



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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



Issue NE-CW1712

Released April 23, 2012

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 22, 2012, field activities picked up momentum but were slowed due to damp soils, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Corn planting increased to 14 percent complete during the 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Seeding of oats was 85 percent complete with about half of the crop emerged. Wheat jointed, at 59 percent, continued two and one half weeks ahead of average. The first fields of soybeans were planted and sugarbeet planting in the Panhandle has begun. Soil temperatures ranged from the low 50's in the northern counties to upper 50's across the south. Cattle and calves were in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring calving was 92 percent complete with calf losses below average.

Weather Summary: In general, temperatures averaged one degree below normal across the northern half of the state and one degree above normal across the south. Highs reached the upper 70's and lows fell to the high 20's in the Panhandle. Light precipitation fell across much of the state with most areas receiving less than half an inch. Portions of Boyd and Holt Counties in North Central Nebraska received over 1.5 inches.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending April 22, 2012**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	5	7	1	2
Short	21	21	10	10
Adequate	72	67	80	79
Surplus	2	5	9	9
Subsoil				
Very Short	9	9	2	5
Short	34	34	23	18
Adequate	56	56	71	74
Surplus	1	1	4	3
Days Suitable	4.3	4.6	2.5	3.9

Field Crops Report: Corn was 14 percent planted, ahead of 4 last year and 9 average. Corn emerged was 1 percent.

Wheat jointed was 59 percent, ahead of 9 percent last year and two and one half weeks ahead of 13 average. Wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 30 fair, 53 good, and 11 excellent, well above last year's 43 percent good to excellent and 58 average.

Oats planted was at 85 percent, ahead of 66 last year and one and one half weeks ahead of 69 average. Oats emerged was 49 percent, well ahead of 18 last year and 23 average. Oats conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 2 poor, 21 fair, 70 good, and 7 excellent.

Alfalfa conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 4 poor, 28 fair, 53 good, and 15 excellent, below last year's 75 percent good to excellent but near 67 average. Concerns were expressed about insect levels. The first cutting of alfalfa was 5 percent complete.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 22, 2012

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	5			
Corn Planted	14	4	4	9
Corn Emerged	1			
Oats Planted	85	77	66	69
Oats Emerged	49	35	18	23
Wheat Jointed	59	38	9	13

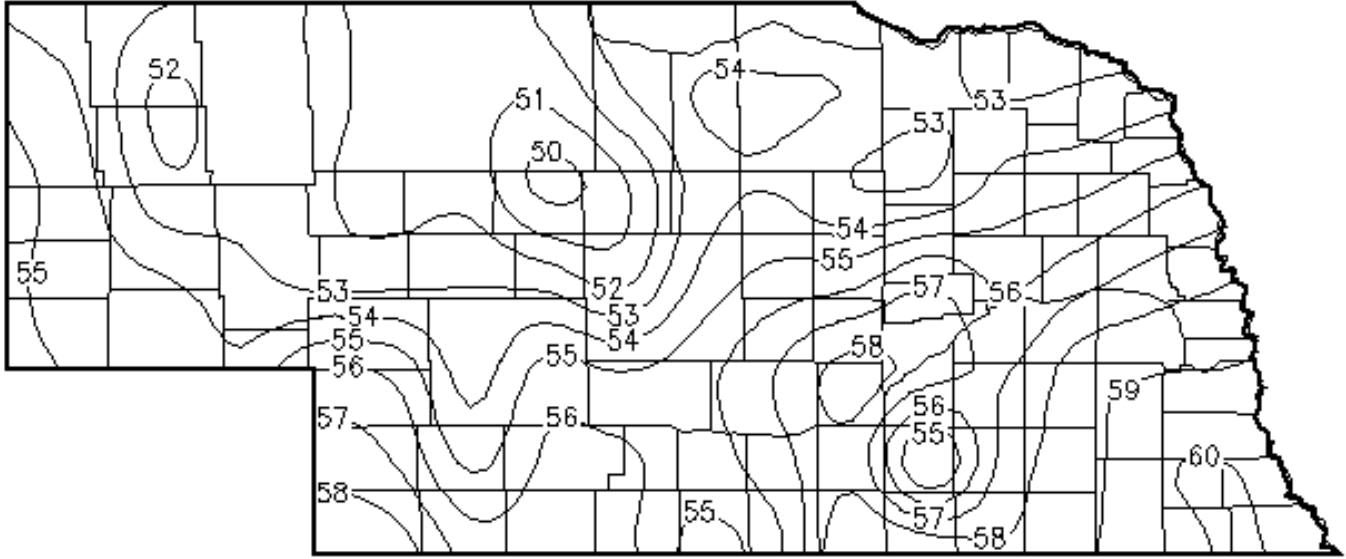
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 22, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	0	4	28	53	15
Oats	0	2	21	70	7
Wheat	1	5	30	53	11

