

Climatic Perspectives

ARCH. C.2

May 7 to 13, 1990

A weekly review of Canadian climate and water

Vol. 12 No. 19

Heavy rains help replenish Maritime reservoirs

Since the beginning of April, the Atlantic provinces have received a substantial amount of precipitation, in some cases more than double the normal. This fresh water supply prior to the growing season is a welcome event, recharging lakes, streams, reservoirs and the ground water table.

In Newfoundland, stream flow has increased in all areas, especially the central regions, where it was excessive. In April, however, winter conditions still prevailed in Labrador, and flows were below normal. Stream flow on Prince Edward Island was 33% above normal in April, whereas runoff in March was 11% above normal. In New Brunswick, stream flows in the southern and central areas were near normal, while large increases in surface water availability were experienced in the northern and eastern sections. In Nova Scotia, river flows were all above normal. In the Cape Breton Highlands and the southern and eastern mainland areas, flows were excessive. Flows in the northern areas were also above normal, but not to the same extent. The surface water held in storage in six reservoirs on the Mersey, Bear, Indian, Avon, Black and Ponhook Rivers increased in April by 23 to 81 percent of the full rated capacity.

Vicious storm batters Ontario

On May 10, a freak snowstorm dumped almost 40 cm of snow on northeastern Ontario, closing down schools and transportation in the Kapuskasing area. At the same time, southern and central Ontario were buffeted by winds gusting to almost

100 km/h, causing widespread damage. Trees and hydro lines were downed, trucks were flipped over, and debris was swept off high rise construction sites.

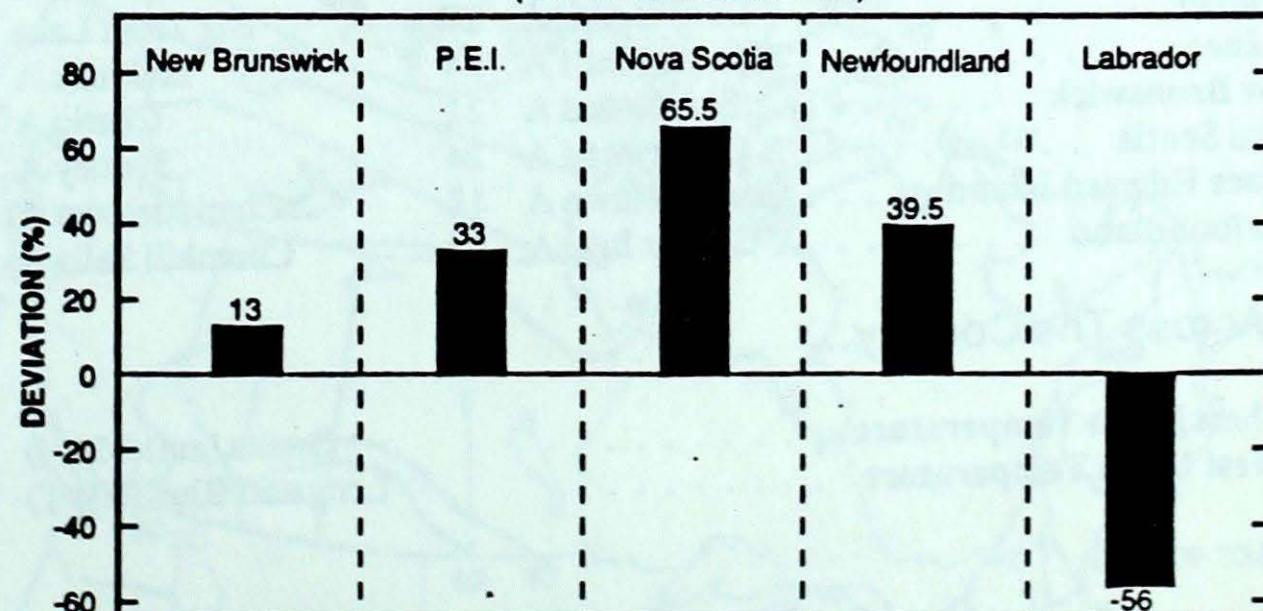
B.C. windstorm update

B.C. hydro confirmed that in the Prince George area the May 5 windstorm brought down more than 350 spans of power lines. This means that there are approximately 35 kilometres of electrical lines to be rebuilt in this area alone. There was additional damage evident in a 200 km radius of Prince George.

