

Run 1790 5/6/91

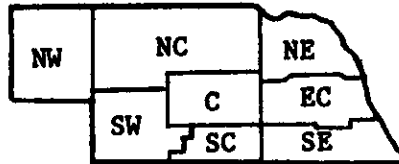
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending May 5, 1991

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WEATHER

Temperatures averaged from seven to twelve degrees below normals. Precipitation occurred intermittently throughout the week with amounts varying from .13 inch at Scottsbluff up to 2.35 inches at North Platte.

GENERAL

The main activities of Nebraska farmers and ranchers this past week included livestock care and fieldwork. Fieldwork, when possible, consisted mainly of seedbed preparation and corn planting. Rains received were welcome but slowed fieldwork in most areas of the State. This cool, damp weather continued to hamper pasture and alfalfa regrowth.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 17% poor, 34% fair, 45% good, and 4% excellent. Weed control measures continued in fields with thin stands while some producers have begun working under their damaged stands.

Alfalfa producers continue to report evidence of winter kill in some fields. Some producers are starting to "break up" these damaged fields in preparation for reseeding activities. The condition was rated at 1% very poor, 4% poor, 37% fair, 55% good, and 3% excellent.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn planting made excellent progress this past week when surface conditions permitted. Rains hampered the full week planting effort and left producers waiting for warmer, drier topsoil conditions. Statewide, 30% of the crop has been planted. This is behind last year at 52% and the average at 46%. Reports also indicate that some earlier planted fields have not yet germinated due to low soil temperatures and cool surface conditions.

Topsoil moisture supplies improved again this past week and are rated at 10% short, 74% adequate, and 16% surplus. This compares with last year at 29% short, 70% adequate, and 1% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies also improved to 52% short, 46% adequate, and 2% surplus. This compares to 96% short and 4% adequate last year.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was reported as 78% of normal, in the poor to fair category. Cool, cloudy conditions continue to hinder spring grass growth. Some producers have moved cattle to summer pastures, but supplemental feeding is required in many instances. Scours continue to be a problem with spring calves. Continued sunshine is needed for improved grass growth and herd health.

