

NEBRASKA WHEAT CROP REPORT

JULY 3, 2019



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According to the USDA Crop Progress Report for the week ending June 23, 2019, topsoil moisture supplies rated 0 percent very short, 7 short, 82 adequate, and 11 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 0 percent very short, 4 short, 84 adequate, and 12 surplus. Winter wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 21 fair, 45 good, and 28 excellent. Winter wheat headed was 98 percent, near last year's and the average 100 percent.

Producers in the northern Panhandle said temperatures in the upper 90s helped the wheat continue maturing. Most wheat is in the final stages of grain fill or starting to turn color. Some producers reported final nitrogen applications were being made this week on irrigated wheat for protein development. Early planted and early maturing varieties in the southern part of the region may be ready for harvest as soon as July 20, but most wheat harvest will begin between July 25 and the beginning of August.

Varied precipitation fell across most of the southern Panhandle producers said. In the western part of the region rainfall ranging from 1 to 3 inches fell, lodging wheat in some areas. No hail was reported. In the eastern part of the region, heavy rainfall of up to 1.5 inches fell and also lodged wheat. Some wheat has started to stand again, but some fields of wheat remain down. Depending on planting date, variety and region, wheat maturity ranges from flowering to soft dough stage of grain fill to just starting to turn color. Harvest is estimated to start on or after July 15.

In southwestern Nebraska producers said rainfall varied from nothing to just over an inch in the last week. Most wheat is in the hard dough stage of grain fill or has started ripening and turning color. The southern part of the region is closer to harvest with some producers saying cutting could start next week.

Producers in south central Nebraska said recent warm temperatures have been beneficial. Most fields are nearly ripe, though producers said a little green remains in most fields. They estimate harvest could begin as soon as the middle of next week. However, producers also expressed concerns about storage availability for harvested wheat as many bins in the region still contain corn and soybeans from last year.

Most wheat across the southeastern region of Nebraska is ripe. A little green can be seen in some fields yet, but producers said some initial cutting has occurred, and harvest could be in full swing by the end of the week. Producers also expressed concerns over forecasts for rain the next few days that could delay harvest. No yield or quality data from early harvest was available.