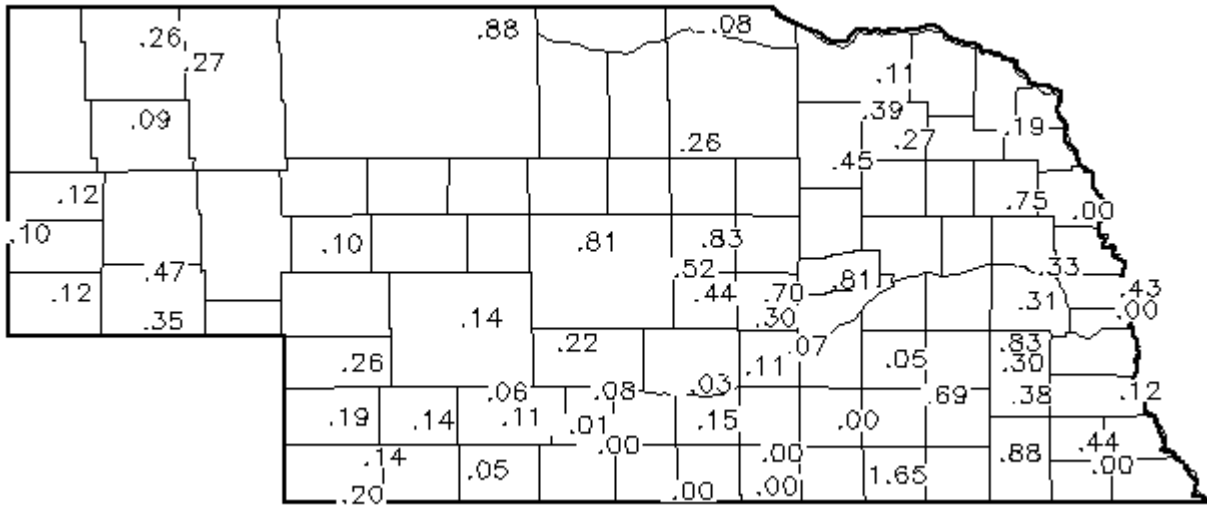


PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY



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**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 6, 2008**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 6, 2008**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.23	.47	.35	.42	.45	.14	.10	.67
Total since April 1	5.85	13.07	14.73	17.00	18.29	13.47	13.79	16.66
Normal since April 1	8.07	9.52	11.50	10.66	11.70	9.40	10.28	11.75
Total as % of normal	72%	137%	128%	159%	156%	141%	134%	141%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, July 6, 2008**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	100	47	72	-1	136	912	1088
	Scottsbluff	98	52	74	+2	149	1061	1083
	Sidney	98	49	72	-1	137	986	1112
NC	Ainsworth	94	49	71	-4	136	961	1234
	Arthur	98	47	70	-4	130	953	1205
	O'Neill	92	50	70	-5	134	1000	1255
NE	Concord	88	49	70	-6	137	1076	1298
	Elgin	90	51	70	-5	139	1052	1279
	West Point	89	52	71	-6	141	1159	1358
C	Grand Island	91	51	72	-4	147	1184	1258
	Lexington	91	50	72	-3	149	1127	1236
	Ord	89	48	70	-5	140	1109	1254
EC	Central City	89	49	71	-5	145	1182	1283
	Lincoln	91	56	74	-4	161	1303	1395
	Mead	90	55	73	-5	155	1265	1393
SW	Champion	100	50	72	-2	140	1087	1219
	Dickens	96	50	71	-4	137	1070	1222
	McCook	101	54	76	+1	156	1214	1230
SC	Minden	91	52	72	-3	149	1159	1244
	Red Cloud	94	50	74	-2	154	1244	1273
	Smithfield	90	51	72	-3	151	1117	1239
SE	Beatrice	92	53	72	-5	149	1256	1395
	Clay Center	90	51	72	-4	146	1176	1272
	Nemaha	92	59	75	-3	168	1388	1400

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