



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Issue NE-CW1812

Released April 30, 2012

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 29, 2012, good planting progress was made until late in the week when widespread precipitation stopped fieldwork, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. While precipitation slowed field activities, the moisture was welcome. Corn planted jumped to 44 percent complete with 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Soybean planting was under way with 6 percent complete and the first fields of sorghum had been planted. Wheat jointed, at 67 percent, continued two weeks ahead of average with heads starting to show. Planting of oats was winding down while the first cutting of alfalfa continued well ahead of average. Accumulated growing degree days are ahead of normal.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 4 degrees above normal across the state. High temperatures ranged from the mid 90's in the southern half of Nebraska to lows of 30 in the Central District. The highest levels of precipitation of over one inch fell in the Panhandle, North Central, Central and Southwest Districts. Lesser accumulations fell across the remainder of the state.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending April 29, 2012**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	1	5	0	1
Short	16	21	10	8
Adequate	78	72	84	81
Surplus	5	2	6	10
Subsoil				
Very Short	7	9	2	4
Short	28	34	23	15
Adequate	64	56	72	77
Surplus	1	1	3	4
Days Suitable	4.6	4.3	3.0	3.5

Field Crops Report: Corn planting advanced to 44 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 12 and six days ahead of 23 average. Corn emerged stood at 4 percent compared to 1 last year and average.

Soybean planting was 6 percent complete, ahead of 1 last year and 2 average.

Sorghum planting was just under way at 1 percent completed.

Wheat jointed was 67 percent, well ahead of last year's 21 and 26 average. Wheat headed was 5 percent. Rust was a concern in parts of South Central and Southeast Districts. Wheat conditions rated 3 percent poor, 27 fair, 59 good, and 11 excellent, above last year's 46 percent good to excellent and 62 average.

Oats planted were at 93 percent, ahead of last year's 77 and 85 average. Oats emerged was at 70 percent, well ahead of 39 last year and 44 average. Oats conditions rated 20 percent fair, 77 good, and 3 excellent.

The first cutting of alfalfa was 12 percent completed. Concerns were expressed over insect activity. Alfalfa rated 4 percent poor, 30 fair, 53 good, and 13 excellent, below last year's 77 percent good to excellent and 70 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 29, 2012

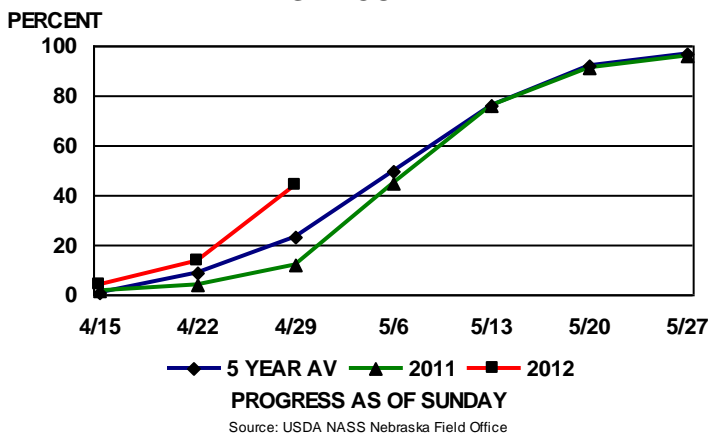
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	12	5		
Corn Planted	44	14	12	23
Corn Emerged	4	1	1	1
Oats Planted	93	85	77	85
Oats Emerged	70	49	39	44
Sorghum Planted	1			
Soybeans Planted	6		1	2
Wheat Jointed	67	59	21	26
Wheat Headed	5			

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 29, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	4	30	53	13
Oats	0	0	20	77	3
Wheat	0	3	27	59	11

