



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending April 8, 2012, even though conditions were favorable for planting corn, only a limited number of fields were planted with most producers waiting for the crop insurance initial planting date, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Soil moisture levels continued below previous year and 5 year averages with precipitation limited to the southern tier of counties. Planting of oats reached the half way point with 15 percent of the crop emerged. Wheat was beginning to joint well ahead of average. With 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork, producers were applying fertilizer, performing spring tillage, and getting machinery ready for spring planting. Soil temperatures ranged from the mid 50's in the west to low 60's in the east. Cattle and calves were in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring calving was 83 percent complete with calf losses well below average.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged 3 degrees above normal across the western half of the state, while the eastern half was up to 10 degrees above normal. Highs reached the low 90's in the east and lows fell to the lower 20's in the Panhandle. Precipitation was limited to extreme southern counties with some locations receiving over one inch.

**Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending April 8, 2012**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	18	16	4	4
Short	43	44	28	16
Adequate	39	40	66	74
Surplus	0	0	2	6
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	15	13	4	7
Short	41	42	29	19
Adequate	44	45	66	71
Surplus	0	0	1	3
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.8	6.5	4.7	3.5

**Field Crops Report:** Corn planted showed little progress and remained at 1 percent, equal to last year but ahead of average.

Wheat jointed was 10 percent, well ahead of 1 percent average. Wheat conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 5 poor, 35 fair, 52 good, and 8 excellent, well above last year's 35 percent good to excellent.

Oats planted were at 50 percent, well ahead of 29 last year and average. Oats emerged was 15 percent, well ahead of 1 last year and 3 average.

Alfalfa conditions rated 0 percent very poor, 6 poor, 25 fair, 56 good, and 13 excellent. Concerns were expressed about insect levels.

**Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 8, 2012**

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Corn Planted	1	1	1	0
Oats Planted	50	38	29	29
Oats Emerged	15		1	3
Wheat Jointed	10			1

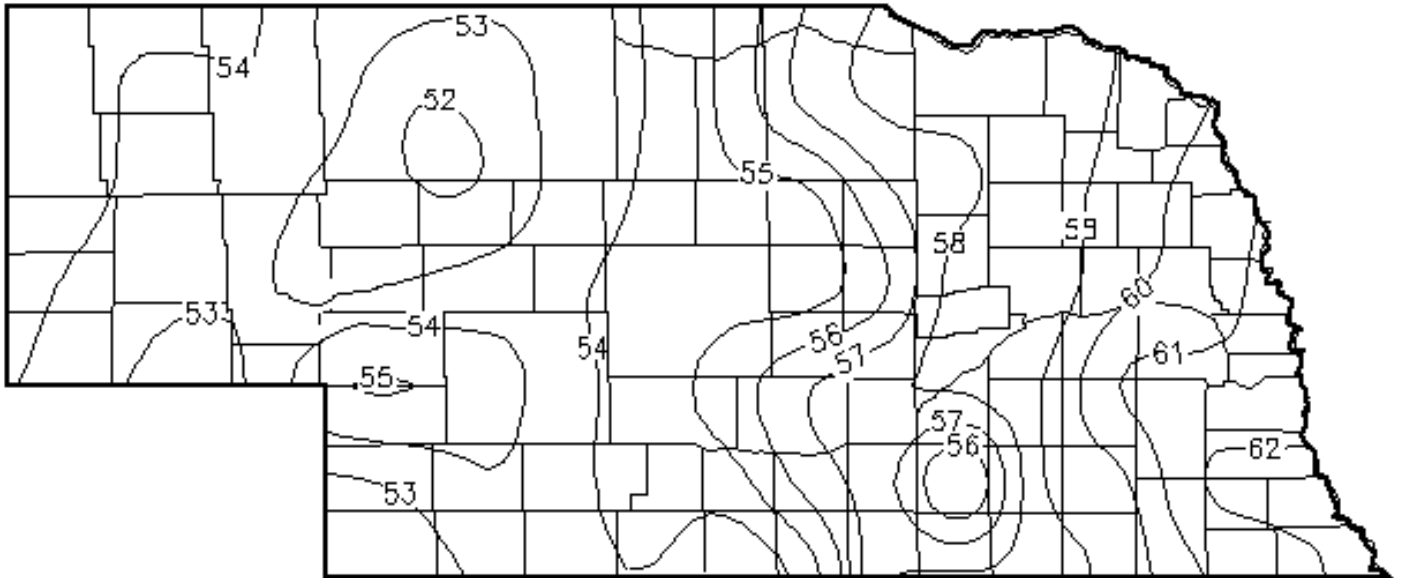
**Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 8, 2012**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	0	6	25	56	13
Wheat	0	5	35	52	8

