



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Issue NE-CW 3008

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 27, 2008, wheat harvest was active in western counties with irrigation and haying statewide, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Fungicides were being applied to corn in parts of the state as well as spraying for grasshoppers where populations were very high. The Panhandle received over an inch of much needed rain during the week.

Weather Summary: For the first time in 14 weeks temperatures averaged 1 degree above normal with the Southwest and Panhandle Districts recording highs over 100. Precipitation was generally less than a half inch with the exception of the Panhandle.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending July 27, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	6	5	13	23
Short	25	22	35	35
Adequate	67	66	49	41
Surplus	2	7	3	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	8	7	13	26
Short	18	19	36	36
Adequate	72	68	50	38
Surplus	2	6	1	0
Days Suitable	5.8	5.0	6.0	6.1

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 18 fair, 58 good, and 18 excellent, near last year's 75 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 77 percent good or excellent, well below last year while dryland fields rated 77, well above year ago levels. Corn silked was 72 percent, well behind last year's 88 and five days behind the average of 86. Four percent of the corn was in the dough stage, behind last year's 25 and average of 16.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 17 fair, 61 good, and 15 excellent, well above last year's 66 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans blooming were 64 percent, behind last year's 79 and a week behind the average of 81. Soybeans setting pods was 16 percent, behind last year's 40, and 37 average.

Wheat ripe was at 99 percent, behind last year's 100 but even with the average. Wheat harvested was 90 percent complete, behind last year's 97 and 96 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 20 fair, 63 good, and 12 excellent, well above last year's 54 percent good or excellent condition. Second cutting was 79 percent complete eight days behind last year and the average of 92. Third cutting was underway at 5 percent, behind last year's 12 and average of 11.

Oat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 1 poor, 9 fair, 62 good, and 27 excellent, well above last year's 68 good or excellent rating. Oats harvested was 49 percent, eight days behind last year and the average of 82.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 24 fair, 58 good, and 13 excellent, well below last year's 82 percent good or excellent condition. Sorghum headed was 5 percent, behind last year's 20 and the average of 23.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 3 poor, 45 fair, 47 good, and 5 excellent, well below last year's 70 percent good or excellent condition. Dry beans blooming were 61 percent, ahead of last year's 56 and 58 average. Dry beans setting pods were 10 percent, ahead of last year's 8 but behind the average of 16.

Wild hay conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 15 fair, 65 good, and 16 excellent, well above last year's 68 percent good or excellent condition.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 27, 2008

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	79	61	92	92
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	5		12	11
Corn Silked	72	46	88	86
Corn Dough	4		25	16
Dry Beans Blooming	61	23	56	58
Dry Beans Setting Pods	10		8	16
Oats Harvested	49	24	82	82
Sorghum Headed	5	1	20	23
Soybeans Blooming	64	39	79	81
Soybeans Setting Pods	16	4	40	37
Wheat Ripe	99	88	100	99
Wheat Harvested	90	62	97	96

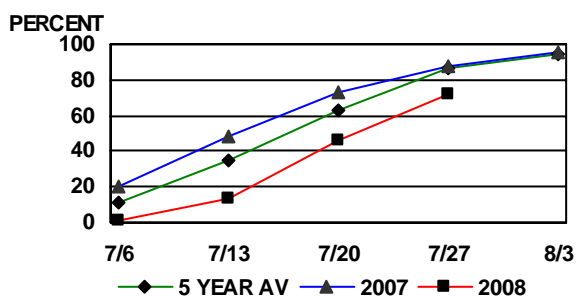
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 27, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	1	4	20	63	12
Corn	2	4	18	58	18
Dry Beans	0	3	45	47	5
Oats	1	1	9	62	27
Sorghum	1	4	24	58	13
Soybeans	2	5	17	61	15
Wild Hay	1	3	15	65	16

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 22 fair, 57 good, and 12 excellent, well above last year's 53 percent good or excellent condition.

