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AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
JUL 2 1936

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 23, 1936, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the fifth of a series of 15 weekly telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the three Prairie Provinces. Fifty correspondents distributed over the agricultural area supply the information on which the reports are based. Most of these correspondents are agriculturists of the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture but in Manitoba and Alberta, a number of selected private observers and grain men also co-operate in this service. The Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto, supplies official weather data.

SUMMARY

Early-sown wheat fields are almost generally in the shot blade across the southern prairie and, in some of the drier regions, wheat is heading out with short stems and heads. As usual, there is a wide regional variation in crop prospects. Light crops are expected in south-western Manitoba, extreme south-eastern and most of western Saskatchewan, and in east-central and north-eastern Alberta. Over the remaining area, growth has been fairly normal, but the effects of two dry spells cannot be minimized. Late-sown crops are generally described as uneven and patchy, suffering most from lack of rain at crucial periods of germination and stooling. Grasshoppers are under good control almost everywhere, excepting south-western Manitoba, but cutworm damage is continuing in southern Alberta and south-western Saskatchewan, in particular. Pathologists report no serious plant diseases in evidence in surveys made to date.

Heavy rains covered the persistent drought area in west-central and north-western Saskatchewan and in east-central and north-eastern Alberta and were effective in encouraging new growth. Most of southern Saskatchewan also received good rains, lessening toward the west. Southern areas of Manitoba and Alberta received practically no rainfall. Temperatures varied within a few degrees of normal, being higher in Alberta and western Saskatchewan.

Manitoba -

The rainfall of the past week was badly distributed over the province, with southern areas practically neglected and some north-eastern fields flooded by excessive rain. The southern areas that received only minor amounts are again suffering and the reports from Morden and Killarney, in particular, mention the need of new moisture. In northern districts, weather conditions during the week are described as ideal, although considerable flooding was caused at Teulon by the heavy rains. Grasshoppers are still troublesome in the south-west. Most of the wheat is in the shot blade and straw will be generally short.

Saskatchewan -

Most parts of Saskatchewan received rain during the past week, the amounts varying from light showers in the south-west to over two inches at Lintlaw. Many of the heavy wheat areas had heavy rainfall, including the large central area and the Regina Plains. General rains over the west-central and north-western drought area saved the crop and stimulated new growth. The cool weather discouraged grasshopper activity but cutworm damage is persisting in the south-west. The first widespread hail storm of the season was reported but damage was limited at this stage of growth. The field crops are reported to be free of disease. On the whole, conditions improved during the week although light crops are expected over a large western area and in a smaller south-eastern district.

Alberta -

With higher temperatures, strong winds and practically no rainfall in the southern half of the province, crop prospects are again becoming uncertain. Heavy rains in the east-central and northern areas, accompanied by the necessary warm weather, definitely improved prospects. Cutworm damage persists in the south, somewhat later than usual, while the poisoning campaign is keeping grasshoppers in check. No plant diseases are evident and there was no damage from hail during the week.

REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Brandon

Dry conditions in southwest Manitoba are causing some trouble from grasshoppers.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon

Where heavy rains received will assist crop recovery from and resistance to damage from insect infestations, except in fields already severely ravaged. Apparent stoppage of grasshopper attacks may, however, lead farmers to neglect control measures with serious consequences ultimately.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge

Pale western cutworm losses increased during last week in southern Alberta. Severe losses in Saskatchewan-Loader, Fox Valley to Hazlet, Shackleton. Slight losses Hodgevill, Gravelbourg, Assiniboia to Coronach. Beet webworm appearing in some localities. Grasshoppers fairly well under control, with slight losses in drier areas.

HAIL DAMAGE

Saskatchewan

Hail storm reported on June eighteenth damaging crops at the following points - Elfros, Colonsay, Cheviot, Saskatoon, Arella, Biggar Wilkie, Luseland, Scott, Macklin, Flaxcombe and Denholm. Loss will not be as serious at this time as it would be had the grain been headed out.

