



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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



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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 6, 2012, producers made significant planting progress with favorable conditions, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Above normal temperatures and limited precipitation allowed active field work and aided crop development. Corn planted jumped to near three-fourths complete with 25 percent emerged. Soybean planting was 29 percent complete and sorghum planted stood at 7 percent. Wheat jointed was 87 percent with one quarter of the crop headed, 19 days ahead of average. The first cutting of alfalfa continued 3 weeks ahead of average. Cattle have been moved to summer pastures.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 9 degrees above normal across the state. High temperatures ranged from the mid 90's in the southern half of Nebraska to lows of mid 30's in the Panhandle. The East Central and Southeast Districts averaged over 1 inch of precipitation with other districts near half an inch or less.

Wheat jointed was 87 percent, well ahead of last year's 40 and near three weeks ahead of 45 average. Wheat headed was 25 percent. Disease was a concern in parts of South Central and Southeast Districts. Wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 28 fair, 55 good, and 11 excellent, above last year's 46 percent good to excellent and 63 average.

Oats planted were at 96 percent, ahead of last year's 91 and 92 average. Oats emerged were at 80 percent, well ahead of 57 last year and 65 average. Oats conditions rated 1 percent poor, 18 fair, 74 good, and 7 excellent.

The first cutting of alfalfa was 20 percent complete. Concerns were expressed over insect activity. Alfalfa rated 5 percent poor, 24 fair, 54 good, and 17 excellent, below last year's 76 percent good to excellent and near 70 average.

Wild hay conditions rated 2 percent poor, 29 fair, 65 good, and 4 excellent.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending May 6, 2012

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	3	1	1	2
Short	16	16	21	10
Adequate	76	78	76	80
Surplus	5	5	2	8
Subsoil				
Very Short	6	7	1	4
Short	26	28	25	15
Adequate	66	64	72	77
Surplus	2	1	2	4
Days Suitable	5.0	4.6	5.6	4.5

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending May 6, 2012

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	20	12		
Corn Planted	74	44	45	50
Corn Emerged	25	4	3	7
Oats Planted	96	93	91	92
Oats Emerged	80	70	57	65
Sorghum Planted	7	1	5	3
Soybeans Planted	29	6	11	10
Soybeans Emerged	3			
Wheat Jointed	87	67	40	45
Wheat Headed	25	5		

Field Crops Report: Corn planting advanced to 74 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 45 and one week ahead of 50 average. Corn emerged stood at 25 percent, well ahead of 3 last year and eight days ahead of 7 average.

Soybean planting was 29 percent complete, ahead of 11 last year and 10 average. Soybeans emerged were 3 percent.

Sorghum planting was 7 percent completed compared to 5 last year and 3 average.

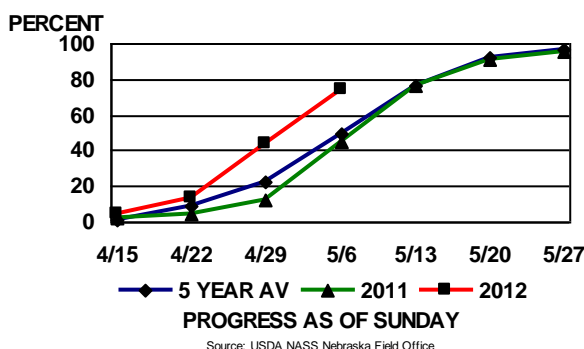
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 6, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	0	5	24	54	17
Oats	0	1	18	74	7
Wheat	1	5	28	55	11
Wild Hay	0	2	29	65	4

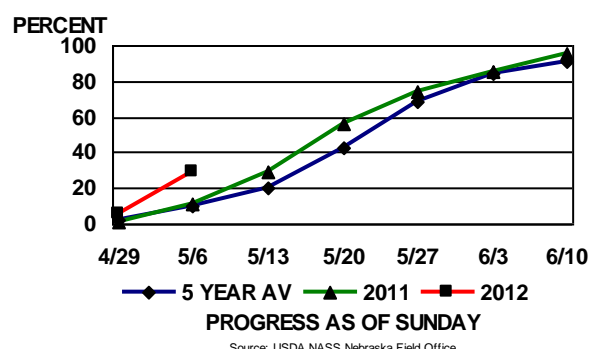
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 6 poor, 32 fair, 55 good, and 6 excellent, below last year's 65 percent good to excellent and 68 average.

