



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending August 17, 2008, below normal temperatures and rains across the majority of the state improved soil moisture profiles and reduced stress on crops, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. The rains provided enough moisture in some areas to shut down irrigation pumps for a few days. With the recent rainfall the Northwest District is now two percent above normal precipitation since April 1. Producers kept busy this week by applying pesticides, irrigating, haying, and preparing for fall crop planting.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 5 degrees below normal across the state. High temperatures around the state hovered near 90 and lows were in the mid to lower 50's. The entire state averaged a half inch of precipitation or more, with the Panhandle and North Central Districts receiving around 2 inches of moisture.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 17, 2008

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	5	12	8	24
Short	31	38	25	32
Adequate	63	49	63	43
Surplus	1	1	4	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	6	11	14	32
Short	29	30	29	34
Adequate	64	58	56	34
Surplus	1	1	1	0
Days Suitable	5.5	6.2	5.2	5.7

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 19 fair, 56 good, and 20 excellent, just below last year's 79 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 78 percent good or excellent well below last year, while dryland fields rated 72, above year ago levels. Corn in the dough stage was 67 percent, behind last year's 85 and four days behind the 80 average. Corn in the dent stage was 19 percent, behind last year's 40 and 30 average.

Soybean conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 21 fair, 60 good, and 15 excellent, near last year's 74 percent good or excellent condition. Soybeans blooming were 96 percent, behind last year and the average of 99. Soybeans setting pods was 77 percent, behind last year's 90 and six days behind the 91 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 26 fair, 55 good, and 12 excellent, above last year's 60 percent good

or excellent condition. Third cutting was 51 percent complete, behind last year's 62 and a week behind the 66 average.

Oats harvested was 95 percent, behind last year's 99 and the average of 98.

Sorghum conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 2 poor, 22 fair, 57 good, and 19 excellent, below last year's 80 percent good or excellent condition. Sorghum headed was 72 percent, behind last year's 89 and six days behind the 83 average. Sorghum turning color was 1 percent, behind last year's 10 and 12 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 4 poor, 40 fair, 47 good, and 9 excellent, well below last year's 71 percent good or excellent condition. Dry beans setting pods were 91 percent, well ahead of last year's 71 and 78 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 17, 2008

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	51	35	62	66
Corn Dough	67	38	85	80
Corn Dent	19	3	40	30
Dry Beans Setting Pods	91	62	71	78
Oats Harvested	95	91	99	98
Sorghum Headed	72	42	89	83
Sorghum Turning Color	1		10	12
Soybeans Blooming	96	93	99	99
Soybeans Setting Pods	77	58	90	91

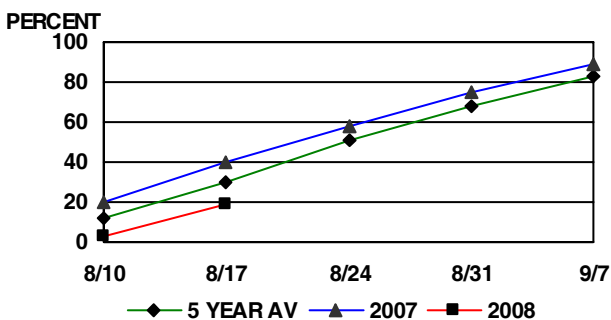
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 17, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	1	6	26	55	12
Corn	1	4	19	56	20
Dry Beans	0	4	40	47	9
Sorghum	0	2	22	57	19
Soybeans	1	3	21	60	15

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 9 poor, 25 fair, 52 good, and 13 excellent, well above last year's 56 percent good or excellent condition.

