



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending October 5, 2008, warm and dry weather continues to aid harvest and crop progress, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Corn moisture levels are still high in many areas limiting harvest progress. Soybean harvest is now ahead of last year with much of the soybean harvest complete in south central counties. Replanted soybean moisture levels are high and producers are waiting for further dry down. In the west, most of the dry bean harvest was complete while sugarbeet harvest was just beginning.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 2 degrees above normal across the state. Highs were near 80 degrees with most lows in the mid to upper 30's. Much of the state was dry with only the Northeast and East Central Districts receiving a quarter of an inch or more.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending October 5, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	4	4	7	15
Short	30	25	30	30
Adequate	65	70	61	54
Surplus	1	1	2	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	9	9	15	29
Short	29	29	27	33
Adequate	61	62	57	38
Surplus	1	0	1	0
Days Suitable	6.6	6.3	5.4	5.9

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 18 fair, 57 good, and 19 excellent, below last year's 79 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 82 percent good or excellent, below year ago levels while dryland fields rated 69 percent near last year. Corn mature was 63 percent, behind last year's 90 and eleven days behind the 85 average. Corn harvested was 9 percent, behind last year's 25 and 19 average.

Soybean conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 24 fair, 58 good, and 11 excellent, well below last year's 81 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans turning color were 98 percent, behind last year and the average of 100. Soybeans dropping leaves were 87 percent, behind last year's 93 and 95 average. Soybeans harvested were 32 percent, ahead of last year's 28 and two days behind the 40 average.

Alfalfa fourth cutting was 71 percent complete, behind last year's 79 and 81 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 21 fair, 54 good, and 20 excellent, well below last year's 84 percent good or excellent condition. Sorghum turning color was 96, behind last year and the average of 100. Sorghum mature was 34 percent, well behind last year's 88 and two weeks behind the 77 average. Sorghum harvested was 2 percent, behind last year's 10 and 12 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 poor, 28 fair, 57 good, and 10 excellent. Dry beans harvested were 74 percent, well behind last year's 92 but 2 days ahead of the 69 average.

Winter wheat seeded was 85 percent, near last year's 87 and 88 average. Winter wheat emerged was 53 percent, behind last year's 59 and 61 average.

Proso millet harvested was 70 percent, well behind last year's 91 but near the 75 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending October 5, 2008

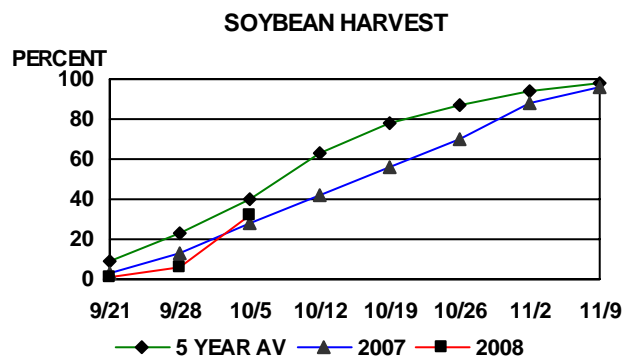
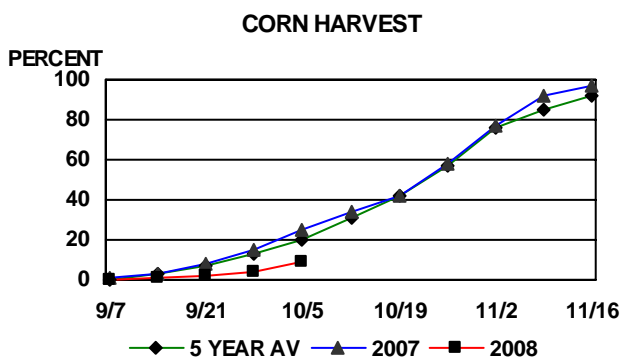
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	71	64	79	81
Corn Mature	63	43	90	85
Corn Harvested	9	4	25	19
Dry Beans Harvested	74	23	92	69
Proso Millet Harvested	70	51	91	75
Sorghum Turning Color	96	93	100	100
Sorghum Mature	34	15	88	77
Sorghum Harvested	2	1	10	12
Soybeans Turning Color	98	94	100	100
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	87	71	93	95
Soybeans Harvested	32	6	28	40
Winter Wheat Seeded	85	70	87	88
Winter Wheat Emerged	53	26	59	61

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending October 5, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Corn	2	4	18	57	19
Dry Beans	0	5	28	57	10
Sorghum	1	4	21	54	20
Soybeans	1	6	24	58	11

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 12 poor, 27 fair, 49 good, and 9 excellent, even with last year's 58 percent good or excellent condition. Calves were being weaned.

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



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

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