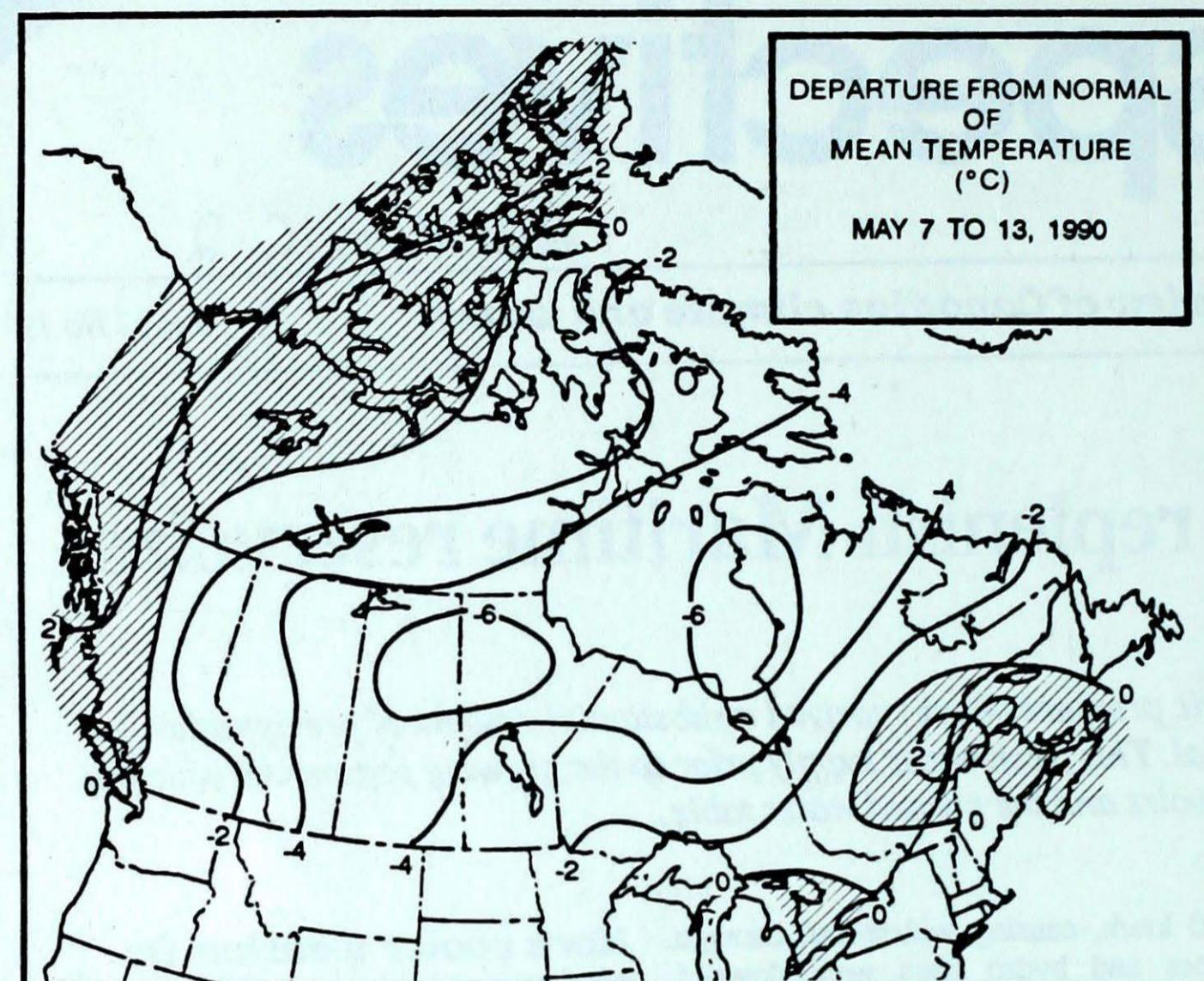
More cooler weather in the west

A trough of low pressure covering most of western Canada will bring below normal temperatures from British Columbia to Manitoba including the western Arctic for the week starting May 21. Near normal temperatures are expected from Ontario to Atlantic Canada. Eastern Arctic and northern Quebec, however, will experience above normal temperatures for the same period.

River flows in Atlantic Canada - April 1990
(deviation from median)



Recent rainfalls have contributed to increased river flows. Inland Waters Directorate



Weekly normal temperatures (°C)

max. min.

Whitehorse A	11.2	-0.5
Iqaluit A	-0.7	-7.8
Yellowknife A	8.2	-1.7
Vancouver Int'l A	15.9	7.5
Victoria Int'l A	15.9	6.3
Calgary Int'l A	15.1	1.6
Edmonton Int'l A	16.4	1.5
Regina A	16.6	2.5
Saskatoon A	16.9	2.9
Winnipeg Int'l A	15.9	2.8
Ottawa Int'l A	17.0	5.6
Toronto (Pearson Int'l A)	16.6	4.9
Montréal Int'l A	17.1	6.3
Québec A	15.4	3.6
Fredericton A	15.4	3.5
Saint John A	12.9	2.7
Halifax (Shearwater)	12.1	3.4
Charlottetown A	12.0	2.6
Goose A	8.4	-0.6
St John's A	8.3	0.3

Weekly temperature and precipitation extremes

	Maximum temperature (°C)	Minimum temperature (°C)	Heaviest precipitation (mm)
British Columbia	Hope A 21	Dease Lake -5	Revelstoke A 22
Yukon Territory	Whitehorse A 16	Komakuk Beach A -11	Watson Lake A 3
Northwest Territories	Fort Simpson A 16	Longstaff Bluff -25	Cape Dyer A 19
Alberta	Fort McMurray A 16	Grande Prairie A -5	Pincher Creek (aut) 23
Saskatchewan	Regina A 17	Cree Lake -10	Estevan A 14
Manitoba	Gretna (aut) 22	Churchill A -11	Gimli 16
Ontario	Windsor A 27	Big Trout Lake -8	Kapuskasing A 49
Québec	Montréal Int'l A 24	Inukjuak A -16	Chibougamau Chapais a 47
New Brunswick	St-Léonard A 21	Charlo A -3	St Stephen (aut) 63
Nova Scotia	Greenwood A 24	Sydney A -2	Yarmouth A 29
Prince Edward Island	Charlottetown A 18	Charlottetown A 0	Charlottetown A 29
Newfoundland	Gander Int'l A 18	Churchill Falls A -14	Comfort Cove 23

Across The Country...