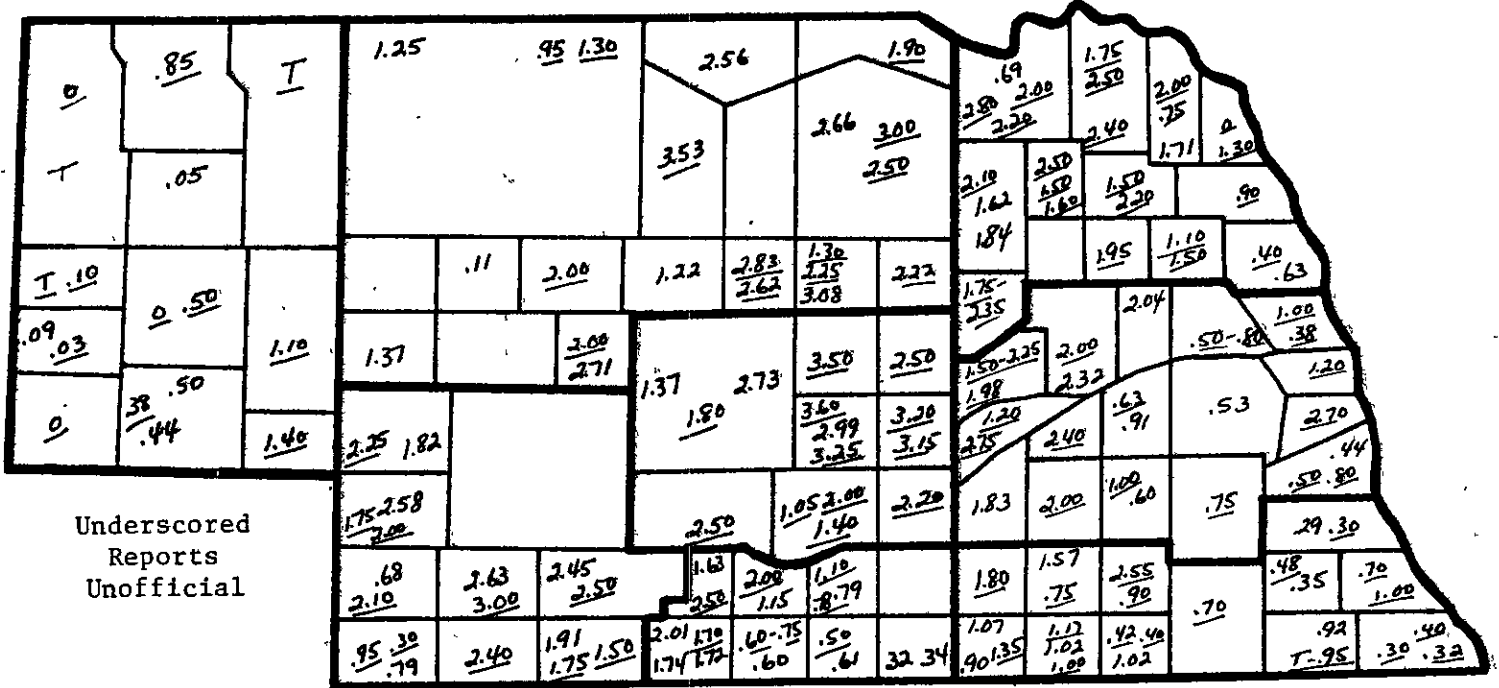
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 5, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% wheat jointed	17	13	17	36	47	40	45	96	40	23	71	54
% corn planted	33	13	14	23	33	15	54	62	30	10	52	46
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 3, 1991												
Days suitable	6.2	3.9	2.9	2.1	3.7	4.0	2.8	4.3	3.7	4.8	6.1	
Topsoil moisture - Short	43	0	0	0	0	39	8	10	10	21	29	
(Percent) - Adequate	57	82	79	80	60	53	92	80	74	75	70	
- Surplus	0	18	21	20	40	8	0	10	16	4	1	
Subsoil moisture - Short	50	35	54	60	25	92	92	35	52	64	96	
(Percent) - Adequate	50	65	46	33	70	8	8	65	46	36	4	
- Surplus	0	0	0	7	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1991



Precipitation, April 1 - May 3, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week22	1.87	1.30	2.54	1.24	1.84	1.15	.89
Total since April 1	1.11	3.34	3.75	4.34	4.03	3.28	2.90	2.65
Normal since April 1	2.03	2.48	2.82	2.72	3.17	2.07	2.44	3.13
Total as % of normal	55%	135%	133%	160%	127%	158%	119%	85%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1991

Station	Temperature				Precipitation Total Inches 1/	Growing Degree Data Since April 1			
	Extremes		Mean	Departure		Last Week	Current	Normal	
	Max	Min							
NW	Chadron	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
	Scottsbluff	65	25	42	-10	.13	171	184	186
	Sidney	68	21	39	---	.56	138	161	202
NC	Valentine	64	25	40	-12	1.07	189	205	165
NE	Norfolk	65	36	47	-9	1.45	---	---	---
	Sioux City	62	36	48	-11	1.38	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	196	209	227
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	184	197	210
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	212	237	237
CEN	Grand Island	75	34	48	-8	1.76	236	275	220
	Ord	64	31	44	---	1.77	197	214	241
EC	Lincoln	78	38	52	-6	.97	256	307	242
	Omaha	75	38	50	-7	1.48	221	269	205
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	216	260	223
	York	---	---	---	---	---	219	265	244
SW	Imperial	74	25	47	---	---	---	---	---
	North Platte	71	27	46	-8	2.35	**169	**200	**237
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	201	235	263
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	244	290	294
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	226	261	265

* Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 1.