



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 29, 2012, little or no precipitation and above normal temperatures continued to wear on crops and pastures, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Precipitation was spotty, with only a few locations receiving over .25 inch, which did little to ease the impact of the ongoing drought. Condition declines were again noted in ratings of dryland crops and pastures. Drought damaged corn acres continue being chopped for silage or cut for hay to make up for pastures which are providing little or no grazing capacity. Irrigators continued their struggle with water demands and many livestock producers were hauling water due to dry ponds or moving stock close to home. Culling of livestock continues by producers with limited feed options. CRP acres were being requested for emergency forage use. Fire danger is high with local departments on alert.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged 4 degrees above normal for the week. Highs reached triple digits in most areas of the state. Lows were recorded in the 50's in western counties and low 60's in the east. Precipitation again was light with most regions of the state averaging less than a tenth of an inch of rainfall.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending July 29, 2012

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	67	61	4	5
Short	29	34	32	26
Adequate	4	5	62	66
Surplus	0	0	2	3
Subsoil				
Very Short	63	55	2	5
Short	33	38	20	20
Adequate	4	7	76	73
Surplus	0	0	2	2
Days Suitable	6.8	7.0	6.1	6.0

Field Crops Report: Corn silked was 95 percent, ahead of 84 last year and 85 average. Corn in the dough stage was 39 percent, compared to 14 last year and a week and a half ahead of 17 average. Corn in the dent stage reached 9 percent, ahead of 0 last year and 1 average. Corn conditions continued to decline and rated 18 percent very poor, 19 poor, 28 fair, 32 good, and 3 excellent, well below 78 percent good to excellent last year and average. Irrigated corn conditions rated 55 percent good to excellent and dryland corn rated 5.

Soybeans blooming were 92 percent, ahead of 76 last year and 78 average. Soybeans setting pods were 49 percent, ahead of 30 last year and 34 average. Soybean conditions declined and rated 16 percent very poor, 22 poor, 38 fair, 23 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year's 76 percent good to excellent and 75 average.

Oats harvested was 96 percent, ahead of 82 last year and 71 average.

Sorghum headed was 33 percent, ahead of 14 last year and 19 average. Sorghum conditions declined and rated 11 percent very poor, 27 poor, 43 fair, 19 good, and 0 excellent, well below last year's 76 percent good to excellent and 77 average.

The second cutting of alfalfa was 96 percent, well ahead of 84 last year and 88 average. The third cutting of alfalfa was 54 percent complete compared to 11 last year and 13 average. Alfalfa conditions declined and rated 41 percent very poor, 28 poor, 19 fair, 11 good, and 1 excellent, well below 82 percent good to excellent last year and 71 average.

Dry beans blooming were 68 percent, ahead of 46 last year and 64 average. Dry beans setting pods were 13 percent, ahead of 9 last year but near 15 average. Dry bean conditions held steady and rated 1 percent very poor, 8 poor, 44 fair, 45 good, and 2 excellent, but still well below 65 percent good to excellent last year and 67 average.

Wild hay harvest was 87 percent complete, ahead of 74 last year and 40 average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 29, 2012

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	96	93	84	88
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	54	46	11	13
Corn Silked	95	88	84	85
Corn Dough	39	25	14	17
Corn Dent	9	2	0	1
Dry Beans Blooming	68	35	46	64
Dry Beans Setting Pods	13	2	9	15
Oats Harvested	96	94	82	71
Sorghum Headed	33	19	14	19
Soybeans Blooming	92	82	76	78
Soybeans Setting Pods	49	27	30	34
Wild Hay Harvested	87	84	74	40

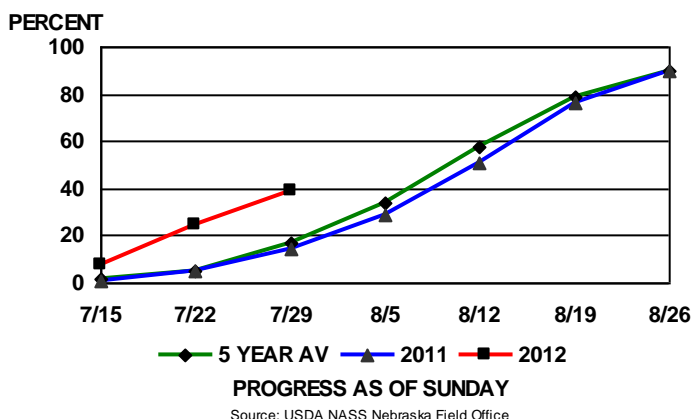
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 29, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	41	28	19	11	1
Corn	18	19	28	32	3
Dry Beans	1	8	44	45	2
Sorghum	11	27	43	19	0
Soybeans	16	22	38	23	1

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 51 percent very poor, 32 poor, 14 fair, 3 good, and 0 excellent, well below 78 percent good to excellent last year and 73 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 DOUGH



NEBRASKA SOYBEANS SETTING PODS