Highest Mean Temperature	Gretna (aut)(MAN) 15
Lowest Mean Temperature	Longstaff Bluff(NWT) -14

90/05/07-90/05/13

CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES
VOLUME 12

Managing Editor *Amir Shabbar*
 Editor-in-charge
 - weekly/monthly *Andy Radomski*
 French version *Alain Caillet*
 Data Manager *M. Skarpathiotakis*
 Computer support *Tommy Jang*
 Art Set-up *K. Czaja*
 Translation *D. Pokorn*
 Cartography *T. Chivers*

ISBN 0225-5707 UDC 551.506.1(71)

Climatic Perspectives is a weekly publication (disponible aussi en français) of the Canadian Climate Centre, Atmospheric Environment Service, 4905 Dufferin St., Downsview, Ontario, Canada M3H 5T4

Telephone (416) 739-4438/4436

The purpose of the publication is to make topical information available to the public concerning the Canadian Climate and its socio-economic impact.

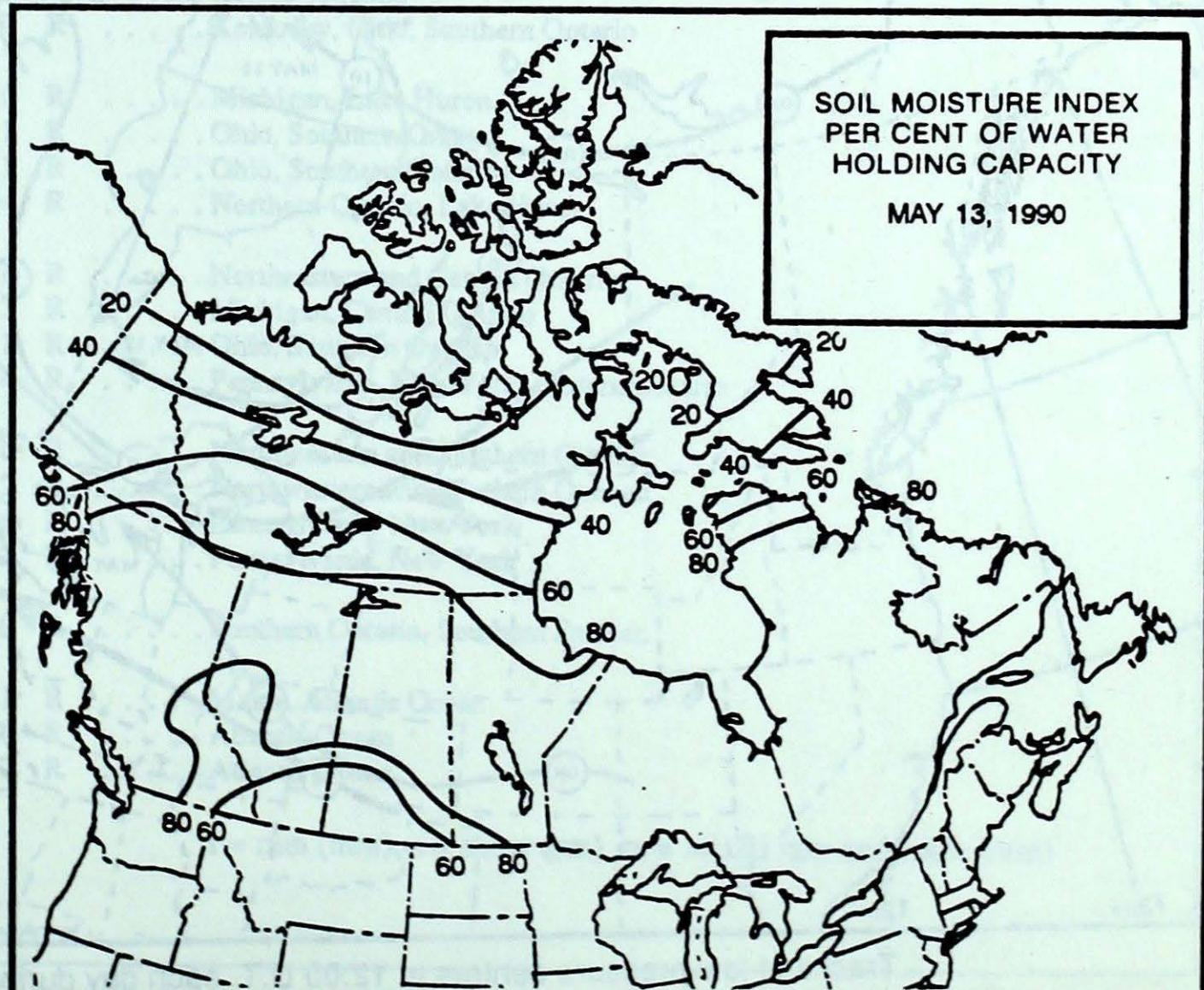
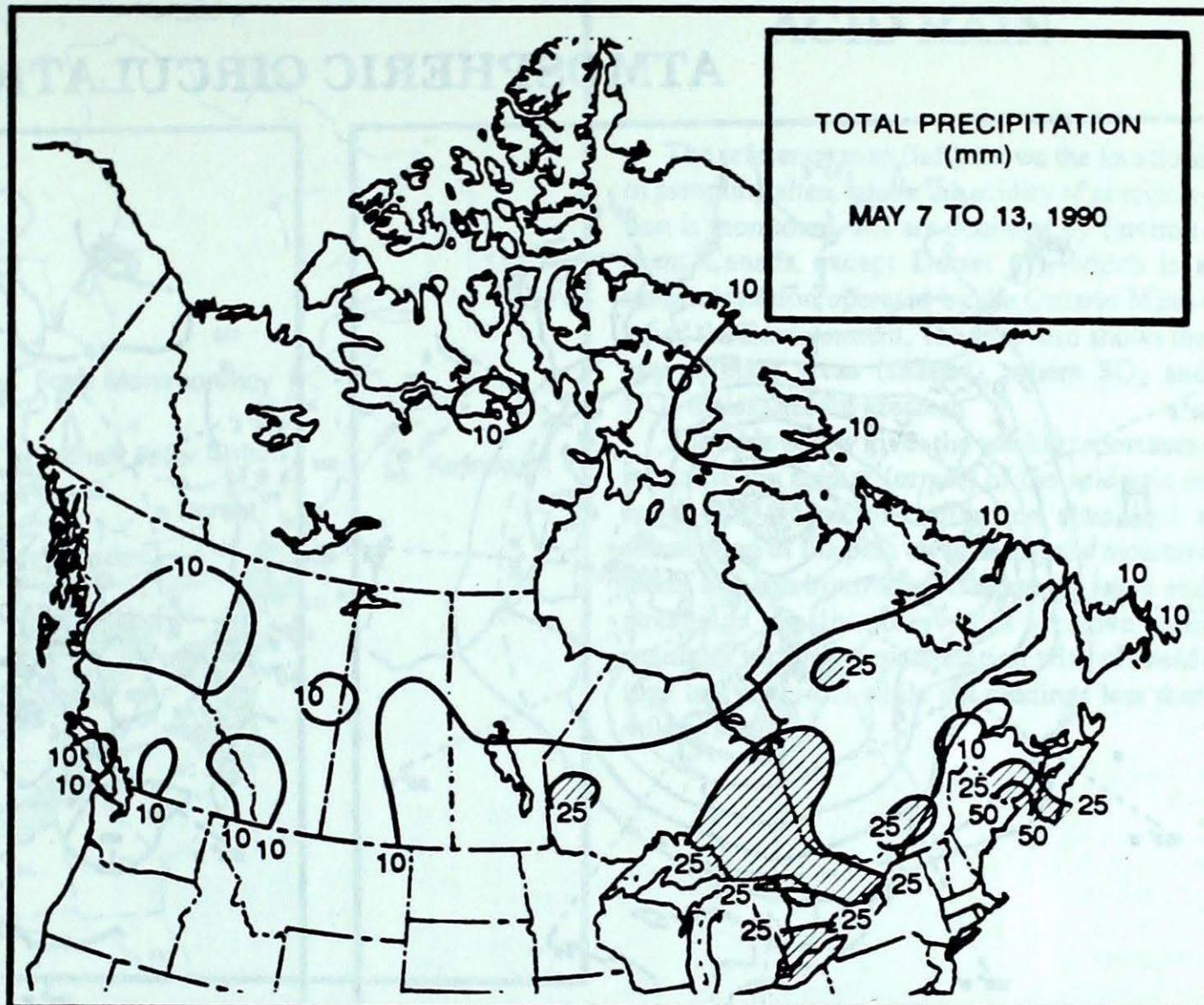
The data in this publication are based on unverified reports from approximately 225 Canadian synoptic weather stations. Information concerning climatic impacts is gathered from AES contacts with the public and from the media. Articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Atmospheric Environment Service.

