

## **Nebraska Weather and Crops**



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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 4, 2008, favorable conditions at the beginning of the week allowed producers to make progress planting corn but wet weather late in the week forced many farmers out of the field, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Corn planting was catching up with last year but the cool soil temperatures were causing slow germination and emergence. The cold conditions in the Panhandle damaged emerged sugarbeets which will need to be replanted. There have been reports of stand losses to alfalfa due to winter kill. Slow growth may cause alfalfa first cutting to be below normal. Wheat conditions continue above last year and the five-year average with some stand losses from winter injury and disease being reported.

Weather Summary: Unseasonably cool temperatures and wet weather held on again this week with most areas 6 to 8 degrees below normal. A spring blizzard blew through the Panhandle late in the week with high winds and snow accumulations. The entire state received precipitation ranging from just under a quarter of an inch in southwest Nebraska to over an inch in the northeast and parts of the Panhandle. Temperatures ranged from highs in the low 80's in the east to lows in the teens in the Panhandle.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska Week Ending May 4 2008

Nebi aska, Week Enuing Way 4, 2006					
	This	Last	Last	Aver-	
	Week	Week	Year	age	
		Per	cent		
Topsoil					
Very Short	4	5	2	4	
Short	10	10	4	16	
Adequate	80	69	74	73	
Surplus	6	16	20	7	
Subsoil					
Very Short	7	8	6	15	
Short	17	21	16	31	
Adequate	73	67	69	51	
Surplus	3	4	9	3	
Days Suitable	4.0	3.8	3.1	4.1	
		-	-		

**Field Crops Report:** Corn planted made progress and was 31 percent complete. This is still behind last year's 33 and four days behind the average of 47. With below normal temperatures corn germination has been slow with less than 1 percent emerged, well behind last year's 6 and the average of 8. Planting was most advanced in south central counties.

Soybean planting was beginning and was 3 percent complete, ahead of last year's 1 but behind the average of 6.

Wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 29 fair, 58 good, and 8 excellent, above last year's 61 percent good or excellent condition. Wheat jointed was 25 percent, well behind the 59 of last year and 11 days behind the average of 60.

Alfalfa conditions rated 6 percent poor, 28 fair, 60 good, and 6 excellent, well above last year's 47 percent good or excellent condition.

Oats planted was 87 percent complete, near the 88 of last year and 8 days behind the average of 94. Oats emerged was 39 percent, well behind last year's 59 and a week and a half behind the five-year average of 72.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending May 4, 2008

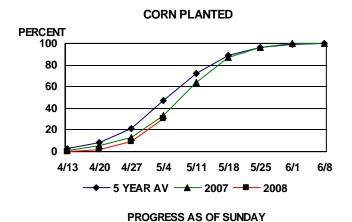
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Aver- age
		Per	cent	
Corn Planted	31	9	33	47
Corn Emerged	0		6	8
Oats Planted	87	81	88	94
Oats Emerged	39	28	59	72
Soybeans Planted	3		1	6
Wheat Jointed	25	12	59	60

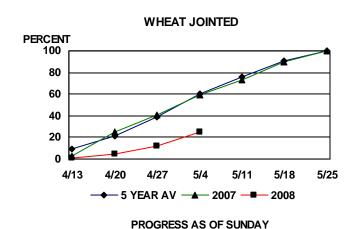
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 4, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel- Lent
			Percent		
Alfalfa	0	6	28	60	6
Wheat	1	4	29	58	8

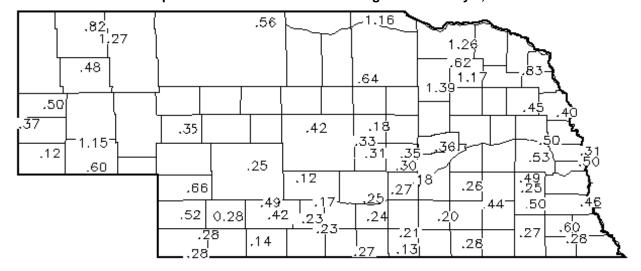
**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 7 poor, 29 fair, 58 good, and 5 excellent, below last year. Spring calving was 96 percent complete. Calf losses rated 8 percent below average, 91 average, and 1 above average.

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: <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\_by\_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop Progress & Condition/cmts\_cur.htm">http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\_by\_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop Progress & Condition/cmts\_cur.htm</a>





## Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. May 4, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – May 4, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.51	.77	.86	.25	.50	.34	.23	.31
Total since April 1	1.56	3.33	3.94	4.33	4.66	3.16	3.02	5.20
Normal since April 1	2.12	2.47	3.04	2.88	3.20	2.28	2.49	3.25
Total as % of normal	72%	133%	129%	151%	145%	138%	121%	160%

	•	erature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, May 4, 2008  Temperature					
	Station	Extremes		Average	Domontuno		
		High	Low	Average	Departure		
NW	Alliance	80	22	45	-8		
	Scottsbluff	83	23	47	-6		
	Sidney	81	17	45	-8		
NC	Ainsworth	74	24	47	-9		
	Arthur	79	24	46	-9		
	O'Neill	74	24	47	-9		
NE	Concord	81	23	49	-9		
	Elgin	74	26	48	-9		
	West Point	83	27	50	-8		
C	Grand Island	77	29	50	-7		
	Lexington	78	27	49	-8		
	Ord	75	27	48	-8		
EC	Central City	78	26	50	-7		
	Lincoln	79	33	53	-6		
	Mead	83	30	52	-7		
SW	Champion	80	24	47	-9		
	Dickens	77	24	47	-9		
	McCook	79	28	49	-7		
SC	Minden	78	29	49	-7		
	Red Cloud	76	32	51	-6		
	Smithfield	78	28	48	-8		
SE	Beatrice	79	33	51	-7		
	Clay Center	76	29	49	-8		
	Nemaha	86	35	55	-4		

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