



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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NEBRASKA CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

LINCOLN, NE, March 31 2014 -- For the month of March, precipitation averaged less than 50 percent of normal across much of Nebraska, causing further depletion of soil moisture supplies, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees below normal for the month. Windy conditions dried soils and caused fire warning levels to remain high. Crop producers focused on spring field work preparations. Available soil moisture continues a concern going into spring. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 16 percent very short, 46 short, 38 adequate, and 0 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 18 percent very short, 42 short, 40 adequate, and 0 surplus.

Field Crops Report: Winter wheat condition rated 2 percent very poor, 11 poor, 32 fair, 48 good, and 7 excellent.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Stock water supplies rated 4 percent very short, 14 short, 82 adequate, and 0 surplus.

Hay and forage supplies rated 1 percent very short, 6 short, 90 adequate, and 3 surplus.

Cattle and calf condition rated 0 percent very poor, 1 poor, 10 fair, 80 good, and 9 excellent. Cattle and calf losses rated 5 percent below average, 91 average, and 4 above average. Percentage of cows calved since January 1 was 52 percent.

Sheep and lamb condition rated 0 percent very poor, 0 poor, 14 fair, 82 good, and 4 excellent. Sheep and lamb losses rated 0 percent below average, 99 average, and 1 above average.

Data for this news release were provided at the county level by USDA Farm Service Agency and UNL Extension Service.

Access the High Plains Region Climate Center for Temperature and Precipitation Maps at:

http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update_region&state=NE®ion=HPRCC

Access the U.S. Drought Monitor at:

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_state.htm?NE,HP

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