LINCOLN, NE, August 25, 2014 -- For the week ending August 24, 2014, multiple rain events accumulated to an inch of moisture in many areas, limiting irrigation needs and supporting dryland crops and pastures, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Humid conditions slowed drydown of cut hay. The number of days considered suitable for fieldwork were 5.2. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 6 percent very short, 28 short, 64 adequate, and 2 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 11 percent very short, 31 short, 58 adequate, and 0 surplus.

**Field Crops Report:** Corn conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 6 poor, 20 fair, 51 good, and 20 excellent. Corn dough was 89 percent, ahead of 80 last year, but near 88 for the five-year average. Corn denting was 44 percent, well ahead of 26 last year, but near 47 average.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 22 fair, 53 good, and 18 excellent. Soybeans setting pods was 95 percent, near 93 last year and 94 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 33 fair, 41 good, and 19 excellent. Sorghum headed was 97 percent, ahead of 87 last year and 90 average. Sorghum coloring was 49 percent, well ahead of 7 last year and 17 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 1 poor, 15 fair, 60 good, and 21 excellent. Dry beans blooming was 95 percent. Dry beans setting pods was 89 percent, behind 95 last year and 96 average. Dry beans dropping leaves was 4 percent, equal to last year and near 2 average.

Alfalfa hay conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 32 fair, 48 good, and 11 excellent. Alfalfa hay third cutting was 82 percent complete, ahead of 76 last year, but near 80 average. Alfalfa hay fourth cutting was 2 percent complete, equal to last year, but behind 8 average.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 6 percent very poor, 10 poor, 34 fair, 43 good, and 7 excellent.

Stock water supplies rated 2 percent very short, 9 short, 88 adequate, and 1 surplus.

Data for this news release were provided at the county level by USDA Farm Service Agency and UNL Extension Service.


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