Alberta

No damage from hail in the province of Alberta in the past week.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The following precipitation (in inches) was reported by the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, for the week ending Monday, June 22, at 7 a.m.:

Manitoba		Saskatchewan		Alberta	
Le Pas	0.1	Consul	- 0.1	Medicine Hat	- 0.1
Boissevain	0.1	Yellow Grass	- 0.1	Banff	- 0.1
Emerson	0.1	Carlyle	- 0.1	Brooks	- 0.1
Pierson	0.1	Maple Creek	0.2	MacLeod	- 0.1
Graysville	0.2	Midale	0.2	Gem	- 0.1
Morden	0.3	Moosomin	0.3	Raymond	- 0.1
Morris	0.3	Valmarie	0.4	Vauxhall	- 0.1
Ninette	0.3	Swift Current	0.5	Hughenden	0.1
Virden	0.4	Estevan	0.5	Jasper	0.2
Brandon	0.5	Kindersley	0.5	Calgary	0.2
Pinawa	0.6	Shaunavon	0.5	Coronation	0.2
Winnipeg	0.7	Empress	0.6	Edson	0.2
Sprague	0.8	Assiniboia	0.6	Fort Vermillion	0.3
Minnedosa	0.9	Aneroid	0.7	Naco	0.3
Cypress River	0.9	Macklin	0.9	Olds	0.3
Birtle	1.0	Broadview	1.0	Sion	0.3
Russell	1.1	Indian Head	1.0	Fairview	0.4
Swan River	1.2	Strasbourg	1.1	Wetaskiwin	0.4
Portage la Prairie	1.5	Battleford	1.2	Viking	0.6
Dauphin	1.6	Outlook	1.2	Fort McMurray	0.7
		Meadow Lake	1.4	Drumheller	0.7
Saskatchewan (Concl'd)		Melfort	1.4	Red Deer	0.7
Qu'Appelle	1.7	Moose Jaw	1.5	Edmonton	0.8
Biggar	1.7	Humboldt	1.5	Vegreville	0.8
Davidson	1.7	Yorkton	1.5	Sedgewick	0.9
Prince Albert	1.8	Elbow	1.6	Stettler	1.0
Saskatoon	1.9	Kamsack	1.6	High Prairie	1.1
Lintlaw	2.1	Lloydminster	1.6	Keg River	1.4
		Regina	1.6	Kimuso	1.5
		Rabbit Lake	1.6	Glendon	1.8
		Rosthern	1.6	Beaverlodge	1.9

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, PRAIRIE PROVINCES - (Concl'd.)

(Minus signs denote less than the amount of rain indicated).

Cardston, Foremost, Lethbridge, High River and Taber reported no rain during the week.

Differences in degrees from normal mean temperature for the week follow: Manitoba - 5 degrees below normal - Districts 5, 6, 12; 4 degrees below normal - Districts 3, 8, 9; 3 degrees below normal - Districts 1, 2, 10; 2 degrees below normal - 7, 11, 13, 14.

Saskatchewan - 2 degrees below normal - District 9; 1 degree below normal - Districts 1, 2, 5, 6, 8; 1 degree above normal - Districts 3, 7; 2 degrees above normal - District 4.

Alberta - 2 degrees below normal - District 13; 1 degree below normal - Districts 10, 14; Normal - Districts 4, 11, 12; 1 degree above normal - Districts 6, 15, 16; 2 degrees above normal - Districts 3, 7, 9; 3 degrees above normal - Districts 2, 8, 17; 4 degrees above normal - Districts 1, 5.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg

Moderate general rain last week supplied immediate needs and crops are looking fair to good. Conditions now favourable to late sown grain of which there is a large acreage. Fall rye light crop. Sweet clover very good. Past week ideal.

Agricultural Representative, Carman

Moisture fair; wheat starting to head; straw fairly short. Coarse grains looking fine. No insect damage reported. Pastures good. Live stock in good condition. A large number of cattle on grain feed.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden

Heading general in hard spring wheat; straw short and heads very small. Durum heavier stand. Oats and barley fair. All crops require rain. Corn pleasing. Grass hay unusually light. Clover fair. Generous early rains would give fair returns from coarse grains and Durum.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Melita

Early Durum wheat in shot blade and a few early Ceres and Reward fields heading. Weather cool. No damage reported by grasshoppers. Wild hay crop will be short. Flax and corn acreage increased. About one third inch rainfall last week.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Killarney

Crop conditions change in this country with almost kaleidoscopic rapidity. Last week, the fields were showing the best results from the rain of two weeks ago: today, they are again suffering from lack of sufficient moisture and maturing altogether too fast. Weeds have kept on growing and in some instances threaten to smother the growing crop. Almost all fields are now in shot blade and straw bound to be short. Rain is urgently needed within the next week.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Kelwood

Plenty of moisture. Weather cool. Splendid growth. Ideal crop conditions. Wheat in shot blade.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell

Weather has been moderate and dry all week. Practically all wheat and some early sown barley in shot blade with some wheat already heading out. Pasture and hay crop progressing satisfactorily.

MANITOBA - (Concl'd.)

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin

Weather continued cool after splendid rain of one and one half inches early last week. Crops of all kinds are making good growth. Conditions are above average even with the late seeding. No insect or wind damage. Forage crops and pastures doing very well.