Annual Subscriptions

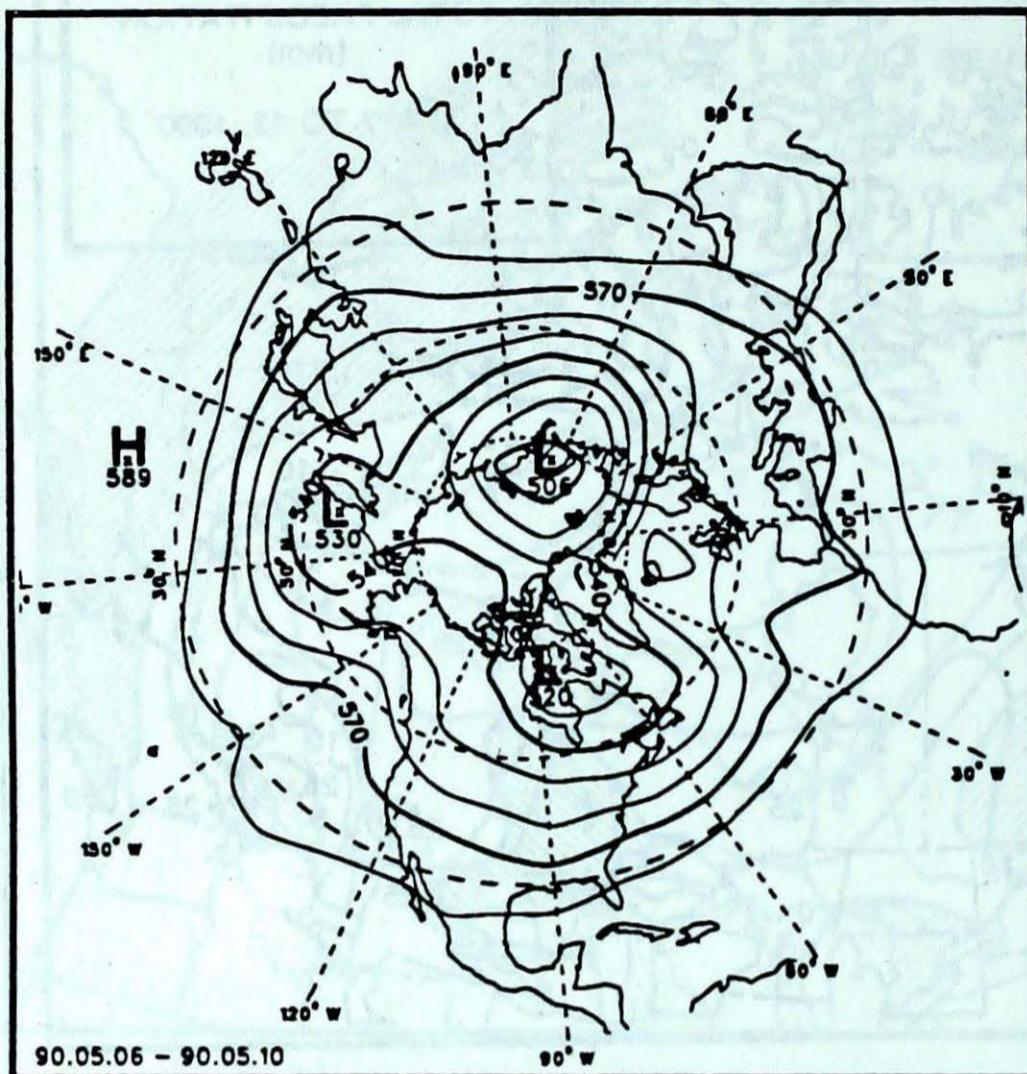
weekly and monthly:	..... \$35.00
foreign:	..... \$42.00
monthly issue:	..... \$10.00
foreign:	..... \$12.00

Orders must be prepaid by money order or cheque payable to Receiver General for Canada, Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0S9

