



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 24, 2009, warm, dry weather aided planting progress and conditions were good for the first cutting of alfalfa, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Corn planting is virtually complete and soybean planting is nearly done. Rainfall is needed for most areas as top soil moisture levels are drying out. Since April, precipitation has averaged near 50 percent of normal in northeastern and east central counties.

Weather Summary: Warm, dry, and windy conditions occurred this week. Temperatures averaged five degrees above normal across the state and ranged from highs in the mid 90's to lows near 40. Precipitation was minimal with the North Central and South West Districts reporting the highest amounts of moisture at just over a half inch.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending May 24, 2009**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	2	0	1	10
Short	28	18	6	19
Adequate	63	78	73	64
Surplus	7	4	20	7
Subsoil				
Very Short	3	5	3	16
Short	16	12	12	23
Adequate	79	81	76	59
Surplus	2	2	9	2
Days Suitable	5.9	5.3	4.1	5.1

Field Crops Report: Corn planted is 98 percent complete, a week ahead of last year's 94 and two days ahead of the 97 average. Corn emerged was 77 percent, a week ahead of last year's 54 and one day ahead of the 74 average.

Soybeans planted also increased significantly and was 88 percent complete, two weeks ahead of last year's 57 and eleven days ahead of the five-year average of 70. Soybeans emerged was 41 percent, well ahead of last year's 10 and six days ahead of the 28 average.

Wheat conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 poor, 26 fair, 55 good, and 14 excellent, above the average of 61 percent good or excellent condition. Wheat jointed was 96 percent, ahead of last year's 92 but near the 97 average. Wheat headed was 30 percent complete, six days ahead of last year's 10 but three days behind the 43 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 20 fair, 61 good, and 16 excellent, near last year's 76 percent good or excellent condition. First cutting was 20 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 5 and the 18 average.

Oat conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 1 poor, 9 fair, 84 good, and 6 excellent, above last year's 83 percent good or excellent condition. Oats headed was 6 percent complete, ahead of last year's 1 and the 4 average.

Sorghum planted was 52 percent complete, ten days ahead of last year's 32, and three days ahead of the 45 average. Sorghum emerged was 13 percent, well ahead of last year's 2 percent and near the 11 average.

Dry beans planted were 20 percent complete, ahead of last year's 6 and the 12 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending May 24, 2009

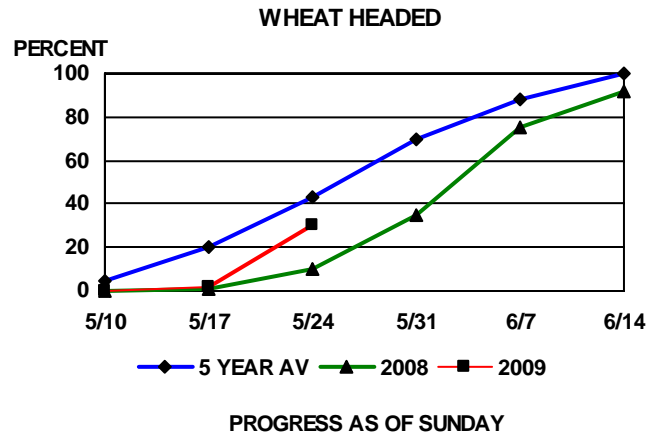
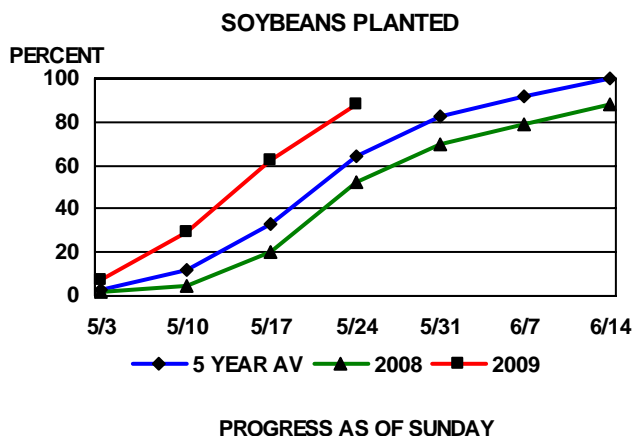
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	20	3	5	18
Corn Planted	98	93	94	97
Corn Emerged	77	46	54	74
Dry Beans Planted	20	8	6	12
Oats Headed	6		1	4
Sorghum Planted	52	24	32	45
Sorghum Emerged	13	1	2	11
Soybeans Planted	88	62	57	70
Soybeans Emerged	41	8	10	28
Wheat Jointed	96	85	92	97
Wheat Headed	30	2	10	43

