Nebraska Wheat Crop Report

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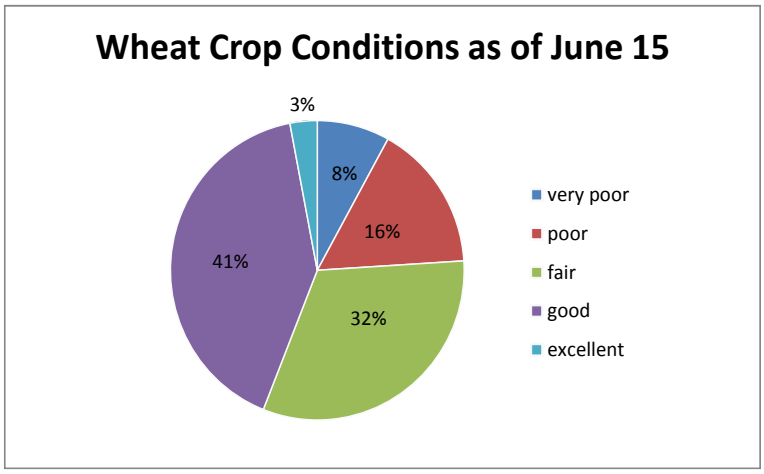
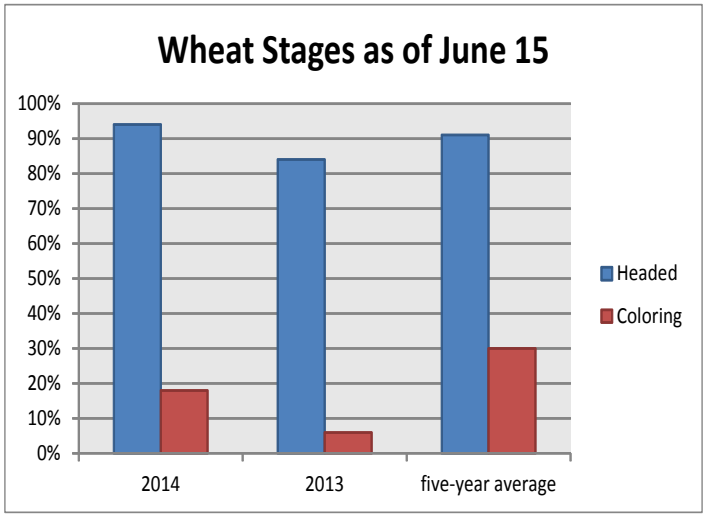
According to the USDA Crop Progress Report for the week ending June 15, 2014, strong storms this week resulted in additional damage to crops and irrigation equipment. Temperatures were cool and averaged 4 to 6 degrees below normal. Wheat was turning color in southern counties. The number of days considered suitable for fieldwork was 4.7. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 4 percent very short, 17 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 13 percent very short, 23 percent short, 61 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Winter wheat conditions rated 8 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 41 percent good and 3 percent excellent. Winter wheat headed was 94 percent, ahead of last year's 84 percent, but near the 91 percent five-year average. Winter wheat coloring was 18 percent, ahead of last year's 6 percent, but behind the 30 percent average.

In the northern Panhandle, producers said the wheat crop is in the flowering stage and some of it has finished flowering. The area received light precipitation during the past week. Crop conditions vary, with much of the crop above average. Producers said they predict to harvest around early August.

In the southern Panhandle, producers said the grain is filling and the crop stage is anywhere from early grain fill to soft dough development. Certain areas received light moisture of .2 to .5 inches of rain this past week. Crop conditions vary from fair to excellent. Producers said there are no prevalent disease or pest problems, but some areas have had light rust and tan spot. Producers said they predict to harvest around mid-July to early August.

In the northern part of southwest Nebraska, producers said crop conditions vary from fair to good. The grain is filling in most of the crop and the crop stage is anywhere from milk to soft dough development. Producers said about 5 percent of the fields are starting to turn color. Light showers this week produced anywhere from .25 to .65 inches of rain in select areas, and the soil moisture is good overall. Producers said they have seen no major disease or pest problems.

In the southwest corner of Nebraska, producers said they received anywhere from 1 to 5 inches of rain within the past week. Select areas suffered hail damage Saturday night. While producers said some of the crop is damaged from lack of moisture, the rest of the crop is headed out and starting to fill. Producers said they predict to harvest around the first or second week of July.

In southeastern Nebraska, producers said some northern areas of the region received hail damage from this week's storms. Crop condition is good, with most of the crop filling and some starting to turn color. Producers said they predict to harvest around the first or second week of July.