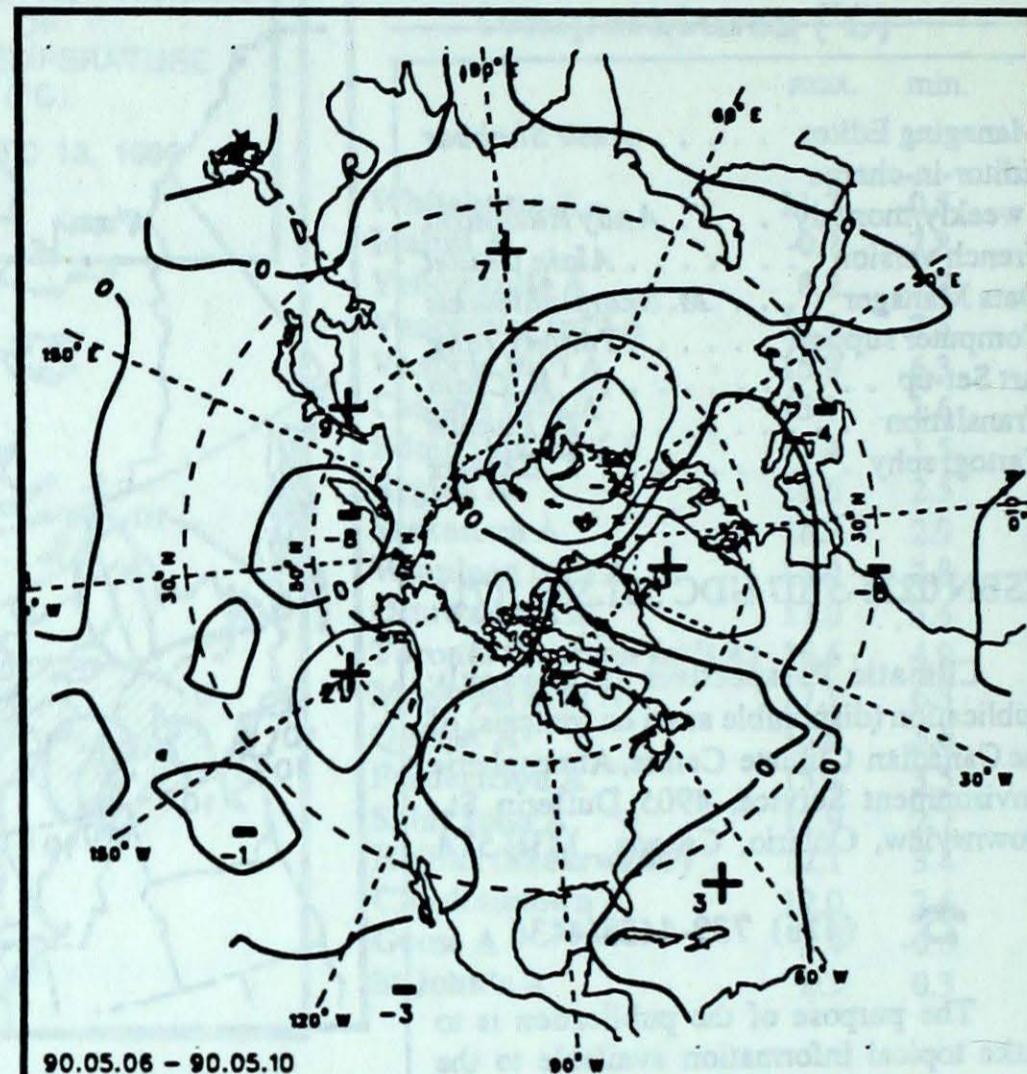
Telephone (819) 997-2560



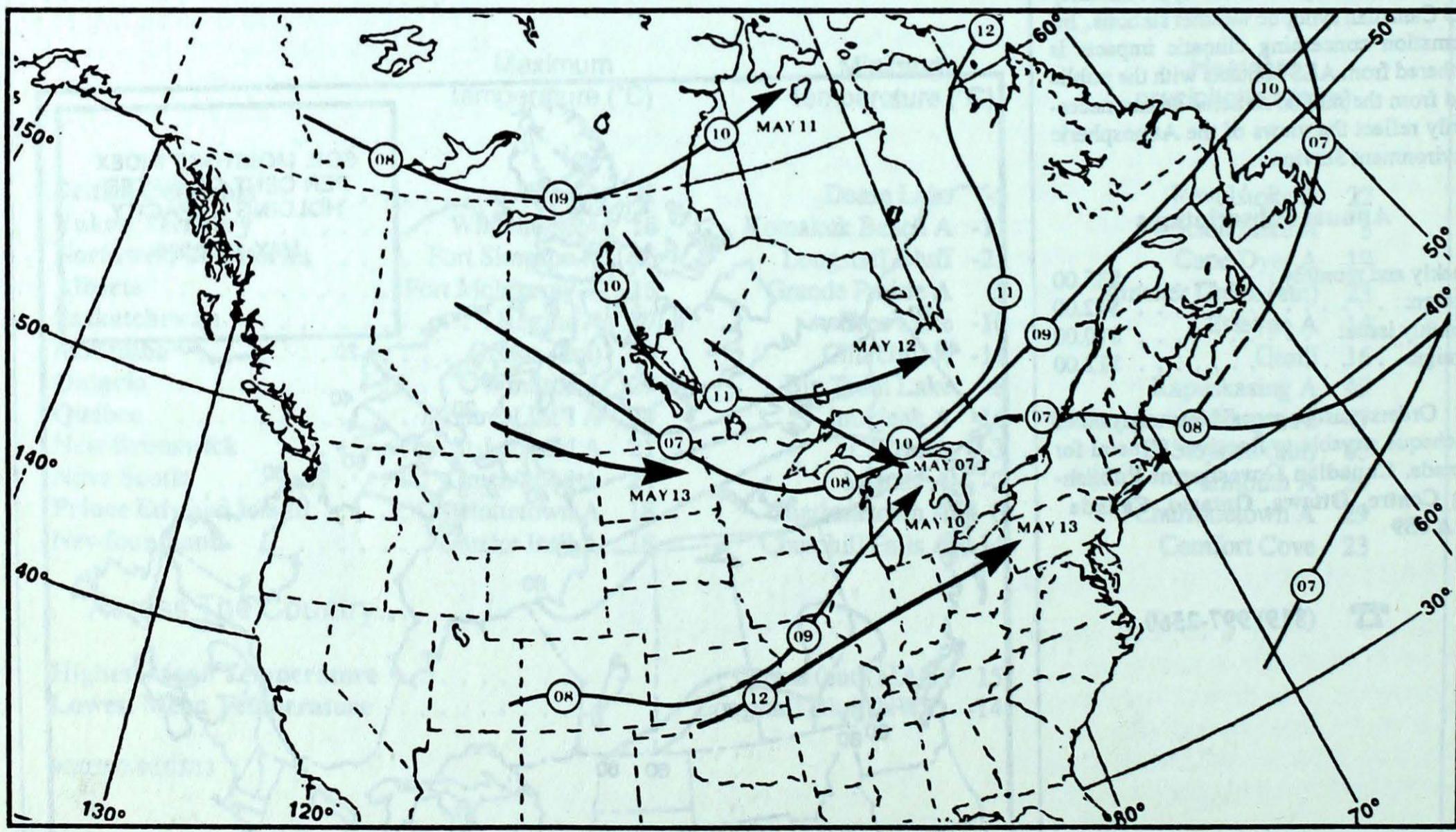
ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION



Mean geopotential height
50-kPa level (10-decametre intervals)



