



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Issue NE-CW 4408

Released November 3, 2008

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending November 2, 2008, fall harvest picked up in intensity by mid-week as dry, warm conditions allowed farmers back in the field, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Hard freezing temperatures ended the growing season across the state. Corn harvest remained well behind last year and 18 days behind the average. Soybean harvest was over 90 percent complete.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 5 degrees above normal across the state. The Northwest District had the biggest variance in temperatures with highs in the upper 70's to lows in the teens. It was a dry week with no significant precipitation reported statewide.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending November 2, 2008**

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Topsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 3 | 0 | 7 | 14 |
| Short | 10 | 9 | 17 | 30 |
| Adequate | 79 | 72 | 72 | 55 |
| Surplus | 8 | 19 | 4 | 1 |
| Subsoil | | | | |
| Very Short | 6 | 3 | 12 | 26 |
| Short | 15 | 17 | 20 | 34 |
| Adequate | 75 | 71 | 65 | 39 |
| Surplus | 4 | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| Days Suitable | 5.9 | 2.2 | 6.7 | 6.2 |

Sorghum conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 22 fair, 50 good, and 21 excellent. Sorghum mature was 90 percent, behind last year and the average of 100. Sorghum harvest was 27 percent complete, nearly three weeks behind last year and the 75 average.

Winter wheat conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 0 poor, 14 fair, 74 good, and 12 excellent, well above last year's 70 percent good or excellent rating. Winter wheat emerged was 97 percent, near last year's 99 and the 98 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending November 2, 2008

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | | | | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn Mature | 92 | 87 | 100 | 100 |
| Corn Harvested | 35 | 21 | 77 | 74 |
| Sorghum Mature | 90 | 71 | 100 | 100 |
| Sorghum Harvested | 27 | 12 | 75 | 75 |
| Soybeans Harvested | 92 | 82 | 90 | 95 |
| Winter Wheat Emerged | 97 | 91 | 99 | 98 |

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending November 2, 2008

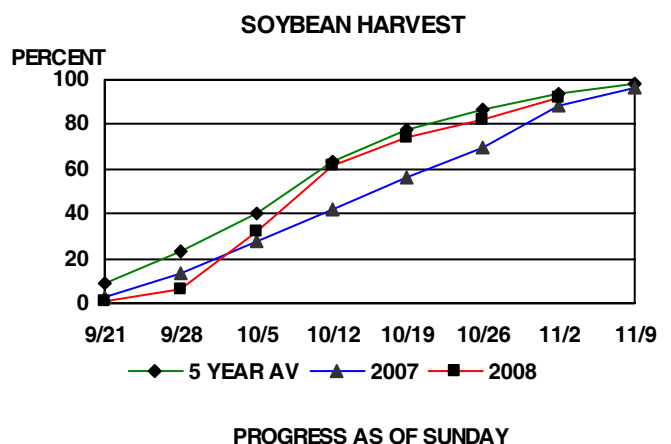
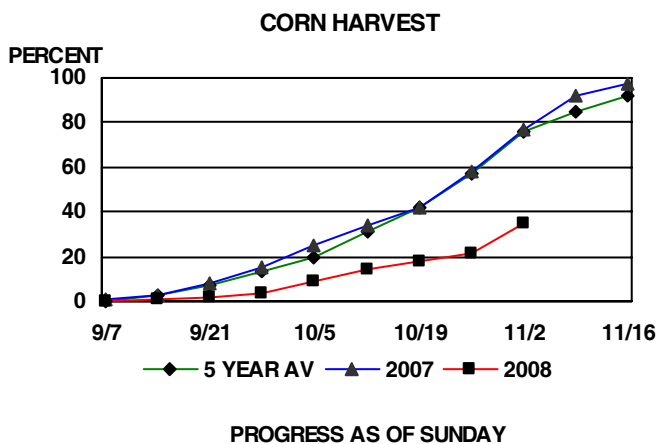
| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|----------------|
| | | | | | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn | 2 | 4 | 17 | 54 | 23 |
| Sorghum | 2 | 5 | 22 | 50 | 21 |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 0 | 14 | 74 | 12 |

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 17 fair, 54 good, and 23 excellent, below last year's good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 80 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 72, both below year ago levels. Corn mature was 92 percent, behind last year and the average of 100. Corn harvested was 35 percent complete, well behind last year's 77 and 18 days behind the 74 average.

