



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 24, 2011, cool, wet conditions continued for the second week, keeping soils wet and limiting spring planting activities, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Significant rainfall occurred in the Panhandle while the eastern two thirds of the state recorded less than one inch in most locations. This, coupled with temperatures well below normal, resulted in poor drying conditions with less than 2 days considered suitable for fieldwork. Producers watched soil temperatures decline as air temperatures averaged near 10 degrees below normal in many locations. Sunshine and warmer conditions are needed for planting progress to move forward. Cool season grasses, alfalfa and winter wheat showed some improvement during the week.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 6 to 12 degrees below normal across the state. High temperatures ranged from the low 70's in the southern half of Nebraska to lows below freezing in all but the extreme southeast. Limited amounts of precipitation fell across eastern and southern counties while accumulations of an inch or more were common in the Panhandle.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending April 24, 2011**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	1	2	0	2
Short	9	11	3	13
Adequate	80	79	90	76
Surplus	10	8	8	8
Subsoil				
Very Short	2	3	0	7
Short	24	22	2	19
Adequate	70	72	92	71
Surplus	4	3	6	3
Days Suitable	1.9	4.0	3.8	4.4

Field Crops Report: Corn planting advanced slowly to 5 percent complete, well behind last year's 20 and 15 average. Cool soil conditions have kept corn from emerging.

Wheat conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 14 poor, 40 fair, 40 good, and 4 excellent, below last year's 73 percent good to excellent and 62 average. Wheat jointed was 10 percent, below last year's 15 and 19 average.

Oats planted were at 68 percent, behind last year's 83 and 78 average. Oats emerged was at 23 percent, behind 44 last year and 32 average.

Alfalfa rated 0 percent very poor, 2 poor, 22 fair, 71 good, and 5 excellent, below last year's 85 percent good to excellent.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 24, 2011

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	5	3	20	15
Oats Planted	68	60	83	78
Oats Emerged	23	6	44	32
Wheat Jointed	10	7	15	19

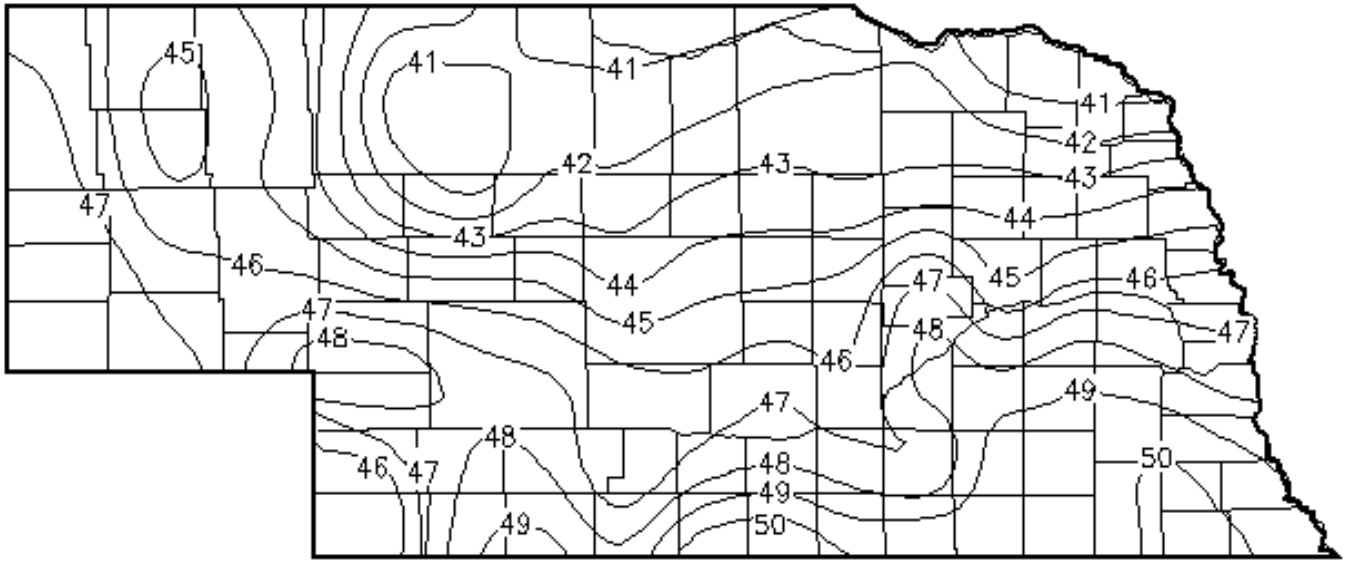
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 24, 2011