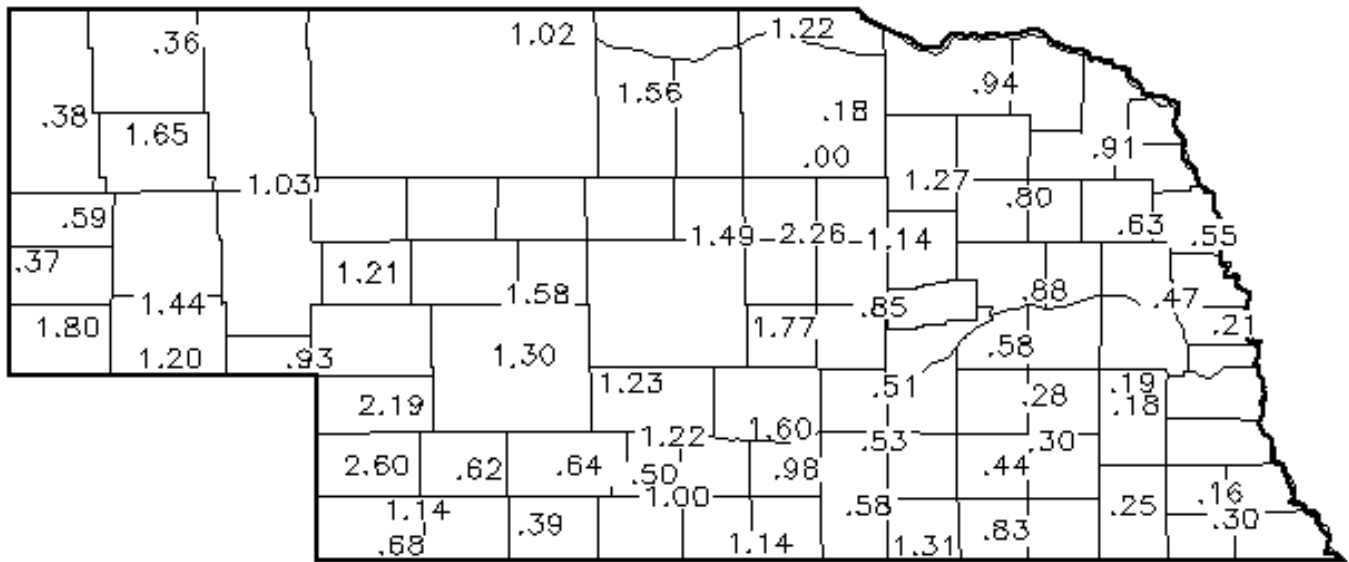
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Cattle conditions rated 6 percent fair, 73 good, and 21 excellent. Calving was 94 percent complete. Calf losses rated 34 percent below average and 66 average. Pasture and range conditions rated 5 percent poor, 33 fair, 56 good, and 6 excellent, below last year's 68 good to excellent and average.

NEBRASKA CORN PLANTED



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/NEcurrent.asp

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 29, 2012



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 23 – April 29, 2012

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.92	1.15	.91	1.13	.46	1.04	.80	.40
Total since April 1	1.44	4.04	3.43	3.41	2.95	3.29	3.06	3.09
Normal since April 1	1.65	2.04	2.46	2.38	2.56	1.82	2.04	2.67
Total as % of normal	85%	199%	140%	144%	115%	181%	153%	116%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, April 29, 2012**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	88	33	56	+5	47	123	106
Scottsbluff	93	33	58	+7	63	150	105
Sidney	91	34	58	+5	54	137	112
NC Ainsworth	88	37	58	+4	45	124	115
Arthur	89	36	58	+4	47	122	116
O'Neill	89	36	58	+3	42	119	117
NE Concord	89	34	57	+2	50	122	118
Elgin	89	35	59	+3	48	125	119
West Point	90	31	57	+1	54	126	122
C Grand Island	94	33	59	+4	60	141	120
Cozad	93	30	57	+3	54	133	118
Ord	92	29	57	+2	52	126	118
EC Central City	93	31	58	+3	63	140	121
Lincoln	90	35	60	+3	72	153	126
Mead	92	31	58	+1	69	141	126
SW Champion	93	32	59	+5	63	152	117
Dickens	90	35	58	+4	50	129	117
McCook	95	35	61	+6	67	155	118
SC Minden	94	33	59	+5	63	144	119
Red Cloud	94	32	60	+5	71	155	120
Smithfield	93	36	60	+5	56	138	119
SE Beatrice	94	33	60	+3	71	151	126
Clay Center	95	31	59	+4	66	148	120
Nemaha	96	36	62	+5	81	164	127

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