



# Nebraska Weather and Crops

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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending July 15, 2012, dryland crops and pastures continued under stress due to hot and dry conditions blanketing the state, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Irrigation remains active; however some producers using surface water supplies were required to stop pumping due to low river levels. Seventy percent of the corn crop was silking and nearly two-thirds of the soybean crop is blooming. The first sorghum fields were heading out. Wheat harvest was near completion about 3 weeks ahead of average. Hay was being cut from roadside ditches and producers were considering use of CRP acres for forage. With declining conditions, some livestock are being removed from summer pastures to dry lots or are being sold.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures moderated and ranged from 2 degrees above normal in the western half of the state to 2 degrees below normal in the eastern half. Highs reached triple digits in portions of the west and lows were recorded in the mid 50's. Isolated areas across the mid section of the state received measureable rainfall with a few locations accumulating over one inch. However, much of the state saw little to no precipitation.

The second cutting of alfalfa was 89 percent complete, well ahead of 53 last year and two weeks ahead of 59 average. The third cutting of alfalfa was 27 percent complete compared to 0 last year and average. Alfalfa conditions declined and rated 30 percent very poor, 30 poor, 24 fair, 15 good, and 1 excellent, well below 84 percent good to excellent last year and 74 average.

Wheat harvested was 97 percent, compared to 23 last year and 20 days ahead of 39 average.

Oats harvested was 89 percent, compared to 21 last year and 25 average.

Dry beans blooming were 30 percent, ahead of 0 last year and 10 average. Dry beans setting pods was 2 percent, ahead of 0 last year and 1 average. Dry bean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 36 fair, 51 good, and 4 excellent, but still well below 67 percent good to excellent last year and 70 average.

Wild hay harvest was 74 percent complete, ahead of 59 last year and 24 average. Wild hay conditions declined and rated 13 percent very poor, 46 poor, 31 fair, 10 good, and 0 excellent, well below last year's 79 percent good to excellent and 82 average.

### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending July 15, 2012

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	53	37	0	4
Short	39	49	10	19
Adequate	8	14	84	72
Surplus	0	0	6	5
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	50	32	0	4
Short	42	52	9	15
Adequate	8	16	85	76
Surplus	0	0	6	5
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.9	6.8	4.8	5.4

### Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 15, 2012

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	89	86	53	59
Alfalfa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	27	12	0	0
Corn Silked	70	50	27	38
Corn Dough	8	1	1	2
Dry Beans Blooming	30	3	0	10
Dry Beans Setting Pods	2	0	0	1
Oats Harvested	89	85	21	25
Sorghum Headed	3	1	0	1
Soybeans Blooming	64	37	35	42
Soybeans Setting Pods	13	4	2	5
Wheat Harvested	97	93	23	39
Wild Hay Harvested	74	60	59	24

### Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 15, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	30	30	24	15	1
Corn	9	18	30	39	4
Dry Beans	2	7	36	51	4
Sorghum	10	15	45	29	1
Soybeans	7	16	43	33	1
Wild Hay	13	46	31	10	0

**Field Crops Report:** Corn silked was 70 percent, compared to 27 last year and over one week ahead of 38 average. Corn in the dough stage was 8 percent, compared to 1 last year and 2 average. Corn conditions declined and rated 9 percent very poor, 18 poor, 30 fair, 39 good, and 4 excellent, well below last year's 82 percent good to excellent and 79 average. Irrigated corn conditions rated 63 percent good to excellent and dryland corn rated 16.

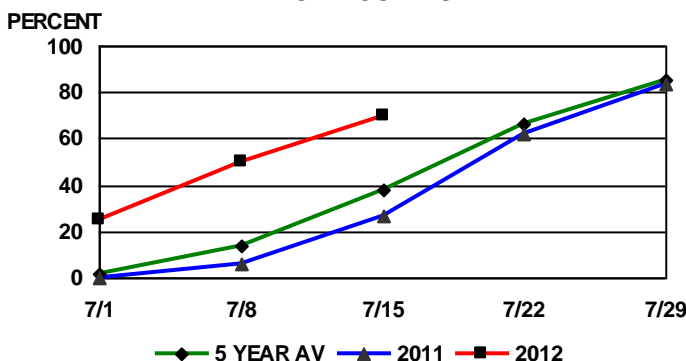
Soybeans blooming were 64 percent, ahead of 35 last year and 11 days ahead of 42 average. Soybeans setting pods was 13 percent, ahead of 2 last year and 5 average. Soybean conditions rated 7 percent very poor, 16 poor, 43 fair, 33 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year's 81 percent good to excellent and 77 average.

Sorghum headed was 3 percent, ahead of 0 last year and 1 average. Sorghum conditions rated 10 percent very poor, 15 poor, 45 fair, 29 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year's 82 percent good to excellent and 78 average.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 35 percent very poor, 39 poor, 20 fair, 6 good, and 0 excellent, well below 83 percent good to excellent last year and 78 average.

