

NEBRASKA WHEAT CROP REPORT

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According to the USDA NASS crop report for the week ending April 16, 2017, temperatures average four to six degrees above normal. Rainfall of an inch or more was limited to portions of the eastern half of the state. Dry soil moisture conditions continued in southwestern Nebraska. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 5 percent very short, 18 short, 74 adequate, and 3 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 7 percent very short, 23 short, 68 adequate, and 2 surplus. Winter wheat condition rated 1 percent very poor, 8 poor, 38 fair, 46 good and 7 excellent. Winter wheat jointed was 7 percent, behind 17 last year and the 13 percent average.

In the Northern Panhandle, producers said crop conditions remained good, though topsoil moisture levels are starting to dry out. While the stages of wheat growth vary across the region depending on planting date and fall emergence, most of the wheat is in late tillering. Some rust has been spotted in two counties, but the disease isn't widespread.

Producers in the Southern Panhandle reported most of the wheat in the region rates as good and in the jointing stage. Some producers are finishing fertilizers applications. The region could use some moisture, particularly in the southernmost area where producers report fields are getting dry.



A wheat field near Elsie, NE.

Southwest Nebraska also continues to dry out, though producers said they haven't seen much stress on the wheat crop yet due to lack of rainfall. Wheat in the region varies from tillering to jointing. No diseases are apparent in the region, though producers remain vigilant.

Parts of South Central Nebraska received moisture, though producers said the precipitation was scattered. Soil moisture profiles remain average, with little drought stress affecting wheat currently. The wheat is starting to joint across the region; most top dressing is complete and producers report conditions remain good overall.

In Southeastern Nebraska, producers said many parts of the region received rain. Soil moisture levels remain good and the wheat is in the jointing stage. Producers said there are no disease pressures spotted in fields currently.

