

# NEBRASKA WHEAT CROP REPORT

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For the week ending May 31, 2015, limited rainfall over the eastern half of the state allowed producers to get back to spring planting activities while wet conditions in the west continued to hinder fieldwork, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures averaged 2 degrees below normal. The cool, wet conditions were favorable for disease development in wheat, with some producers applying fungicide. There were 3.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 4 percent very short, 9 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 6 percent very short, 16 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 14 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Wheat headed was at 68 percent, ahead of 55 percent last year and the 50 percent average.

In the northern Panhandle, producers said they received scattered rain showers totaling about 1 inch and accompanied by some non-damaging hail. Temperatures warmed to 80 degrees. Damage from frost in previous weeks is beginning to show, and producers are beginning to see some rust and wheat streak mosaic. The crop is still in fair condition and over 50 percent has headed.

In the southern Panhandle, producers said they received near 2 inches of rain with scattered hail. Temperatures have continued to rise into the 70s. Some freeze damage is beginning to show up along with hail damage. Additionally, producers are seeing varying degrees of rust that has led to spraying fungicide. Areas with higher elevations are almost heading; areas with lower elevations have completely headed and are beginning to flower.

The southwest corner of Nebraska received 1 – 1.5 inches of rain and some hail with temperatures finally warming to over 80 degrees. Producers said the crop is in fair to good condition despite some hail damage

in areas. Most of the wheat has headed with some flowering and filling. Producers are seeing an increase of rust in untreated fields.

In the south central part of Nebraska, producers said that they received scattered showers ranging from .15 – 1 inch. Temperatures have warmed throughout the week, and the crop ranges from fair to good condition. Fungicide spraying has increased, and most fields left untreated for rust are seeing heavier amounts of the disease. The crop is flowering and kernels are starting to develop.

In the southeast corner of Nebraska, producers said conditions have stayed wet but temperatures are warming. The area received .75 – 1.30 inches of rain. The crop is flowering and is trying to fill despite the wet conditions. The condition throughout the area is poor to fair with producers seeing high levels of rust in the region.



**Frost damage in this wheat field is apparent with trapped and withered wheat heads near Hemingford.**