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	2	22	71	5
Wheat	2	14	40	40	4

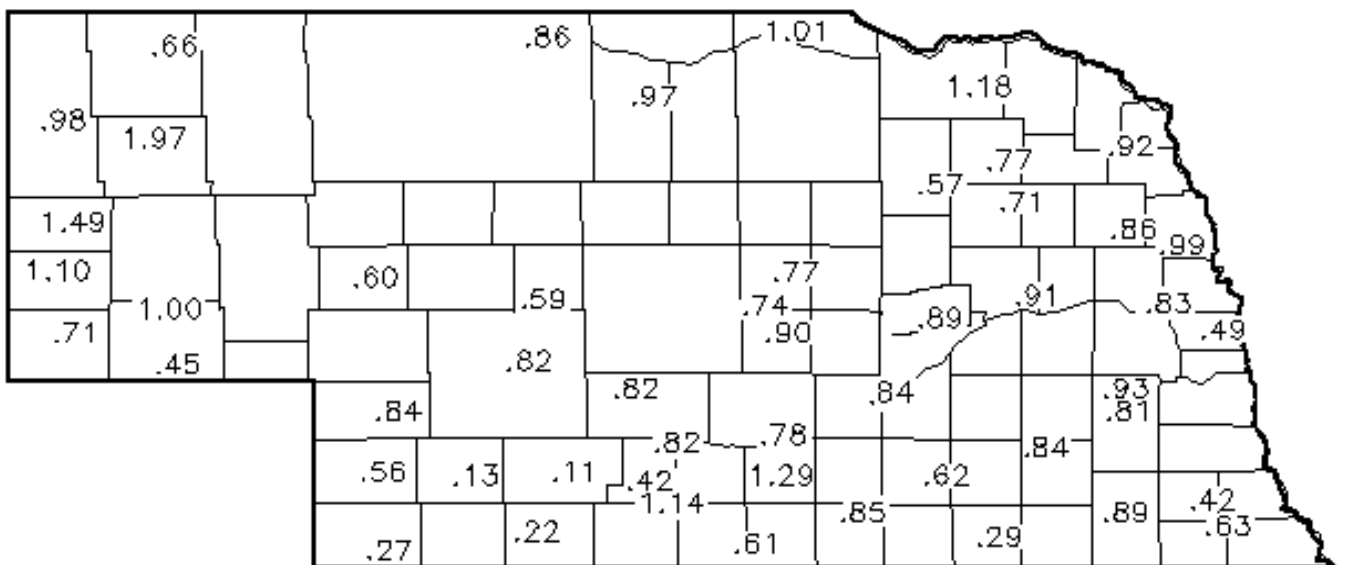
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Spring calving was 89 percent complete. Calf losses rated 12 percent below average, 86 average, and 2 above average. Pasture and range conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 poor, 28 fair, 62 good, and 5 excellent, well below last year's 83 good to excellent but near 65 average.

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/NEcurrent.asp

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil
April 18 – April 24, 2011**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 24, 2011



Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 24, 2011

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	64	24	41	-9
	Scottsbluff	66	27	44	-6
	Sidney	64	22	42	-9
NC	Ainsworth	61	27	40	-12
	Arthur	59	24	41	-11
	O'Neill	64	30	41	-12
NE	Concord	67	29	41	-12
	Elgin	65	30	42	-12
	West Point	68	28	43	-12
C	Grand Island	66	30	43	-10
	Lexington	64	28	44	-9
	Ord	66	29	43	-10
EC	Central City	69	30	44	-9
	Lincoln	70	32	47	-8
	Mead	70	28	45	-10
SW	Champion	64	30	44	-8
	Dickens	60	28	42	-10
	McCook	67	31	46	-6
SC	Minden	67	31	45	-8
	Red Cloud	70	32	46	-7
	Smithfield	63	29	43	-10
SE	Beatrice	71	31	47	-9
	Clay Center	68	29	44	-9
	Nemaha	70	37	49	-6

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