



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Issue NE-CW 4208

Released October 20, 2008

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending October 19, 2008, wet soils and cool conditions slowed harvest of fall crops, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Soybean harvest continues to be ahead of last year but is behind the average. Corn harvest has been slow due to high grain moisture levels and is over two weeks behind last year and the average. In the west, producers were busy harvesting sugarbeets.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 3 degrees below normal across the state. The Panhandle and Southwest Districts saw highs in the 80's and lows in the 20's. All districts recorded lows near or below the freezing mark. Widespread precipitation was recorded with many counties in the east, central, and southern areas receiving one to almost three inches of rainfall.

Soybean harvest reached 74 percent, eight days ahead of last year's 57 but three days behind the 79 average.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 19 fair, 52 good, and 25 excellent, well below last year's 86 percent good or excellent condition. Sorghum mature was 63 percent, behind last year's 99 and 97 average. Sorghum harvest was 8 percent complete, behind last year's 30 and eighteen days behind the 40 average.

Winter wheat seeded was 96 percent, behind year's 99 and 98 average. Winter wheat emerged was 86 percent, near last year's 87 and 88 average.

Proso millet harvest was 88 percent, well behind last year's 99 but even with the average.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending October 19, 2008**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	3	3	6	14
Short	14	17	15	26
Adequate	75	74	59	55
Surplus	8	6	20	5
Subsoil				
Very Short	8	8	14	28
Short	23	26	22	32
Adequate	66	65	56	38
Surplus	3	1	8	2
Days Suitable	3.7	5.0	3.0	4.8

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending October 19, 2008

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Corn Mature	83	79	99	98
Corn Harvested	18	14	42	40
Proso Millet Harvested	88	86	99	88
Sorghum Mature	63	60	99	97
Sorghum Harvested	8	5	30	40
Soybeans Harvested	74	62	57	79
Winter Wheat Seeded	96	92	99	98
Winter Wheat Emerged	86	77	87	88

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending October 19, 2008

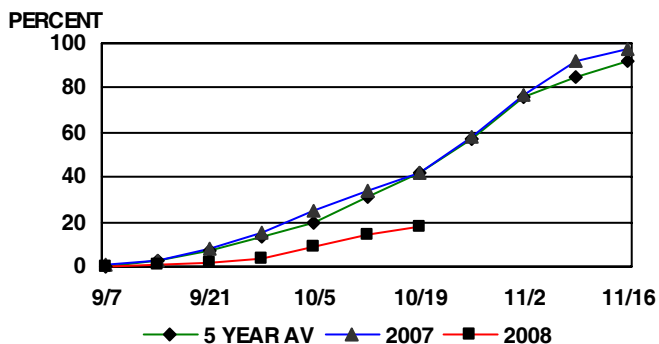
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	2	4	18	53	23
Sorghum	1	3	19	52	25

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 4 poor, 18 fair, 53 good, and 23 excellent, below last year's 82 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 81 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 69, both below year ago levels. Corn mature was 83 percent, behind last year's 99 and 98 average. Corn harvested was 18 percent complete, well behind last year's 42 and sixteen days behind the 40 average. Producers are waiting for further dry down before widespread harvest gets underway.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 12 poor, 28 fair, 49 good, and 8 excellent, below last year's 62 percent good or excellent condition.

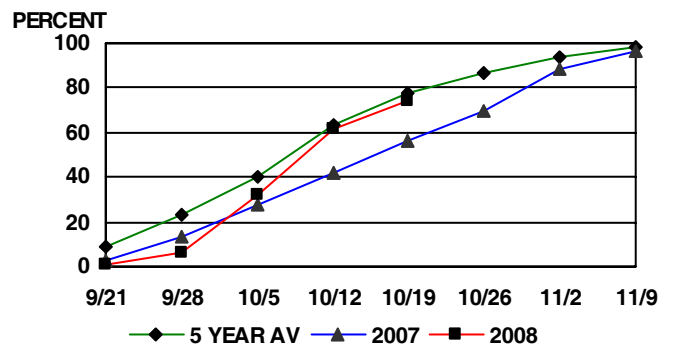
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm

CORN HARVEST



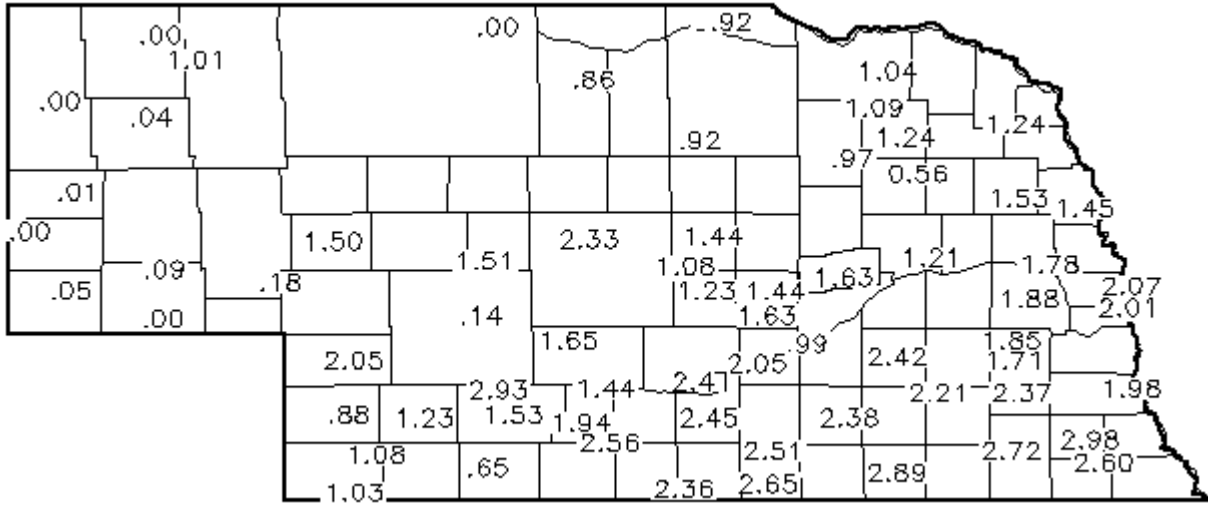
PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

SOYBEAN HARVEST



PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. October 19, 2008



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – October 19, 2008

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.08	.73	1.11	1.37	2.04	1.51	2.41	2.64
Total since April 1	13.60	23.66	24.96	25.67	29.69	23.38	27.23	29.35
Normal since April 1	13.43	17.31	20.88	19.30	22.52	16.43	19.02	23.49
Total as % of normal	101%	136%	120%	132%	132%	141%	143%	125%

**Temperature: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, October 19, 2008**

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	79	23	46	-3
	Scottsbluff	81	22	47	-2
	Sidney	81	27	49	-1
NC	Ainsworth	75	31	49	-2
	Arthur	77	28	48	-3
	O'Neill	69	30	48	-4
NE	Concord	72	30	47	-6
	Elgin	68	34	48	-4
	West Point	72	30	47	-6
C	Grand Island	73	32	50	-2
	Lexington	79	30	50	-2
	Ord	70	30	48	-4
EC	Central City	72	31	49	-3
	Lincoln	76	31	52	-2
	Mead	76	31	50	-4
SW	Champion	81	28	48	-3
	Dickens	79	28	49	-2
	McCook	82	32	52	+1
SC	Minden	75	30	50	-2
	Red Cloud	74	31	51	-1
	Smithfield	76	32	50	-1
SE	Beatrice	76	31	51	-3
	Clay Center	73	31	50	-2
	Nemaha	75	33	53	-2

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