



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 8, 2012, crop conditions continued to decline with triple digit temperatures and limited precipitation, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Topsoil moisture levels declined to 14 percent adequate or surplus and have not been this low at this time since 2002. One half of the corn crop reached the pollination stage or beyond with the first fields reaching dough stage. Over one third of the soybean crop is blooming and setting pods has just begun. The first fields of sorghum have begun to head out. Wheat harvest was nearing completion, over 3 weeks ahead of average. Oat harvest, at 85 percent complete, had yet to start by this time last year. Producers continue to actively irrigate crops. Supplemental feeding of livestock was expanding as pasture conditions continue to decline. Some herds were being culled.

Weather Summary: The southern tier of counties in the Panhandle and the Southwest District received measureable rainfall with some locations accumulating over two inches. The remainder of the state saw little to no precipitation. Temperatures ranged from 6 degrees above normal in the Eastern two-thirds of the state to 2 degrees above normal in the Panhandle. Highs reached triple digits in many locations and lows were recorded in the mid 60's.

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

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	37	29	0	3
Short	49	50	7	17
Adequate	14	21	85	74
Surplus	0	0	8	6
Subsoil				
Very Short	32	25	0	3
Short	52	54	7	13
Adequate	16	21	85	79
Surplus	0	0	8	5
Days Suitable	6.8	6.7	4.9	5.7

Field Crops Report: Corn silked was 50 percent, compared to 6 last year and 14 average. Corn in the dough stage was 1 percent, compared to 0 last year and average. Corn conditions declined and rated 7 percent very poor, 13 poor, 33 fair, 40 good, and 7 excellent, well below last year's 84 percent good to excellent and 81 average. Irrigated corn conditions rated 65 percent good to excellent and dryland corn rated 22.

Soybeans blooming were 37 percent, ahead of 16 last year and 23 average. Soybeans setting pods was 4 percent, ahead of 0 last year and 1 average. Soybean conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 14 poor, 40 fair, 38 good, and 3 excellent, well below last year's 81 percent good to excellent and 79 average.

The second cutting of alfalfa was 86 percent complete, well ahead of 32 last year and 40 average. The third cutting of alfalfa was 12 percent complete compared to 0 last year and average. Alfalfa conditions declined and rated 23 percent very poor, 29 poor, 29 fair, 18 good, and 1 excellent, well below 84 percent good to excellent last year and 75 average.

Wheat ripe was 99 percent, compared to 30 last year and 46 average. Wheat harvested was 93 percent, compared to 8 last year and 23 days ahead of 19 average.

Oats harvested was 85 percent, compared to 0 last year and 6 average. Oats conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 18 poor, 39 fair, 41 good, and 0 excellent, well below 88 percent good to excellent last year and 84 average.

Dry beans blooming were 3 percent, ahead of 0 last year and 4 average. Dry bean conditions improved and rated 0 percent very poor, 6 poor, 42 fair, 52 good, and 0 excellent, but still well below 69 percent good to excellent last year and 70 average.

Sorghum headed was 1 percent. Sorghum conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 18 poor, 45 fair, 32 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year's 82 percent good to excellent and 76 average.

Wild hay harvest was 60 percent complete, ahead of 45 last year and 17 average. Wild hay conditions declined and rated 10 percent very poor, 24 poor, 41 fair, 25 good, and 0 excellent, well below last year's 77 percent good to excellent and 83 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 8, 2012

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	86	83	32	40
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	12	4	0	0
Corn Silked	50	25	6	14
Corn Dough	1	0	0	0
Dry Beans Blooming	3	0	0	4
Oats Harvested	85	60	0	6
Sorghum Headed	1	0	0	0
Soybeans Blooming	37	25	16	23
Soybeans Setting Pods	4	0	0	1
Wheat Ripe	99	88	30	46
Wheat Harvested	93	69	8	19
Wild Hay Harvested	60	43	45	17

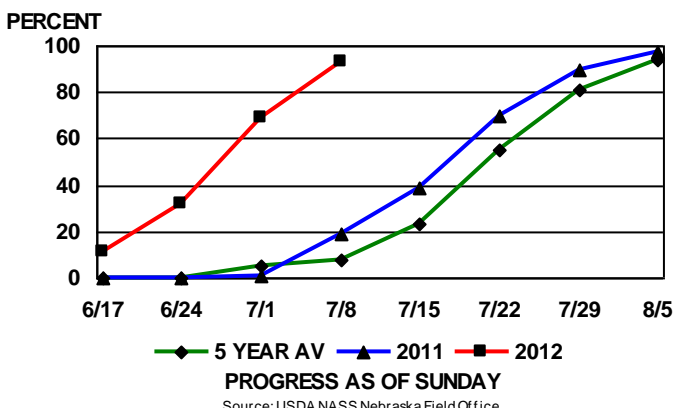
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 8, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	23	29	29	18	1
Corn	7	13	33	40	7
Dry Beans	0	6	42	52	0
Oats	2	18	39	41	0
Sorghum	4	18	45	32	1
Soybeans	5	14	40	38	3
Wild Hay	10	24	41	25	0

