



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

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



Issue NE-CW3409

Released August 24, 2009

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending August 23, 2009, continued below normal temperatures combined with the heavy rains of two weeks ago improved crop conditions, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Rain was again recorded statewide, although amounts were limited to less than a half inch in most locations. While soil moisture supplies continue to be rated adequate or above across most of the state, moderate drought conditions continue to exist in portions of southern Nebraska.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged 7 degrees below normal across the state. Except for the Panhandle, highs were limited to the mid 80's, with lows in the mid 40's. With only a few exceptions, rainfall totals were limited to a half inch or less for the week.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending August 23, 2009

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	3	5	11	16
Short	19	13	32	30
Adequate	76	78	56	53
Surplus	2	4	1	1
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	2	3	9	23
Short	18	14	30	33
Adequate	79	81	60	43
Surplus	1	2	1	1
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.2	5.6	6.4	5.6

**Field Crops Report:** Corn conditions rated 3 percent very poor, 5 poor, 14 fair, 51 good, and 27 excellent, above last year's 75 percent good or excellent rating. Irrigated fields rated 81 percent good or excellent near the 80 of last year while dryland fields rated 74, above the 69 reading of year ago. Corn in the dough stage reached 76 percent, behind last year's 82 and a week behind the 88 average. Corn having reached the dent stage was 30 percent, behind last year's 39 and six days behind 48 average.

Soybean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 15 fair, 58 good, and 20 excellent, above last year's 72 percent good or excellent condition and 64 average. Soybeans setting pods was 95 percent, ahead of last year's 91 but near 96 average.

Alfalfa conditions moved higher and rated 2 percent very poor, 6 poor, 24 fair, 52 good, and 16 excellent, above last year's 65 good or excellent condition and well above 49 average.

Third cutting was 70 percent complete ahead of 66 last year but behind 77 average. The fourth cutting was just getting underway.

Sorghum conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 23 fair, 55 good, and 18 excellent, below last year's 77 percent good or excellent condition but above 61 average. Sorghum headed was 89 percent, near last year's 88 but behind 93 average. Sorghum coloring was at 6 percent, behind 15 last year and over one week behind the 24 average.

Dry bean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 12 poor, 18 fair, 61 good, and 7 excellent, above last year's 61 percent good or excellent condition and the 65 average. Dry beans setting pods were 93 percent, behind last year at 97 but ahead of average at 90. Late planted fields continue to need additional heat units to mature properly.

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending August 23, 2009

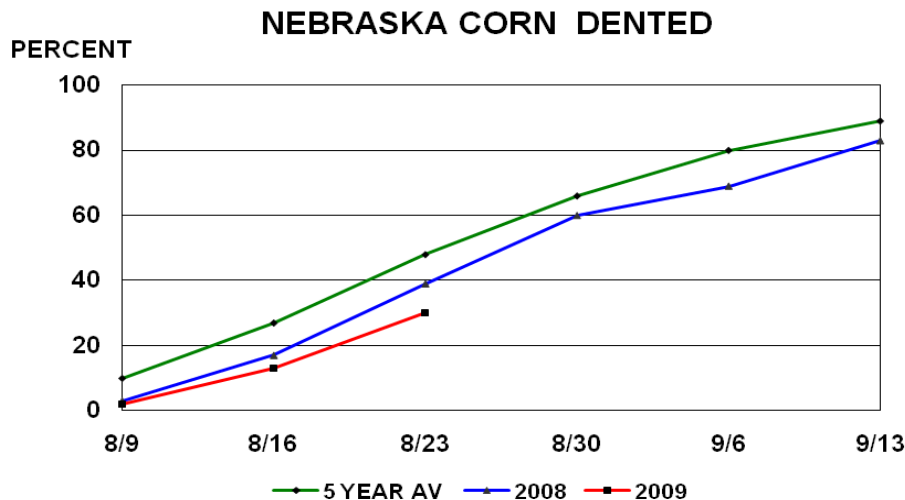
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	70	57	66	77
Corn Dough	76	67	82	88
Corn Dent	30	13	39	48
Dry Beans Setting Pods	93	82	97	90
Dry Beans Turning Color	7	0	5	13
Sorghum Headed	89	75	88	93
Sorghum Turning Color	6	4	15	24
Soybeans Setting Pods	95	89	91	96

### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending August 23, 2009

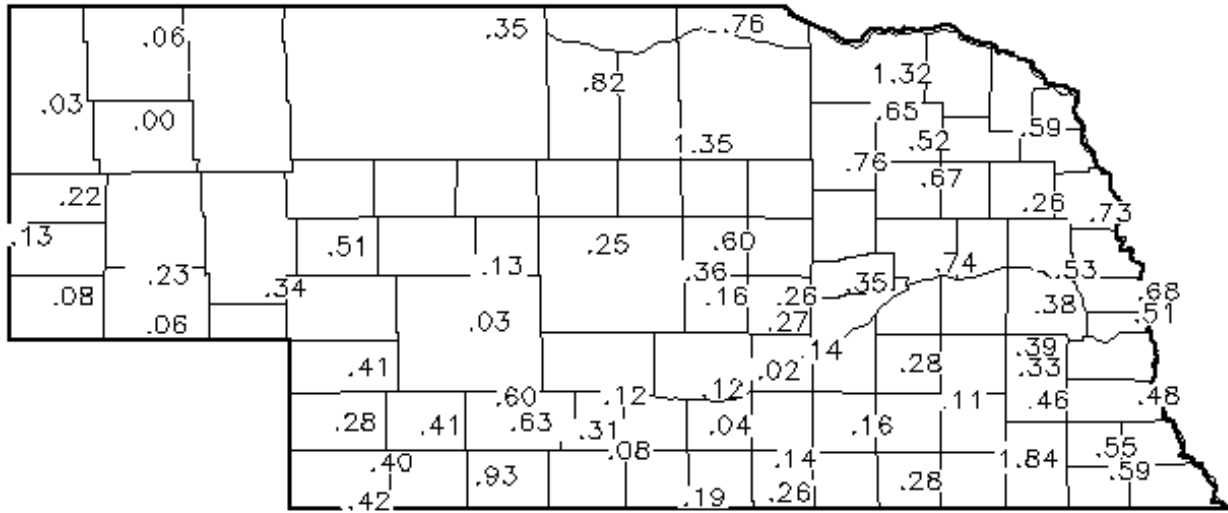
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	2	6	24	52	16
Corn	3	5	14	51	27
Dry Beans	2	12	18	61	7
Sorghum	1	3	23	55	18
Soybeans	2	5	15	58	20

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 5 poor, 19 fair, 59 good, and 15 excellent, above last year's 58 percent good or excellent condition and average at 38.

*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)*



**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. August 23, 2009**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – August 23, 2009**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.13	.74	.64	.25	.48	.49	.21	.55
Total since April 1	15.15	16.76	14.41	17.28	15.50	18.82	15.10	15.31
Normal since April 1	11.21	13.84	16.24	15.21	16.83	13.56	15.01	17.41
Total as % of normal	135%	121%	88%	113%	92%	138%	101%	87%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, August 23, 2009**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	91	44	63	-7	103	1762	2170
	Scottsbluff	96	42	65	-5	114	1896	2148
	Sidney	92	43	65	-6	110	1834	2254
NC	Ainsworth	84	47	65	-7	106	1894	2371
	Arthur	83	44	64	-8	101	1827	2327
	O'Neill	82	46	65	-8	105	1962	2407
NE	Concord	79	47	64	-10	96	1985	2503
	Elgin	81	48	65	-8	104	2044	2449
	West Point	81	48	65	-9	105	2130	2570
C	Grand Island	82	47	67	-6	119	2196	2411
	Lexington	82	46	66	-7	112	2109	2375
	Ord	84	43	66	-7	112	2096	2405
EC	Central City	83	44	65	-8	112	2187	2452
	Lincoln	84	51	69	-6	134	2481	2638
	Mead	81	47	65	-9	109	2217	2636
SW	Champion	86	45	66	-6	119	2008	2340
	Dickens	85	45	65	-7	110	1955	2351
	McCook	83	47	67	-5	119	2241	2365
SC	Minden	83	46	67	-6	119	2197	2387
	Red Cloud	86	46	68	-5	129	2370	2434
	Smithfield	81	48	66	-6	112	2129	2379
SE	Beatrice	83	49	67	-8	121	2352	2638
	Clay Center	83	45	66	-7	117	2217	2434
	Nemaha	84	52	69	-6	130	2506	2636

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