



Nebraska Weather and Crops

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending September 23, 2012, cooler temperatures and limited rainfall aided crop drydown and harvest progress across the state, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Soybean harvest picked up momentum as producers turned attention from dryland corn. Corn harvest progress is near one month ahead of average and over one-third complete. Winter wheat seeding was nearing the half way point but fields were slow to emerge due to dry soil conditions. Sorghum harvest has started and proso millet harvest was near two-thirds complete. Cattle producers continued seeking forage supplies and culling of livestock remained active.

Weather Summary: Small amounts of precipitation were recorded along some border counties, but most areas of the state received no rain. Temperatures averaged near normal in the western third of the state, 2 to 4 degrees below normal in the central third, and 6 to 7 degrees below normal in the eastern third. Highs were in the lower 90's and lows were mainly in the mid 30's with some locations receiving the first frost of the season.

Proso millet harvest was 65 percent complete, ahead of 33 last year and 45 average.

Sorghum turning color was 80 percent, compared to 94 last year and 91 average. Sorghum mature was 33 percent, near 31 last year but ahead of 25 average. Sorghum harvested was 4 percent complete, ahead of 2 last year and 1 average. Sorghum conditions rated 14 percent very poor, 45 poor, 31 fair, 10 good, and 0 excellent, well below 76 percent good to excellent last year and 77 average.

The fourth cutting of alfalfa was 83 percent complete, ahead of 76 last year and 65 average.

Dry beans dropping leaves were 89 percent, equal to last year but ahead of 82 average. Dry beans harvested were 44 percent, ahead of 40 last year but behind 48 average. Dry bean conditions rated 2 percent very poor, 8 poor, 45 fair, 42 good, and 3 excellent, well below 61 percent good to excellent last year.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending September 23, 2012

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	71	69	6	4
Short	24	25	27	27
Adequate	5	6	67	68
Surplus	0	0	0	1
Subsoil				
Very Short	75	73	4	5
Short	23	23	26	25
Adequate	2	4	69	69
Surplus	0	0	1	1
Days Suitable	6.8	6.2	6.1	5.9

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending September 23, 2012

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	83	78	76	65
Corn Mature	87	74	43	46
Corn Harvested	36	23	5	5
Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	89	68	89	82
Dry Beans Harvested	44	19	40	48
Proso Millet Harvested	65	37	33	45
Sorghum Turning Color	80	69	94	91
Sorghum Mature	33	19	31	25
Sorghum Harvested	4	1	2	1
Soybeans Turning Color	98	91	87	90
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	69	51	38	53
Soybeans Harvested	19	5	1	3
Winter Wheat Seeded	47	21	59	59
Winter Wheat Emerged	5	0	19	21

Field Crops Report: Corn mature reached 87 percent, compared to 43 last year and 46 average. Corn harvested for grain was 36 percent, compared to 5 last year and 28 days ahead of 5 average. Corn conditions rated 22 percent very poor, 19 poor, 26 fair, 29 good, and 4 excellent, well below 75 percent good to excellent last year and 78 average. Irrigated corn conditions rated 54 percent good to excellent and dryland corn rated 2.

Soybeans turning color were at 98 percent, compared to 87 last year and 90 average. Soybeans dropping leaves were 69 percent, compared to 38 last year and 53 average. Soybeans harvested were 19 percent, well ahead of 1 last year and 3 average. Soybean conditions rated 19 percent very poor, 28 poor, 35 fair, 17 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year's 79 percent good to excellent and 78 average.

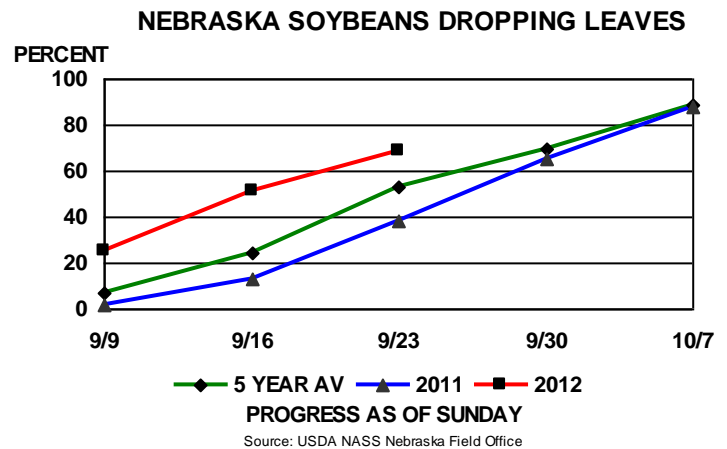
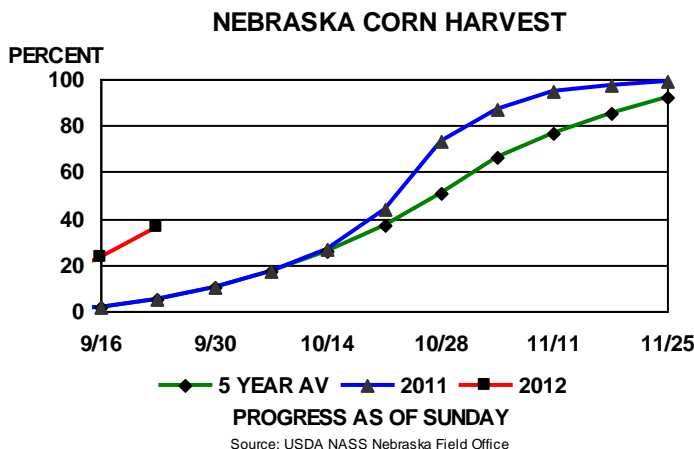
Winter wheat seeded was at 47 percent, behind both 59 percent last year and average. Winter wheat emerged was 5 percent, behind 19 percent last year and 21 average.