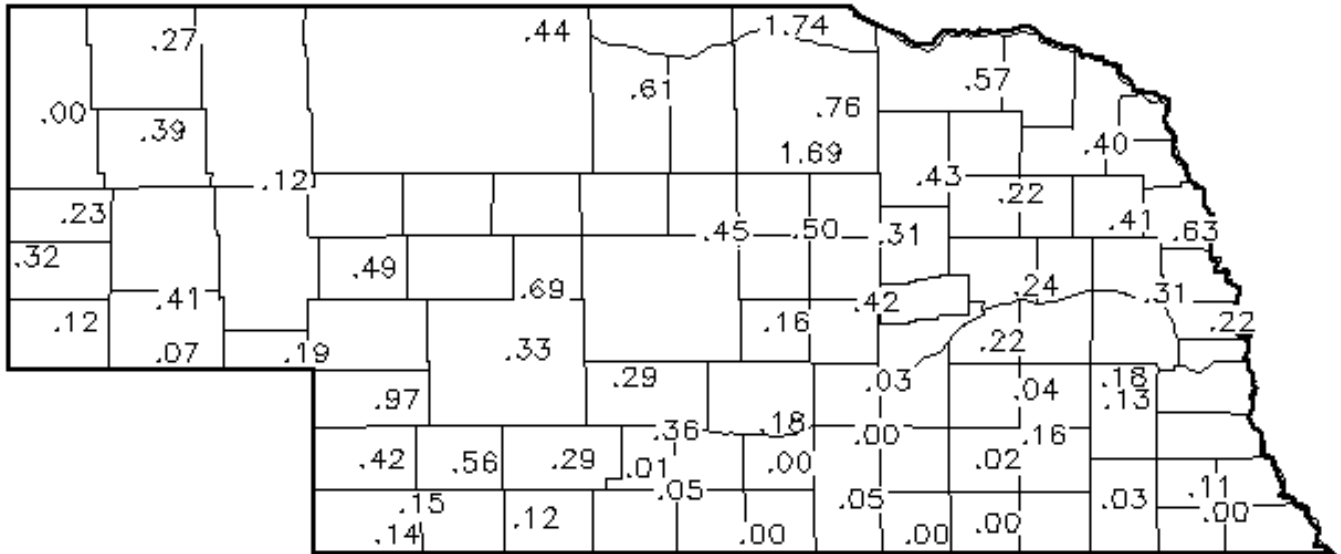
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Cattle and calf condition rated 0 percent very poor, 0 poor, 6 fair, 73 good, and 21 excellent. Spring calving was 92 percent complete. Calf losses rated 32 percent below average, 67 average, and 1 above average. Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 33 fair, 54 good, and 6 excellent, below 67 percent good to excellent last year and 66 average.

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

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil
April 16 – April 22, 2012**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 22, 2012



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 16 – April 22, 2012

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.28	.79	.46	.17	.23	.35	.02	.03
Total since April 1	.52	2.69	2.52	2.28	2.49	2.25	2.26	2.69
Normal since April 1	1.22	1.52	1.84	1.77	1.92	1.35	1.52	2.00
Total as % of normal	42%	176%	137%	129%	128%	167%	152%	135%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 22, 2012

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	69	29	48	-2
	Scottsbluff	72	29	51	+1
	Sidney	72	29	49	-1
NC	Ainsworth	75	33	50	-2
	Arthur	73	30	49	-2
	O'Neill	76	35	50	-2
NE	Concord	75	33	50	-3
	Elgin	74	36	51	-2
	West Point	74	36	52	-2
C	Grand Island	76	38	54	+1
	Cozad	75	34	51	-1
	Ord	74	33	52	-1
EC	Central City	76	35	54	+1
	Lincoln	74	39	56	+1
	Mead	74	35	53	-1
SW	Champion	76	31	52	0
	Dickens	74	32	50	-2
	McCook	77	34	54	+2
SC	Minden	76	36	53	+1
	Red Cloud	74	37	55	+2
	Smithfield	73	37	53	+1
SE	Beatrice	74	38	55	0
	Clay Center	75	36	54	+1
	Nemaha	78	38	57	+2

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