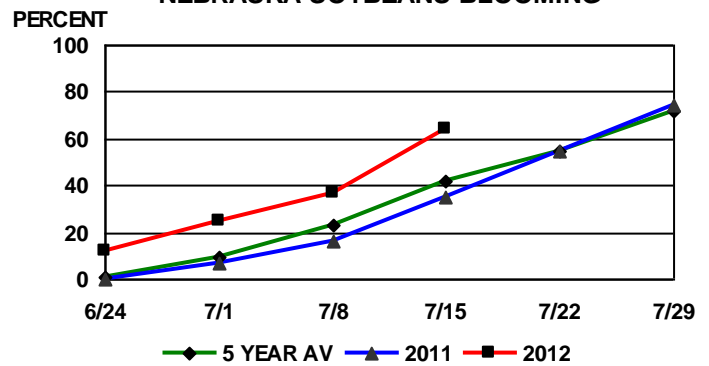
This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/NEcurrent.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/NEcurrent.asp)

NEBRASKA CORN SILKED



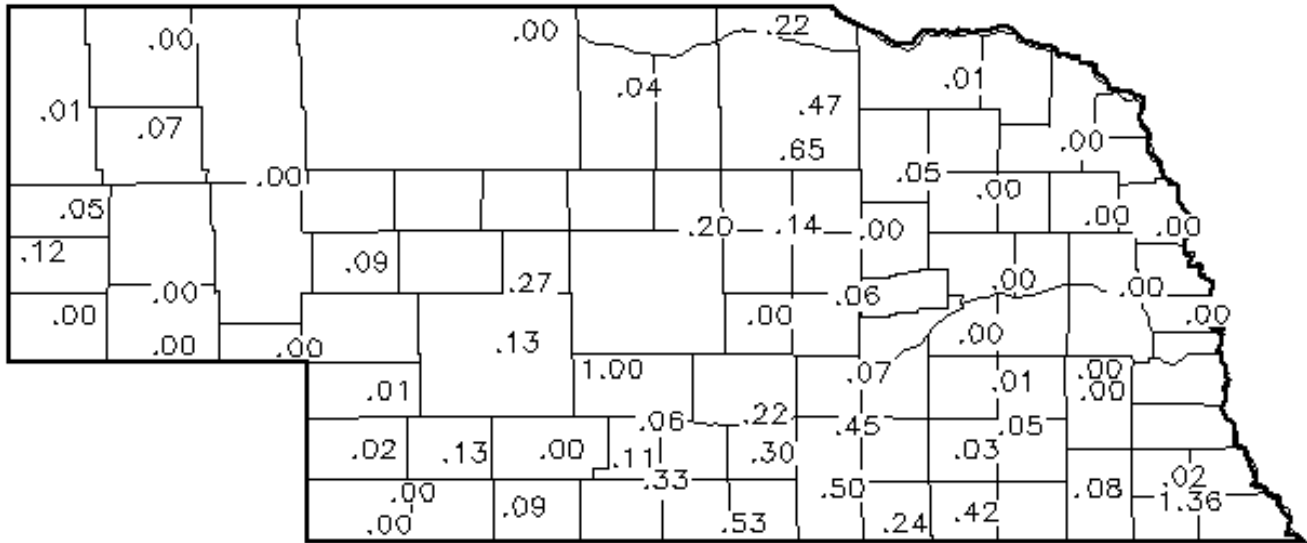
Source: USDA NASS Nebraska Field Office

NEBRASKA SOYBEANS BLOOMING



Source: USDA NASS Nebraska Field Office

**Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. July 15, 2012**



**Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, July 9 – July 15, 2012**

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.05	.23	.02	.10	.00	.16	.30	.66
Total since April 1	4.61	7.66	9.43	7.24	10.58	6.98	7.92	10.74
Normal since April 1	8.83	10.52	12.26	11.79	12.59	10.21	11.70	12.88
Total as % of normal	51%	72%	76%	61%	84%	68%	67%	83%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
	High	Low					
NW	Alliance	100	53	74	0	1251	1316
	Scottsbluff	97	57	76	+2	1360	1306
	Sidney	97	54	74	-1	1316	1377
NC	Ainsworth	100	55	79	+3	1400	1452
	Arthur	100	56	77	+1	1344	1426
	O'Neill	102	55	77	+1	1387	1478
NE	Concord	96	58	76	-1	1467	1542
	Elgin	94	56	75	-2	1422	1508
	West Point	97	56	76	-2	1500	1591
C	Grand Island	93	57	75	-1	1519	1487
	Cozad	96	54	74	-2	1434	1457
	Ord	97	55	76	0	1446	1478
EC	Central City	97	52	76	-1	1531	1511
	Lincoln	99	61	81	+2	1686	1635
	Mead	97	57	77	-2	1597	1635
SW	Champion	102	54	75	-1	1426	1435
	Dickens	99	57	76	0	1418	1443
	McCook	98	57	77	+1	1546	1453
SC	Minden	97	56	75	-1	1494	1470
	Red Cloud	97	59	77	0	1643	1499
	Smithfield	97	57	75	-1	1483	1462
SE	Beatrice	99	57	78	-1	1647	1635
	Clay Center	94	58	76	-1	1547	1499
	Nemaha	99	63	81	+2	1758	1636

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