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

NEBRASKA CORN PLANTED

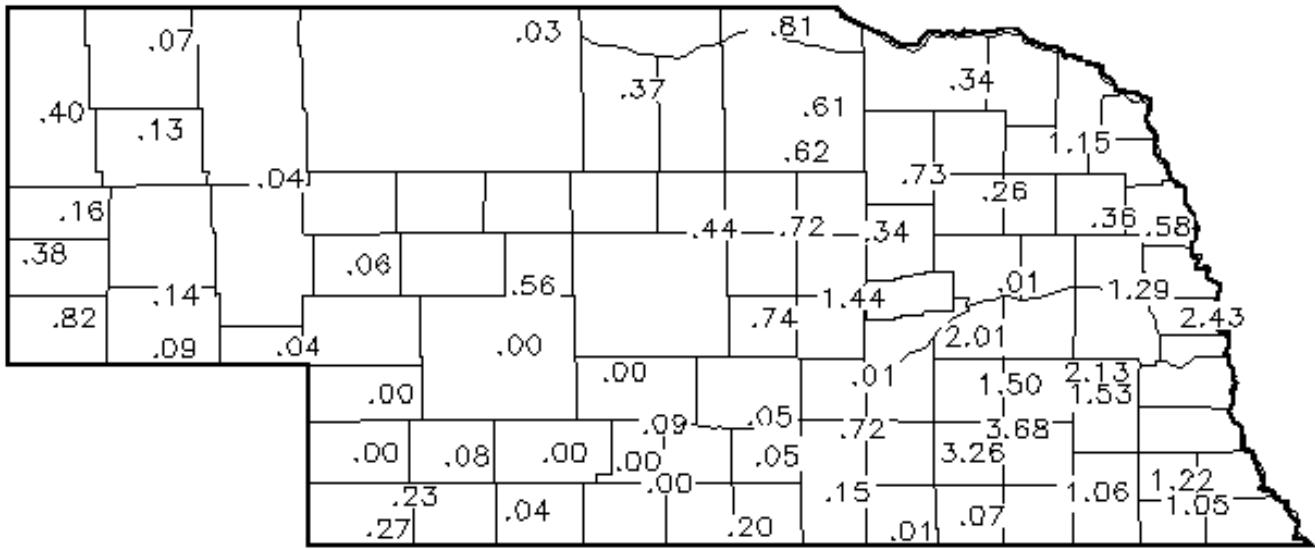


NEBRASKA SOYBEANS PLANTED



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Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. May 6, 2012



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 30 – May 6, 2012

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.24	.46	.68	.57	1.64	.10	.13	1.21
Total since April 1	1.76	4.66	4.11	3.97	4.61	3.34	3.18	4.31
Normal since April 1	2.30	2.74	3.27	3.17	3.43	2.51	2.88	3.56
Total as % of normal	76%	169%	125%	125%	133%	133%	112%	121%

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, May 6, 2012

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW Alliance	79	34	57	+3	123	198	166
Scottsbluff	84	34	59	+5	150	234	165
Sidney	85	38	59	+4	137	223	175
NC Ainsworth	80	42	63	+6	124	219	181
Arthur	87	37	62	+6	122	216	181
O'Neill	83	38	63	+6	119	216	183
NE Concord	86	46	68	+10	122	250	186
Elgin	90	41	67	+10	125	248	186
West Point	91	44	70	+11	126	264	191
C Grand Island	94	46	69	+12	141	267	187
Cozad	89	38	65	+8	133	245	184
Ord	86	42	65	+8	126	238	184
EC Central City	94	41	70	+12	140	273	188
Lincoln	92	46	72	+13	153	303	196
Mead	94	47	71	+12	141	283	196
SW Champion	90	39	65	+8	152	260	182
Dickens	89	37	63	+7	129	231	183
McCook	94	44	67	+11	155	274	184
SC Minden	93	42	68	+11	144	265	186
Red Cloud	89	43	69	+12	155	287	188
Smithfield	92	43	67	+10	138	255	185
SE Beatrice	92	48	70	+11	151	289	196
Clay Center	90	38	68	+11	148	278	188
Nemaha	89	49	72	+13	164	316	197

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