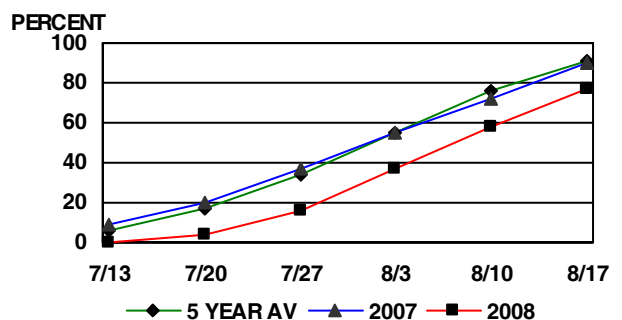
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop Progress & Condition/cmts_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Pro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

CORN DENTED



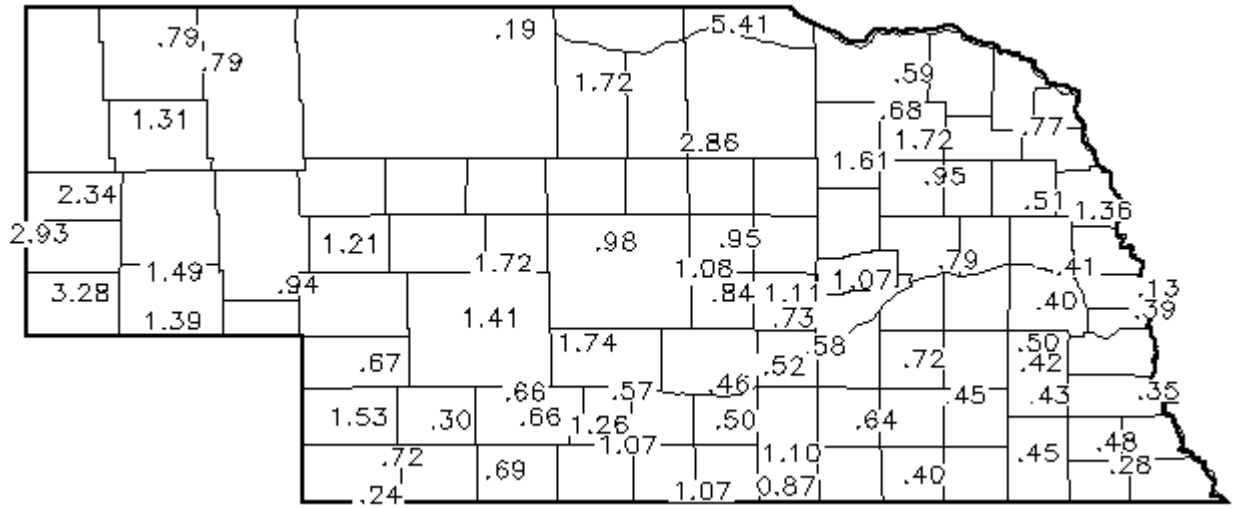
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEANS SETTING PODS



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 17, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 17, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	2.07	1.92	.95	.74	.61	.90	.96	.48
Total since April 1	11.08	18.23	17.71	20.35	22.67	18.47	18.85	22.55
Normal since April 1	10.91	13.39	15.68	14.68	16.17	13.15	14.45	16.70
Total as % of normal	102%	135%	113%	138%	140%	139%	130%	135%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, August 17, 2008**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	90	48	65	-7	103	1765	2020
Scottsbluff	90	52	66	-6	107	1950	2012
Sidney	90	51	66	-6	105	1857	2058
NC Ainsworth	88	53	69	-4	133	1927	2254
Arthur	90	52	67	-6	116	1861	2205
O'Neill	86	54	70	-4	138	1983	2287
NE Concord	85	54	70	-4	138	2046	2359
Elgin	83	54	69	-5	134	2027	2324
West Point	86	53	70	-5	142	2149	2450
C Grand Island	86	52	70	-4	139	2185	2288
Lexington	88	54	68	-5	128	2088	2252
Ord	86	52	69	-5	134	2096	2283
EC Central City	84	52	70	-4	138	2163	2328
Lincoln	90	56	73	-3	156	2375	2506
Mead	87	54	71	-5	145	2270	2503
SW Champion	89	53	68	-6	122	1995	2227
Dickens	89	51	68	-6	123	1999	2231
McCook	91	54	71	-3	139	2202	2243
SC Minden	85	54	69	-4	134	2135	2265
Red Cloud	88	56	71	-3	146	2254	2310
Smithfield	89	54	68	-5	128	2085	2256
SE Beatrice	87	53	71	-5	145	2269	2506
Clay Center	86	54	70	-4	141	2168	2310
Nemaha	88	56	72	-4	154	2445	2506

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