

# NEBRASKA WHEAT CROP REPORT

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According to the USDA Crop Progress Report for the week ending June 16, 2019, topsoil moisture supplies rated 1 percent very short, 2 short, 83 adequate, and 14 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 0 percent very short, 2 short, 83 adequate, and 15 surplus. Winter wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 23 fair, 45 good, and 26 excellent. Winter wheat headed was 83 percent, behind last year's 97 and the 96 percent average.

Producers in the northern Panhandle said 90 percent of the wheat is headed. Most headed fields are ready to start flowering. Precipitation levels varied across the region, with some areas receiving only traces of rain in the last week and others receiving more than 2 inches. Overall crop conditions remain good, though producers expressed concern about forecasted precipitation during flowering and the potential it could create for fusarium head blight (scab) issues.

Most of the southern Panhandle received moisture in the last week. Producers said rainfall levels ranged from half an inch to more than 3 inches. Wheat in the eastern part of the region has finished flowering while wheat in the western part of the region ranges from flowering to grain fill. Rust has been spotted in fields, though the disease is not extensive, and many producers reported preventative spraying had helped many fields.

Producers said rainfall varied across southwestern Nebraska as well. Some areas only received an inch, while others received as much as 7 inches in 36 hours. Most wheat in the region is in some stage of grain fill. Rust has been found in the area, though the disease is not widespread. Many producers attribute proactive spraying of fields to the lower presence of rust.

In south central Nebraska, producers said more than 2 inches of rain fell in some areas. Wheat remains 5 to 7 days behind normal in growth rate. No real disease pressures have been reported for the area. Wheat is in the grain fill stage or just starting to turn color depending on area and planting date.

Producers in southeastern Nebraska said the region needs more sunshine and warmer weather. Continued rain in the last week caused lodging of fields in some areas. Additional leaf rust has been reported, as has fusarium head blight (scab). Most wheat is finishing the grain fill stage, and some fields are starting to turn color. This region is typically the first to start harvesting in Nebraska, though most producers don't expect to begin until after the Fourth of July.