Agricultural Representative, Teulon

Heavy rain last week flooded hundreds of acres of crop. More heat and sunshine needed for best growth. Remaining crop is heavy but late. Stock thriving on abundance of pasture and cool nights. Several failures of sugar beets, turnips and potatoes reported due to cold, wet spring.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina

Weather during the past week has been cool and unsettled. Precipitation has varied in different parts ranging from scattered showers to good rains. Moisture conditions have improved and over the greater part of the province, crops have benefited and conditions generally are more favourable than one week ago. In the north-western and the extreme south-eastern parts of the province, however, considerable damage has been done from which it will be impossible for the crops to recover even under the best of conditions and there are also some other points in western Saskatchewan which have suffered from drought. In these areas heavy rains will be required. Grasshopper activity subsided somewhat with the wet cool weather.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head

General crop conditions improved. Some sections southern Saskatchewan require immediate rain to ensure crops. Hay and pastures improved. Fallow work well advanced. Rainfall during week .97 inches.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current

Crops generally fairly good. Early wheat in shot blade and promises to be short. No reserve moisture on stubble. Crops not visibly suffering but more rain needed. June rainfall to date 1.49 inches. Spring rye heading.

Supervisor of Illustration Station, Swift Current

Fox Valley - grain on fallow improved by rains this month; stand fair; stubble land crops practically failure on account of cutworms and drought; fall rye thin crop; June rainfall 1½ inches. Piapot - crops improved by early June rains following May drought; wheat in shot blade; fall rye light crop; June rainfall 1.86 inches.

Dominion Experimental Station, Melfort

Heavy rains generally throughout entire area during past week. Early part of week cool; latter part warm and crops progressing rapidly. Considerable garden damage by cutworms.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern

Crops showing much improved condition as result of 1.74 inches precipitation during the week ending June 22. Early seeded crops in shot blade or heading; stands probably shorter than normal. Late seedings show uneven germination and patchy. No insect damage or soil drifting reported. Pastures good.

Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology, Saskatoon

Rosthern, Saskatoon and Indian Head districts surveyed; no serious disease development evident. No reports received of damage by disease in crop plants.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott

Practically all areas of north-western Saskatchewan received effective rain during the past week resulting in a much improved outlook for grain crops. Much more rain is needed to produce an average crop and improve pastures. Grasshoppers have caused spotty damage, with poisoning in progress.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries

Moisture needed after a week of drying winds. Crops growing rapidly. Early crop eight to ten inches. Only .02 inch of rain during past week. Pasture in only fair condition. First cutting of alfalfa is under way; stand is good.

Dominion Experimental Station and Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge

Crops from Claresholm north to Calgary and in Foremost area are in good condition. Crops in all other areas south of Calgary except some stubbled-in fields are maintaining themselves but rain will be needed shortly to avoid serious damage. First cutting of an average crop of alfalfa on irrigated lands has commenced.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Cardston

No rain since last report. Several windy days during the past week drying up soil; will need rain soon. Crops and pastures show good growth at present. Grasshoppers doing slight damage, also cutworms in small area.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary

Weather during week fine and clear. Conditions excellent. No damage from cutworms or grasshoppers.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Hanna

Weather cloudy, dry and cool during past week. No rain during past week. All crops showing signs of drought. Ten per cent wheat headed out. Grasshoppers still working on stubble wheat. General crop conditions fair.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe

With only 0.34 inch of rain during week and two days of high, hot winds, all crops need rain and growth is slow. Cereals on stubble and all hay crops urgently need a heavy rain. Summerfallows being plowed are dry and hard.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Stettler

Crop growing fast and stooling well. Weather now hot and dry. Need more rain. Early sown wheat just about in shot blade. No damage. Pastures fair.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton

Received around one inch of rain immediately following last report; clear warm weather since. Growth fairly rapid and all grains and grasses coming along well. No damage to report.

Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology, Edmonton

Condition of cereal crops better than usual at this date in most parts of province.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion

One and three quarters inches rain since last report. Weather warm and growing conditions very good. Excepting a few fields showing some cutworm damage, all crops look well. Wheat five to ten inches high.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca

Weather during week mostly cool with warm weather last two days. Rainfall 0.51 inch fell in showers but not evenly distributed. Summerfallow fairly good but spring plowing uneven and needs good rain. General rain will soon be needed.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge

Good reports all quarters though discerning observers note thinness, weediness and rather disappointing condition of much wheat on fallow, also until lately a very poor showing of crop on late spring ploughing. Excessive rains last year probably leached and puddled ground. Prospect improved by good rains last week.

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