

NEBRASKA WHEAT CROP REPORT

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According to the USDA Crop Progress and Condition Report dated April 6, 2015, temperatures averaged six to eight degrees above normal across much of the state. Rainfall of up to an inch fell in east central and southeastern areas of Nebraska with lesser amounts across the southwest and southern Panhandle counties. Much of the northern third of the state remained dry. Concerns increased over winter wheat and pastures needing rain. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 17 percent very short, 36 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 11 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 31 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

In the northern Panhandle, producers said they received a small amount of moisture in the form of a rain/snow mix. Most producers in the area have finished topdressing. Parts of this area experienced a frost when temperatures reached the teens during parts of Thursday, April 2 and Friday, April 3. Some select fields were hit by this frost and seem to be set back; producers are deciding if the wheat will grow out of it.

In the southern Panhandle, producers said rainfall amounted to approximately 0.20-0.75 inches. Some fields in this area that suffered from winterkill have been

released based on conversations with crop insurance adjusters and will be planted with a different crop. However, fields in this area that were not affected by winter kill are in good condition, producers say. Topdressing is about 40% complete in this area.

In the northern part of southwest Nebraska, producers said they received several inches of snow in some areas that will amount to about 0.5 inches of moisture. Other parts received about 0.25 to 0.35 inches of rain. Fertilizing is mostly complete in this area. Producers say the overall condition of wheat in this area is poor to fair.

In the southwest corner of Nebraska, producers said they received approximately 0.20-0.50 inches of rain. Producers also said that the overall condition of wheat is poor to fair. Cutworms are still an issue in parts of this area. Fertilizing is mostly complete. Fields with severe winterkill damage are being released and a different crop will be planted.

The southeast corner of Nebraska, producers received 0.20 to 0.30 inch of rain. Wheat in this area is green, and producers say that fertilizer applications along with the slight rainfall have helped overall crop conditions. Producers say that wheat in this area is in good condition.



Dryland wheat near Hemingford, NE



Irrigated wheat near Hemingford, NE