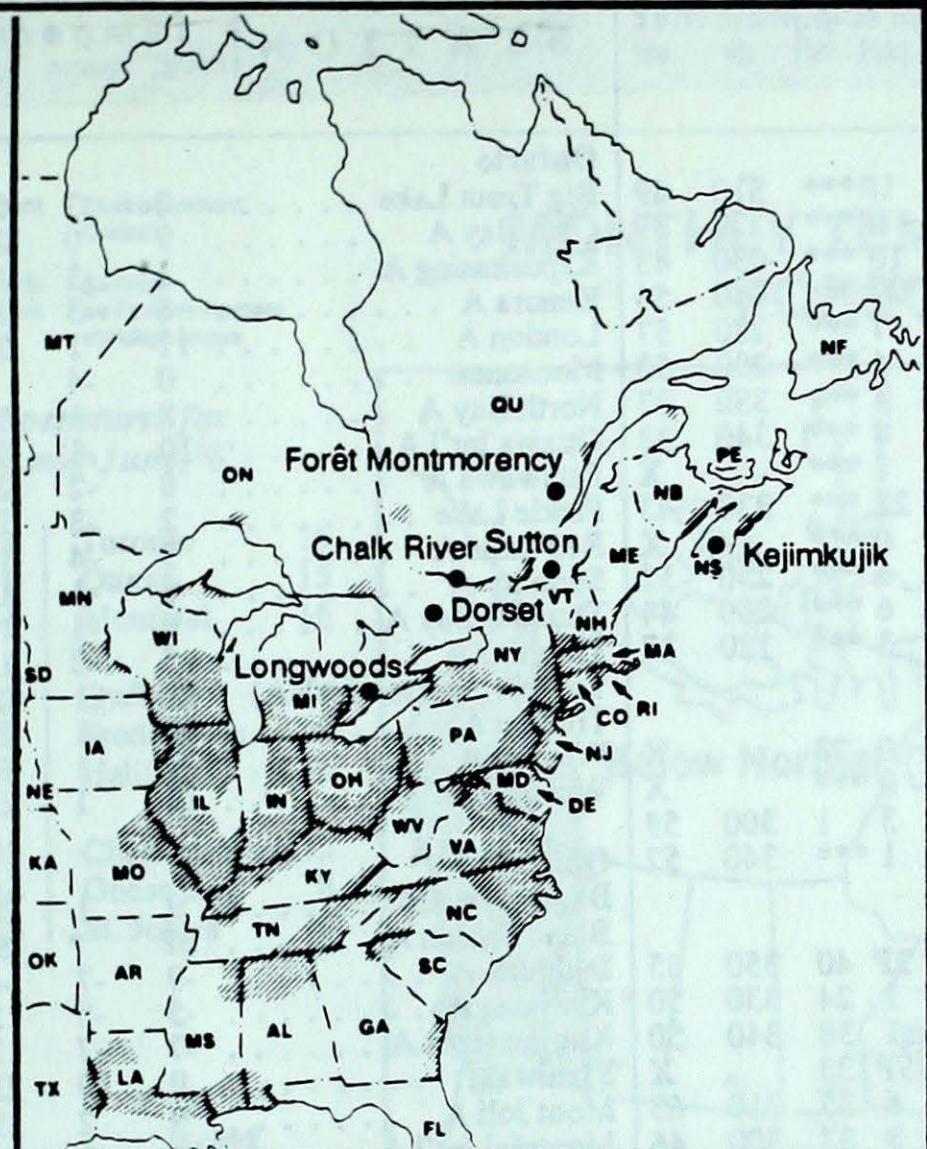
Mean geopotential height anomaly
50-kPa level (10-decametre intervals)



Tracks of low pressure centres at 12:00 U.T. each day during the period.

ALABAMA
ARKANSAS
CONNECTICUT
DELAWARE
FLORIDA
GEORGIA
ILLINOIS
INDIANA
IOWA
KANSAS
KENTUCKY
LOUISIANA
MAINE
MANITOBA
MARYLAND
MASSACHUSETTS
MICHIGAN
MINNESOTA
MISSISSIPPI
MISSOURI
NEBRASKA
NEW BRUNSWICK
NEWFOUNDLAND
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW JERSEY
NEW YORK
NORTH CAROLINA
NORTH DAKOTA
NOVA SCOTIA
OHIO
OKLAHOMA
ONTARIO
PENNSYLVANIA
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
QUÉBEC
RHODE ISLAND
SOUTH CAROLINA
SOUTH DAKOTA
TENNESSEE
TEXAS
VERMONT
VIRGINIA
WEST VIRGINIA
WISCONSIN

— AL
— AR
— CO
— DE
— FL
— GA
— IL
— IN
— IA
— KA
— KY
— LA
— ME
— MT
— MD
— MA
— MI
— MN
— MS
— MO
— NE
— NB
— NF
— NH
— NJ
— NY
— NC
— ND
— NS
— OH
— OK
— ON
— PA
— PE
— QU
— RI
— SC
— SD
— TN
— TX
— VT
— VA
— WV
— WI



ACID RAIN

The reference map (left) shows the locations of sampling sites, where the acidity of precipitation is monitored. All are operated by Environment Canada except Dorset (*), which is a research station operated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. The map also shows the approximate areas (shaded), where SO₂ and NO_x emissions are greatest.

The table below gives the weekly report summarizing the acidity (or pH) of the acid rain or snow that fell at the collection sites, and a description of the path travelled by the moisture laden air. Environmental damage to lakes and streams is usually observed in sensitive areas regularly receiving precipitation with pH readings less than 4.7, while pH readings less than 4.0 are serious.