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 24, 2009

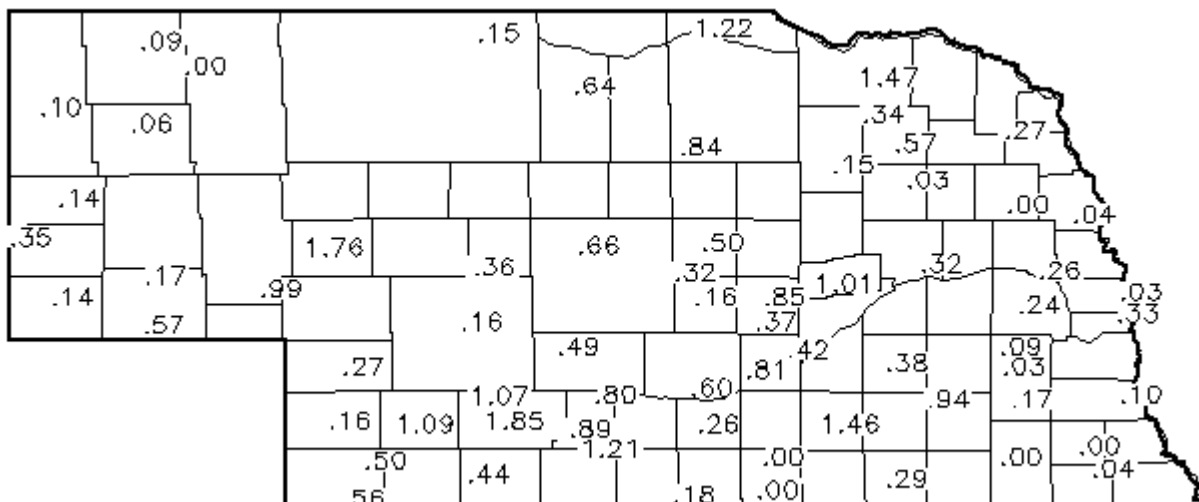
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	3	20	61	16
Oat	0	1	9	84	6
Wheat	0	5	26	55	14

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 22 fair, 64 good, and 11 excellent, above last year's 73 percent good or excellent conditions.

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. May 24, 2009



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – May 24, 2009

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.21	.64	.33	.49	.46	.66	.47	.32
Total since April 1	4.08	3.41	3.03	3.34	3.22	5.13	3.81	4.23
Normal since April 1	4.07	4.52	5.58	5.28	5.86	4.47	4.99	5.90
Total as % of normal	100%	75%	54%	63%	55%	115%	77%	71%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, May 24, 2009**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	94	41	63	+3	93	303	349
	Scottsbluff	96	44	65	+6	103	341	345
	Sidney	93	41	64	+3	96	314	364
NC	Ainsworth	94	48	64	+2	93	338	379
	Arthur	93	45	64	+2	95	322	376
	O'Neill	93	49	65	+2	97	351	384
NE	Concord	94	50	67	+4	112	377	393
	Elgin	93	49	68	+5	119	372	390
	West Point	93	52	71	+6	137	412	406
C	Grand Island	91	47	70	+8	138	436	387
	Lexington	90	47	68	+6	124	403	383
	Ord	92	49	68	+5	123	399	385
EC	Central City	91	49	71	+8	138	445	392
	Lincoln	89	54	73	+8	155	496	420
	Mead	91	52	72	+7	146	470	420
SW	Champion	92	44	65	+4	107	357	378
	Dickens	92	43	65	+3	105	353	380
	McCook	96	47	70	+8	129	433	382
SC	Minden	91	49	70	+7	133	430	385
	Red Cloud	87	49	70	+7	137	455	390
	Smithfield	91	48	69	+6	126	404	384
SE	Beatrice	88	50	71	+5	142	472	420
	Clay Center	89	48	70	+7	137	442	390
	Nemaha	87	50	71	+6	144	503	425

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