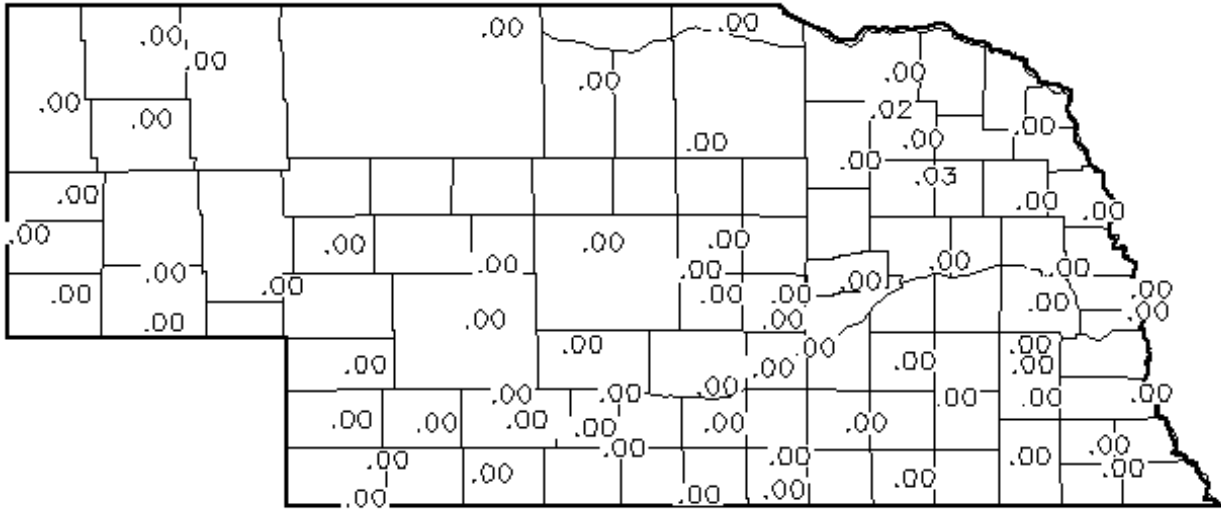
Soybean harvest was 92 percent complete, ahead of last year's 90 but 2 days behind the 95 average.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 10 poor, 23 fair, 52 good, and 12 excellent, even with last year's 64 percent good or excellent condition. Cattle were being moved to stalks as they became available.

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



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. November 2, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – November 2, 2008

| Item | NW | NC | NE | CEN | EC | SW | SC | SE |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total past week | .00 | .00 | .01 | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00 |
| Total since April 1 | 13.85 | 25.30 | 27.60 | 28.42 | 32.47 | 24.86 | 30.44 | 31.45 |
| Normal since April 1 | 13.75 | 17.83 | 21.65 | 19.86 | 23.41 | 16.85 | 19.57 | 24.44 |
| Total as % of normal | 100% | 141% | 128% | 141% | 139% | 146% | 155% | 129% |

**Temperature: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, November 2, 2008**

| | Station | Temperature | | | |
|----|--------------|-------------|-----|---------|-----------|
| | | Extremes | | Average | Departure |
| | | High | Low | | |
| NW | Alliance | 79 | 12 | 51 | +8 |
| | Scottsbluff | 79 | 12 | 49 | +7 |
| | Sidney | 78 | 17 | 52 | +9 |
| NC | Ainsworth | 79 | 21 | 52 | +7 |
| | Arthur | 79 | 15 | 52 | +8 |
| | O'Neill | 77 | 21 | 49 | +5 |
| NE | Concord | 77 | 19 | 48 | +3 |
| | Elgin | 75 | 22 | 49 | +4 |
| | West Point | 77 | 18 | 47 | +1 |
| C | Grand Island | 75 | 23 | 49 | +4 |
| | Lexington | 78 | 20 | 50 | +5 |
| | Ord | 76 | 20 | 48 | +3 |
| EC | Central City | 77 | 19 | 48 | +3 |
| | Lincoln | 78 | 22 | 51 | +4 |
| | Mead | 78 | 19 | 49 | +2 |
| SW | Champion | 79 | 17 | 49 | +5 |
| | Dickens | 77 | 15 | 50 | +6 |
| | McCook | 79 | 19 | 51 | +7 |
| SC | Minden | 77 | 23 | 50 | +5 |
| | Red Cloud | 77 | 22 | 49 | +4 |
| | Smithfield | 79 | 23 | 51 | +6 |
| SE | Beatrice | 78 | 20 | 49 | +2 |
| | Clay Center | 75 | 21 | 48 | +3 |
| | Nemaha | 77 | 26 | 53 | +5 |

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