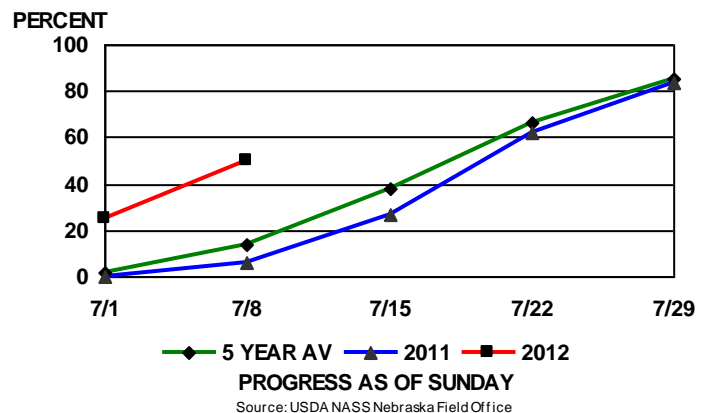
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 26 percent very poor, 33 poor, 28 fair, 13 good, and 0 excellent, well below 83 percent good to excellent last year and 80 average.

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

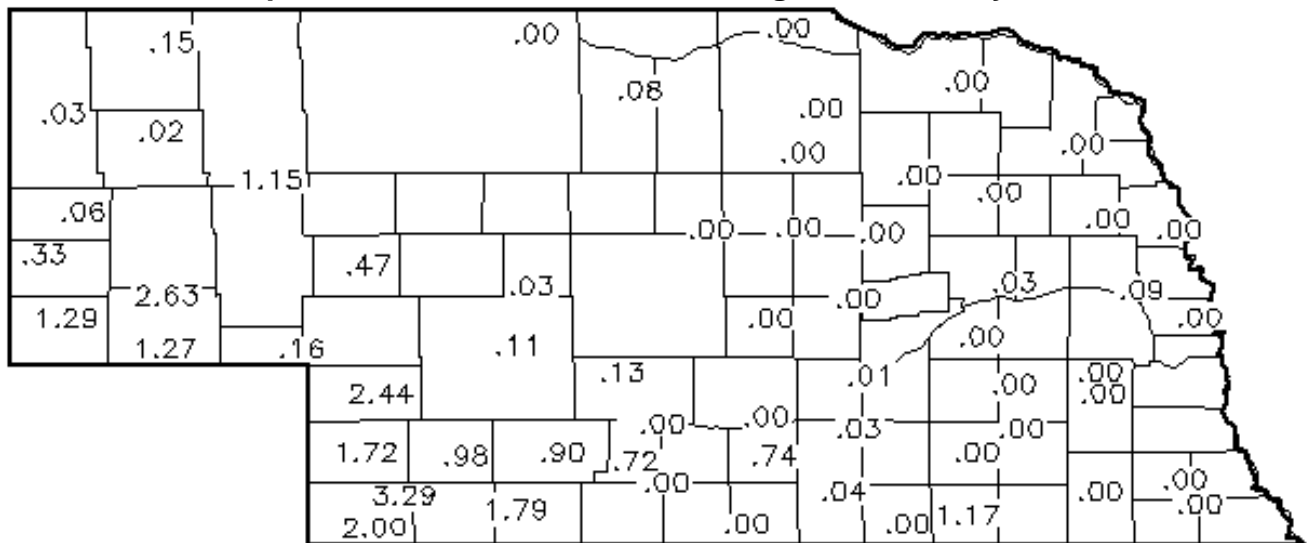
NEBRASKA WHEAT HARVESTED



NEBRASKA CORN SILKED



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



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, July 2 – July 8, 2012

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.88	.07	.01	.01	.01	1.26	.30	.02
Total since April 1	4.45	7.43	9.41	7.14	10.58	6.89	7.43	10.07
Normal since April 1	8.30	9.81	11.52	11.07	11.88	9.51	10.93	12.09
Total as % of normal	53%	75%	81%	64%	89%	72%	67%	83%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 8, 2012**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	99	57	74	+1	1100	1251	1156
	Scottsbluff	100	61	76	+3	1198	1360	1147
	Sidney	99	57	76	+1	1160	1316	1212
NC	Ainsworth	103	60	81	+6	1215	1400	1280
	Arthur	101	61	79	+4	1175	1344	1256
	O'Neill	105	62	83	+7	1197	1387	1304
NE	Concord	99	63	81	+4	1277	1467	1362
	Elgin	100	62	80	+4	1237	1422	1331
	West Point	98	66	81	+4	1306	1500	1407
C	Grand Island	100	66	81	+5	1325	1519	1313
	Cozad	101	62	80	+4	1261	1434	1286
	Ord	102	65	82	+7	1257	1446	1304
EC	Central City	97	66	81	+5	1333	1531	1334
	Lincoln	102	70	86	+8	1470	1686	1448
	Mead	99	68	82	+4	1396	1597	1448
SW	Champion	104	55	78	+4	1266	1426	1265
	Dickens	103	60	80	+5	1248	1418	1272
	McCook	102	63	82	+7	1361	1546	1282
SC	Minden	98	66	80	+5	1310	1494	1297
	Red Cloud	101	70	83	+7	1442	1643	1323
	Smithfield	99	65	80	+5	1301	1483	1290
SE	Beatrice	101	69	83	+5	1446	1647	1448
	Clay Center	98	67	80	+4	1359	1547	1324
	Nemaha	101	71	86	+8	1547	1758	1449

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