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending September 23, 2012

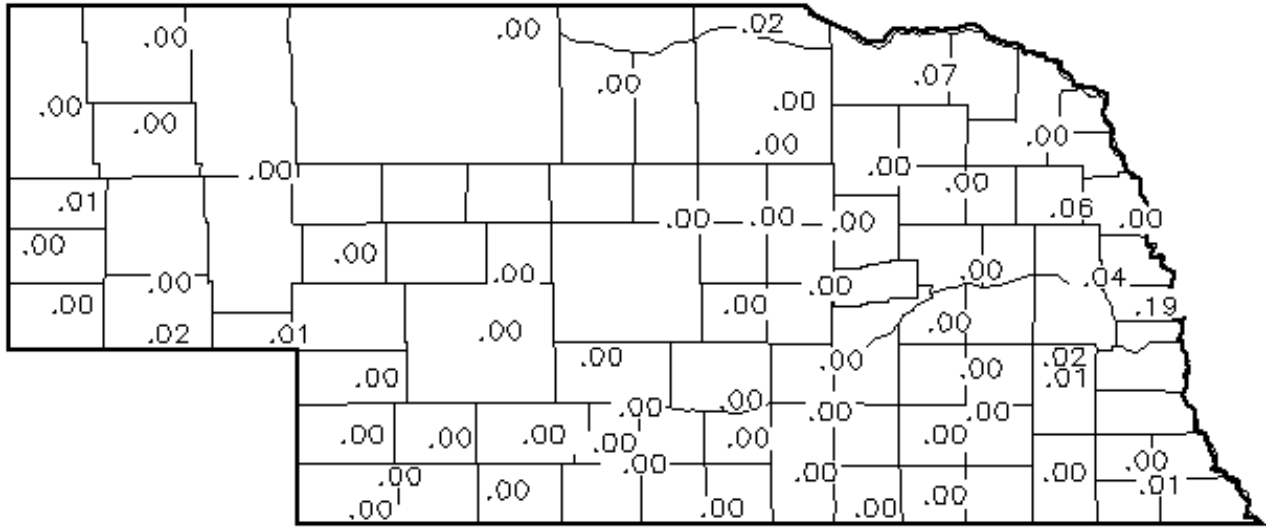
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	22	19	26	29	4
Dry Beans	2	8	45	42	3
Sorghum	14	45	31	10	0
Soybeans	19	28	35	17	1

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 70 percent very poor, 28 poor, 2 fair, 0 good, and 0 excellent, well below 71 percent good to excellent last year and 69 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



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. September 23, 2012



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, September 17 – September 23, 2012

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.00	.02	.00	.03	.00	.00	.02
Total since April 1	5.68	9.35	11.32	8.97	12.93	8.60	10.80	14.50
Normal since April 1	12.56	16.28	18.96	18.36	20.27	15.13	18.35	21.25
Total as % of normal	44%	57%	59%	49%	63%	56%	58%	67%

**Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, September 23, 2012**

Station	Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15			
	Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal	
	High	Low						
NW	Alliance	80	34	58	-1	2591	2683	2649
	Scottsbluff	82	36	59	+1	2774	2874	2632
	Sidney	80	40	59	-1	2737	2828	2756
NC	Ainsworth	84	31	57	-4	2919	3008	2888
	Arthur	81	37	59	-2	2806	2897	2841
	O'Neill	78	34	56	-6	2921	3000	2936
NE	Concord	80	32	55	-7	2972	3043	3058
	Elgin	83	36	57	-5	2928	3008	2991
	West Point	88	30	55	-8	2991	3067	3151
C	Grand Island	90	33	59	-2	3049	3139	2951
	Cozad	85	32	56	-5	2845	2940	2895
	Ord	83	30	57	-4	2940	3030	2935
EC	Central City	89	30	57	-5	3046	3135	2996
	Lincoln	93	35	59	-5	3351	3434	3236
	Mead	93	29	57	-7	3115	3198	3235
SW	Champion	86	33	59	-2	2833	2935	2857
	Dickens	84	38	59	-1	2887	2984	2870
	McCook	88	35	61	0	3080	3182	2888
SC	Minden	90	34	58	-3	2984	3076	2918
	Red Cloud	94	38	60	-2	3225	3316	2972
	Smithfield	87	36	59	-2	2962	3056	2904
SE	Beatrice	92	33	58	-5	3202	3285	3236
	Clay Center	92	36	59	-3	3040	3128	2973
	Nemaha	86	36	60	-4	3420	3504	3234

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