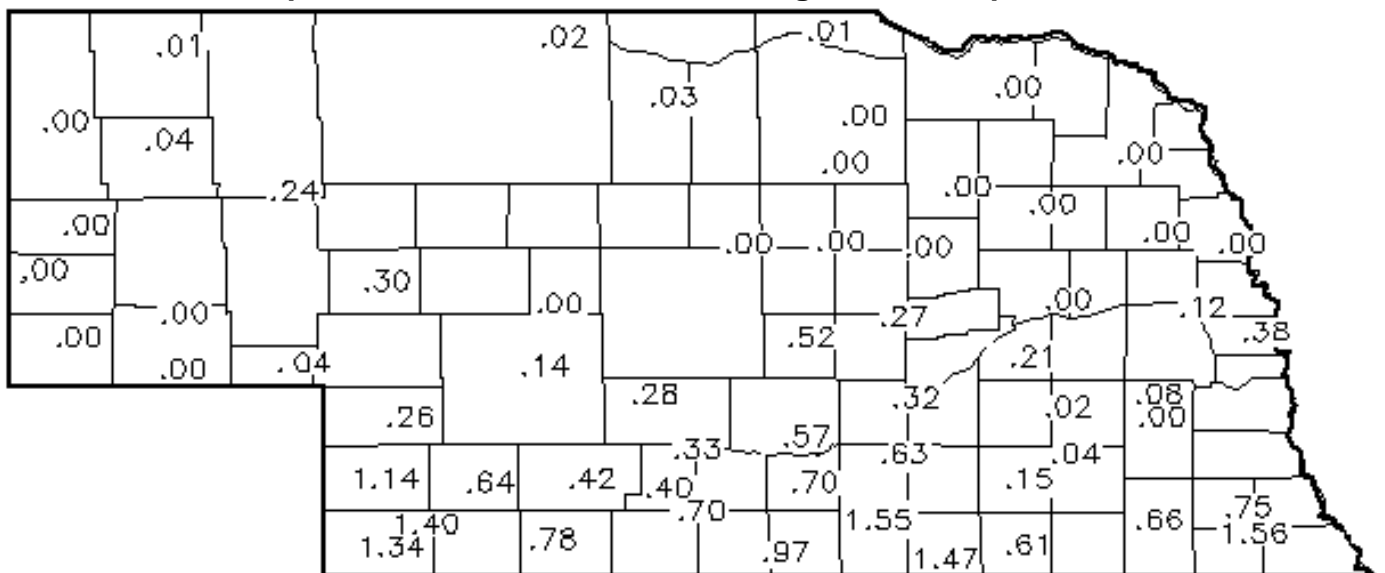
**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Cattle and calf condition rated 0 percent very poor, 0 poor, 6 fair, 72 good, and 22 excellent. Spring calving was 83 percent complete. Calf losses rated 30 percent below average, 69 average, and 1 above average.

*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/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/cmts_cur.htm)*

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil  
April 2 – April 8, 2012**



**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 8, 2012**



**Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 8, 2012**

Station	Temperature			
	Extremes		Average	Departure
	High	Low		
NW Alliance	69	23	45	+1
Scottsbluff	78	23	49	+4
Sidney	74	22	46	+1
NC Ainsworth	71	32	50	+4
Arthur	65	32	48	+2
O'Neill	68	30	51	+4
NE Concord	86	31	55	+7
Elgin	68	29	51	+4
West Point	90	26	55	+7
C Grand Island	72	34	53	+6
Cozad	73	22	49	+2
Ord	68	23	49	+2
EC Central City	77	28	54	+6
Lincoln	90	35	58	+9
Mead	91	27	56	+7
SW Champion	71	25	48	+2
Dickens	68	31	49	+3
McCook	76	31	51	+5
SC Minden	72	31	51	+4
Red Cloud	83	33	54	+7
Smithfield	73	32	51	+4
SE Beatrice	88	32	56	+8
Clay Center	79	29	53	+6
Nemaha	91	39	59	+10

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