



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
(402) 437-5541 · (402) 437-5547 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)



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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending September 21, 2008, warm, dry conditions helped crops progress towards harvest, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Ideal weather throughout the state allowed producers to prepare for the beginning of fall harvest. Producer activities included planting winter wheat, baling hay, and preparing grain bins for storage.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged 2 degrees above normal across the state. The state saw highs in the low to mid 80's, while the Panhandle saw lows near freezing at 34 degrees. There was no significant rainfall across Nebraska.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending September 21, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	4	3	5	13
Short	25	17	29	33
Adequate	70	77	64	52
Surplus	1	3	2	2
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	8	7	13	29
Short	31	27	26	34
Adequate	60	65	60	37
Surplus	1	1	1	0
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.5	4.1	5.9	5.5

**Field Crops Report:** Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 20 fair, 54 good, and 19 excellent, below last year's 81 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 78 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 68, both below year ago levels. Corn in the dent stage was 95 percent, behind last year's 99 and 97 average. Corn mature was 21 percent, well behind last year's 64 and eleven days behind the 53 average. Corn harvested was 2 percent, behind last year's 8 and 6 average.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 6 poor, 23 fair, 56 good, and 13 excellent, well below last year's 82 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans turning color were 81 percent, behind the 91 of last year and 92 average. Soybeans dropping leaves were 37 percent, behind last year's 50 and four days behind the 60 average. Soybeans harvested were 1 percent, behind last year's 2 and 5 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 6 poor, 24 fair, 56 good, and 11 excellent, even with last year's 67 percent good or excellent condition. Fourth cutting was 46 percent complete, behind last year's 55 and 2 days behind the 54 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 20 fair, 52 good, and 24 excellent, below last year's 85 percent good

or excellent condition. Sorghum turning color was 86 percent, behind last year's 96 and 93 average. Sorghum mature was 6 percent, well behind last year and the 34 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 4 poor, 37 fair, 53 good, and 6 excellent, below last year's 70 percent good or excellent condition. Dry beans turning color were 88, behind last year's 100 and 94 average. Dry beans dropping leaves were 52 percent, well behind last year's 92 and a week behind the 73 average. Dry beans harvested were 9 percent, behind last year's 54 and 33 average.

Winter wheat seeded was 44 percent complete, behind last year's 52 and four days behind the 55 average. Winter wheat emerged was 7 percent, behind last year's 18 and 20 average.

Proso millet harvested was 29 percent, well behind last year's 55 and 49 average.

**Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending September 21, 2008**

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	46	19	55	54
Corn Dent	95	85	99	97
Corn Mature	21	9	64	53
Corn Harvested	2	1	8	6
Dry Beans Turning Color	88	79	100	94
Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	52	31	92	73
Dry Beans Harvested	9	6	54	33
Proso Millet Harvested	29	16	55	49
Sorghum Turning Color	86	68	96	93
Sorghum Mature	6	1	34	34
Soybeans Turning Color	81	55	91	92
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	37	13	50	60
Soybeans Harvested	1		2	5
Winter Wheat Seeded	44	18	52	55
Winter Wheat Emerged	7		18	20

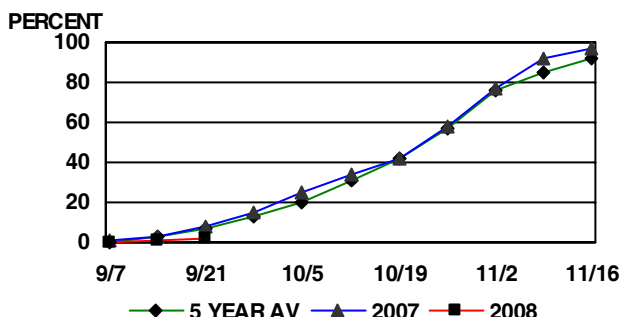
**Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending September 21, 2008**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	3	6	24	56	11
Corn	2	5	20	54	19
Dry Beans	0	4	37	53	6
Sorghum	1	3	20	52	24
Soybeans	2	6	23	56	13

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 12 poor, 27 fair, 46 good, and 11 excellent, below last year's 62 percent good or excellent condition.

