



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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



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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 13, 2008, warmer, drier conditions allowed wheat harvest in the southern counties to gain momentum, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Oat harvest is underway and producers were making progress with their second cutting of alfalfa. The drier weather had farmers busy with irrigation activities and weed control. Corn is beginning to tassel in parts of the state.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 3 degrees below normal again this week and ranged from highs over 100 degrees in the southwest to lows near 40 in the Panhandle. Much of the state received precipitation, however, the Panhandle, Central and South Central Districts were limited to less than a half inch.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending July 13, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	4	3	13	14
Short	29	26	33	34
Adequate	65	66	51	50
Surplus	2	5	3	2
Subsoil				
Very Short	6	5	10	20
Short	20	17	30	34
Adequate	71	73	59	46
Surplus	3	5	1	0
Days Suitable	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.7

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 21 fair, 54 good, and 19 excellent, near last year's 76 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 72 percent good or excellent well below year ago levels, while dryland fields rated 77, well above last year. Corn silked was 13 percent, well behind last year's 48 and a week behind the average of 35.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 21 fair, 61 good, and 12 excellent, above last year's 70 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans blooming were 21 percent, behind last year's 53 and eight days behind the 47 average.

Wheat conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 9 poor, 29 fair, 48 good, and 10 excellent. Wheat ripe was 68 percent, well behind last year's 90 the average of 87. Wheat harvested was 19 percent, behind last year's 60 and eleven days behind the average of 61.

Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 20 fair, 63 good, and 12 excellent, well above last year's 59 percent good or excellent condition. Second cutting was 35 percent complete, behind last year and the average of 67.

Oat conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 1 poor, 12 fair, 65 good, and 22 excellent, well above last year's 68 percent good or excellent condition. Oats harvested was 12 percent, behind last year's 36 and the average of 30.

Sorghum conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 28 fair, 60 good, and 9 excellent, well below last year's 80 percent good or excellent condition.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 41 fair, 51 good, and 5 excellent, well below last year's 75 percent good or excellent conditions. Dry beans blooming were 10 percent, behind last year's 18 and average of 15.

Wild hay conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 15 fair, 61 good, and 21 excellent, near last year's 73 percent good or excellent condition.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 13, 2008

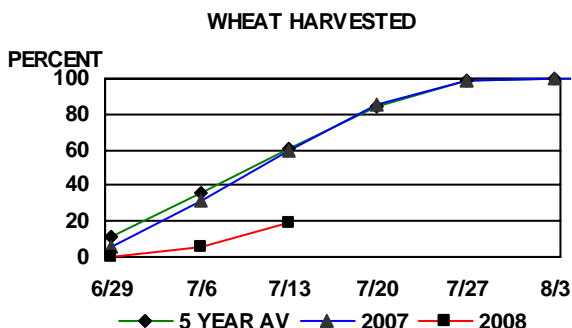
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	35	12	67	67
Corn Silked	13	1	48	35
Dry Beans Blooming	10	4	18	15
Oats Harvested	12		36	30
Soybeans Blooming	21	8	53	47
Wheat Ripe	68	32	90	87
Wheat Harvested	19	6	60	61

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 13, 2008

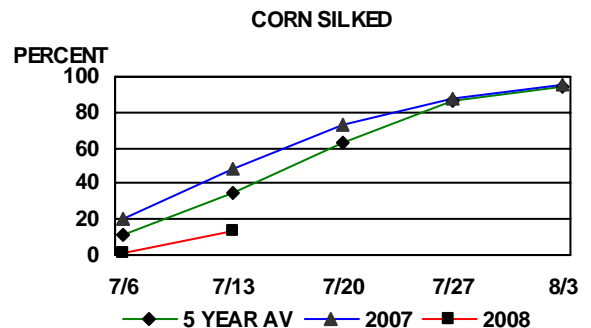
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	1	4	20	63	12
Corn	2	4	21	54	19
Dry Beans	0	3	41	51	5
Oats	0	1	12	65	22
Sorghum	0	3	28	60	9
Soybeans	2	4	21	61	12
Wheat	4	9	29	48	10
Wild Hay	1	2	15	61	21

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 21 fair, 55 good, and 17 excellent, well above last year's 62 percent good or excellent condition. Pasture caring capacity has been higher than normal in many counties outside of the Panhandle.