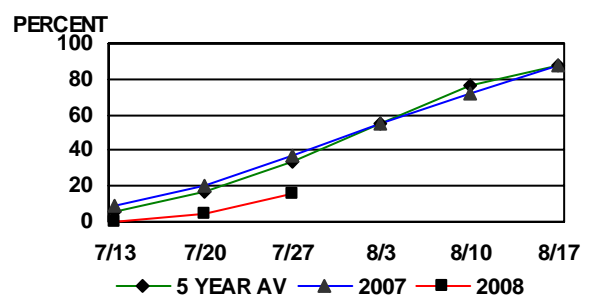
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&Condition/cmts_cur.htm

CORN SILKED



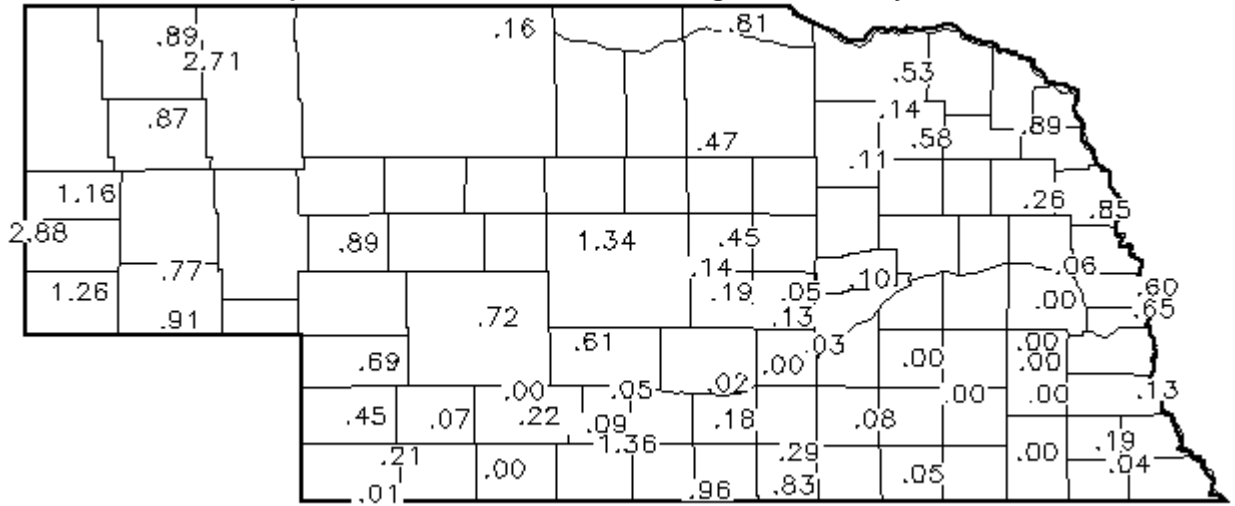
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEANS SETTING PODS



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 27, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – July 27, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.34	.51	.45	.27	.19	.32	.80	.19
Total since April 1	8.03	15.50	16.59	19.46	21.55	15.44	16.78	20.86
Normal since April 1	9.71	11.61	13.66	12.72	13.89	11.49	12.43	14.21
Total as % of normal	82%	133%	121%	152%	155%	133%	134%	146%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Saturday, July 26, 2008**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	97	55	75	+1	135	1327	1539
Scottsbluff	96	57	77	+3	140	1494	1533
Sidney	102	55	77	+3	139	1413	1569
NC Ainsworth	89	60	74	-2	145	1424	1726
Arthur	98	60	77	+2	149	1393	1688
O'Neill	90	60	75	-2	148	1475	1753
NE Concord	85	60	72	-5	132	1540	1811
Elgin	90	64	75	-2	146	1527	1784
West Point	86	62	74	-4	145	1638	1885
C Grand Island	92	65	78	+2	160	1684	1755
Lexington	93	63	77	+1	156	1608	1727
Ord	93	64	78	+2	162	1600	1751
EC Central City	91	65	77	+1	159	1671	1788
Lincoln	94	69	79	0	167	1826	1931
Mead	90	66	77	-2	157	1762	1929
SW Champion	102	57	79	+4	148	1536	1705
Dickens	97	61	78	+3	153	1535	1709
McCook	103	63	82	+6	162	1705	1719
SC Minden	91	64	77	+1	157	1649	1737
Red Cloud	96	66	80	+3	163	1741	1773
Smithfield	92	63	77	+1	156	1600	1730
SE Beatrice	94	65	78	0	162	1758	1931
Clay Center	92	65	78	+1	159	1666	1773
Nemaha	96	67	78	0	158	1907	1934

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