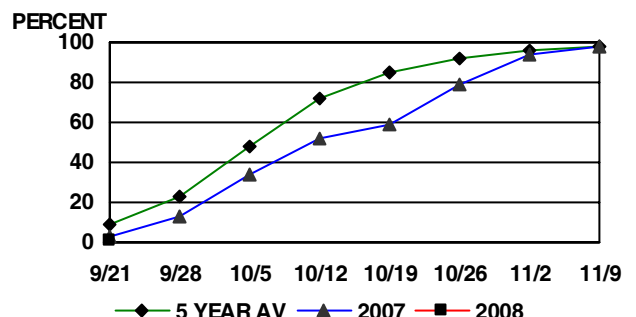
*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm)*

**CORN HARVEST**



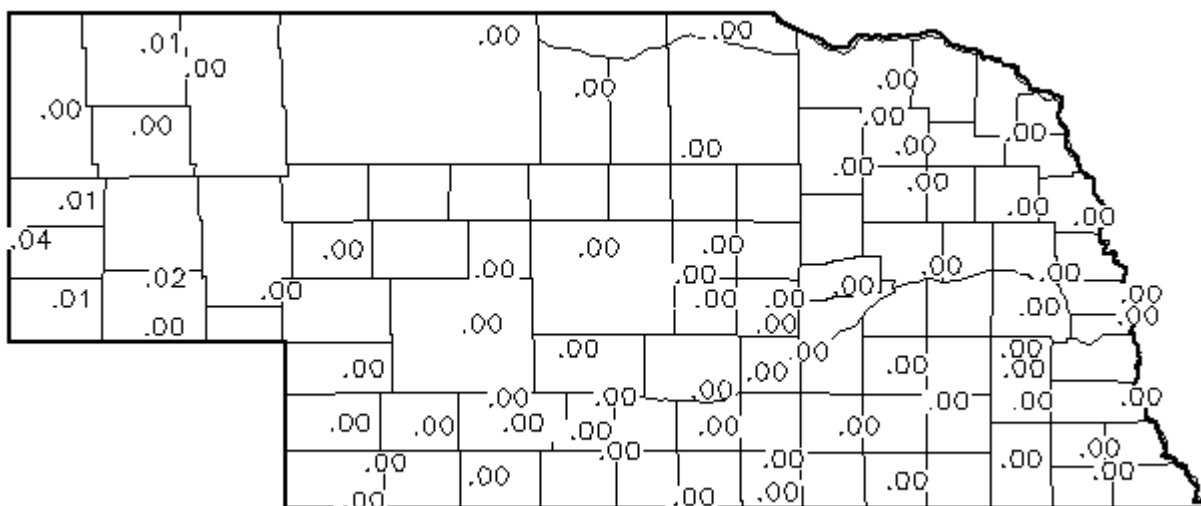
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

**SOYBEAN HARVEST**



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. September 21, 2008**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – September 21, 2008**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.01	.00	.00	.00	.00	.02	.00	.00
Total since April 1	12.81	20.48	20.20	22.09	25.88	20.17	22.59	25.87
Normal since April 1	12.51	15.89	18.92	17.69	20.15	15.29	17.44	21.00
Total as % of normal	102%	128%	107%	124%	128%	131%	129%	123%

**Temperature: By Location, Nebraska,  
Week Ending Sunday, September 21, 2008**

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	84	36	62	+2
	Scottsbluff	85	34	62	+3
	Sidney	83	39	63	+3
NC	Ainsworth	86	41	67	+6
	Arthur	84	39	64	+3
	O'Neill	86	38	66	+4
NE	Concord	85	39	65	+2
	Elgin	84	43	66	+3
	West Point	85	37	63	-1
C	Grand Island	84	37	65	+3
	Lexington	84	35	64	+2
	Ord	84	35	64	+2
EC	Central City	84	37	65	+2
	Lincoln	83	42	66	+2
	Mead	83	40	63	-1
SW	Champion	83	34	62	0
	Dickens	83	38	64	+2
	McCook	88	36	67	+5
SC	Minden	85	36	65	+3
	Red Cloud	84	37	65	+2
	Smithfield	83	37	65	+3
SE	Beatrice	83	38	63	-1
	Clay Center	83	38	63	+1
	Nemaha	84	43	67	+2

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