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

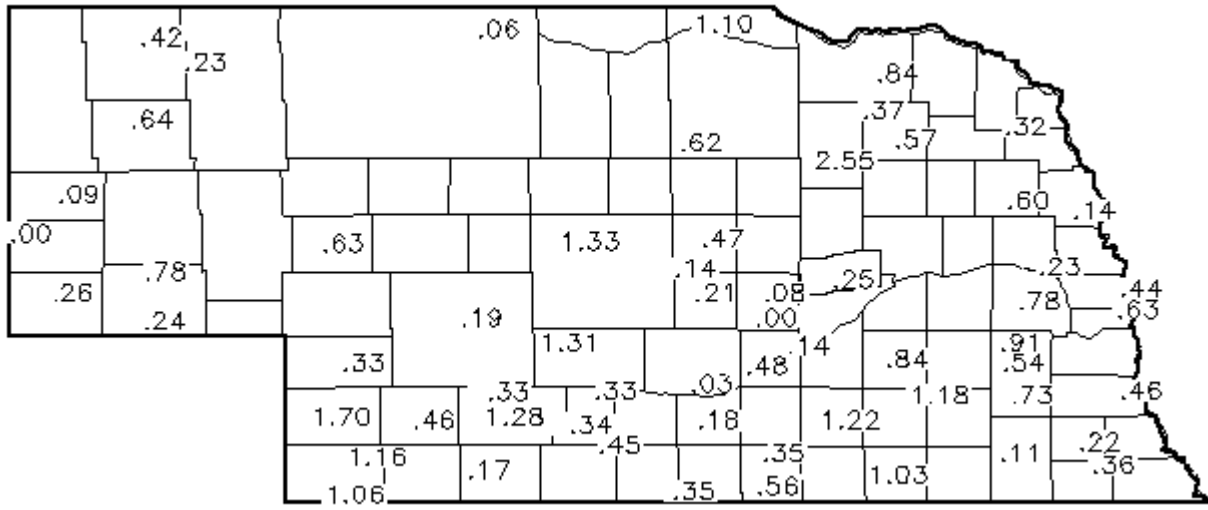


PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY



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Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 13, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 13, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.35	.59	.81	.33	.59	.77	.37	.76
Total since April 1	6.21	13.81	15.49	17.30	18.89	14.32	14.24	17.38
Normal since April 1	8.63	10.22	12.25	11.35	12.45	10.11	11.01	12.58
Total as % of normal	71%	134%	127%	152%	151%	140%	129%	138%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 13, 2008**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	93	42	69	-5	134	1046	1245
	Scottsbluff	98	44	72	-2	141	1202	1239
	Sidney	97	47	72	-3	137	1123	1271
NC	Ainsworth	93	52	74	-2	158	1119	1405
	Arthur	93	46	70	-5	139	1092	1373
	O'Neill	97	49	74	-2	161	1161	1428
NE	Concord	89	52	74	-3	163	1239	1477
	Elgin	91	56	74	-3	161	1213	1455
	West Point	92	54	74	-4	166	1325	1541
C	Grand Island	91	52	75	-2	166	1350	1431
	Lexington	96	50	74	-2	159	1286	1407
	Ord	94	50	75	-2	164	1273	1427
EC	Central City	90	52	73	-3	160	1342	1459
	Lincoln	95	57	76	-3	172	1475	1582
	Mead	94	54	75	-3	163	1428	1580
SW	Champion	97	49	72	-4	142	1229	1388
	Dickens	95	48	72	-4	148	1218	1392
	McCook	105	48	75	0	157	1371	1400
SC	Minden	94	53	75	-1	165	1324	1415
	Red Cloud	94	51	75	-2	164	1408	1447
	Smithfield	96	52	74	-2	161	1278	1409
SE	Beatrice	93	52	75	-3	167	1423	1582
	Clay Center	89	52	74	-3	161	1337	1447
	Nemaha	93	57	77	-2	177	1565	1586

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