Site	day	pH	amount	air path to site	May 6th to 12th, 1990
Longwoods	9	5.0	2 R	..... Kentucky, Ohio	
	12	3.9	27 R	..... Kentucky, Ohio, Southern Ontario	
Dorset *	7	4.7	10 R	..... Michigan, Lake Huron	
	8	5.4	1 R	..... Ohio, Southern Ontario	
	9	4.2	1 R	..... Ohio, Southern Ontario	
	10	4.3	14 R	..... Northern Ontario, Lake Huron	
Chalk River	7	4.4	1 R	..... Northeastern and Central Ontario	
	8	4.7	3 R	..... Michigan, Central Ontario	
	9	4.0	1 R	..... Ohio, Southern Ontario	
	10	4.4	4 R	..... Pennsylvania, New York, Eastern Ontario	
Sutton	6	4.1	6 R	..... Northwestern and Southern Quebec	
	7	4.3	2 R	..... Northwestern and Southern Quebec	
	9	3.5	4 R	..... Pennsylvania, New York	
	10	4.4	22 R	..... Pennsylvania, New York	
Montmorency	8	4.5	2 R	..... Southern Ontario, Southern Quebec	
Kejimkujik	7	4.6	1 R	..... Maine, Atlantic Ocean	
	10	4.7	14 R	..... Atlantic Ocean	
	11	4.9	7 R	..... Atlantic Ocean	

r = rain (mm), s = snow (cm), m = mixed rain and snow (mm)

STATION	temperature				precip.	wind max		STATION	temperature				precip.	wind max		
	mean	anom	max	min	ptot	st	dir	vel	mean	anom	max	min	ptot	st	dir	vel
British Columbia																
Cape St James	9P	0P	13P	5P	1P***	310	89									
Cranbrook A	7	-3	17	-3	9 ***	270	39									
Fort Nelson A	5	-3	16	-3	10 ***	030	43									
Fort St John A	6	4	14	-2	20 ***	240	56									
Kamloops A	13	0	21	5	7 ***	280	57									
Penticton A	13	0	20	4	4 ***	290	50									
Port Hardy A	9	0	14	4	4 ***	330	37									
Prince George A	6	-2	15	-4	8 ***	340	33									
Prince Rupert A	9	2	14	4	8 ***	X										
Revelstoke A	10	-1	18	3	22 ***	330	43									
Smithers A	9	1	17	1	0 ***	X										
Vancouver Int'l A	11	-1	17	5	6 ***	250	52									
Victoria Int'l A	10	-1	18	2	6 ***	260	44									
Williams Lake A	6	-2	14	-2	3 ***	120	37									
Yukon Territory																
Komakuk Beach A	-5	2	0	-11	0 23	X										
Teslin (aut)	6	*	15	-2	0 ***	X										
Watson Lake A	6	1	16	-2	3 1	300	59									
Whitehorse A	8	2	16	-1	1 ***	340	52									
Northwest Territories																
Alert	-11P	3P	-6P	-17P	2P 40	350	35									
Baker Lake A	-10	-2	-6	-16	1 24	330	50									
Cambridge Bay A	-9	2	-5	-13	1 38	340	50									
Cape Dyer A	-10P	-3P	-2P	-17P	19P 133	X										
Clyde A	-11	-2	0	-21	6 35	310	63									
Coppermine A	-7	2	0	-13	3 37	300	46									
Coral Harbour A	-10P	-2P	-5P	-19P	9P 42	020	52									
Eureka	-9	4	-3	-16	1 26	010	52									
Fort Smith A	4P	-3P	14P	-6P	1P***	X										
Hall Beach A	-12	-2	-3	-24	3 51	070	57									
Inuvik A	-1	3	8	-8	0 10	X										
Iqaluit A	-9	-5	2	-16	11 21	110	76									
Mould Bay A	-9	4	-4	-15	0 16	330	39									
Norman Wells A	4P	1P	14P	-3P	3P 10	250	35									
Resolute A	-12	0	-5	-18	0 33	020	52									
Yellowknife A	2	-1	11	-6	0 ***	360	39									
Alberta																
Calgary Int'l A	5	-3	13	-3	17 ***	010	82									
Cold Lake A	5	-5	15	-5	10 ***	040	41									
Edmonton Namao A	5	-5	14	-2	8 ***	300	48									
Fort McMurray A	6	-3	16	-4	5 ***	360	37									
High Level A	6	-5	15	-4	0 ***	090	70									
Jasper	5	-3	14	-1	9 ***	X										
Lethbridge A	6	-4	15	-4	5 ***	260	96									
Medicine Hat A	5P	-6P	16P	-5P	4P***	260	78									
Peace River A	6	-3	16	-3	5 ***	270	70									
Saskatchewan																
Cree Lake	2	-5	13	-10	1 1	070	50									
Estevan A	7	-3	17	-4	14 ***	290	76									
La Ronge A	3	-5	15	-6	12 ***	060	39									
Regina A	7	-3	17	-4	10 ***	270	70									
Saskatoon A	5	-5	16	-5	1 ***	310	56									
Swift Current A	5	-5	15	-6	10 ***	290	65									
Yorkton A	5P	-3P	16P	-4P	4P***	180	48									
Manitoba																
Brandon A	7	-2	16	-5	6 ***	040	52									
Churchill A	-6	-3	4	-11	3 15	300	59									
Lynn Lake A	-1	-6	11	-8	0 ***	320	54									
The Pas A	3	-4	14	-5	7 ***	310	46									
Thompson A	0	-6	12	-8	0 ***	280	46									
Winnipeg Int'l A	7	-3	19	-6	3 ***	320	52									
Ontario																
Big Trout Lake					0	-3	11	-8	0	1	290	59				
Gore Bay A					9	0	21	0	18 ***	160	56					
Kapuskasing A					3	-3	15	-5	49	12	120	56				
Kenora A					6	-3	14	-3	14 ***	260	44					
London A					11	1	25	0	36 ***	210	89					
Moosonee					0	-4	8	-6								

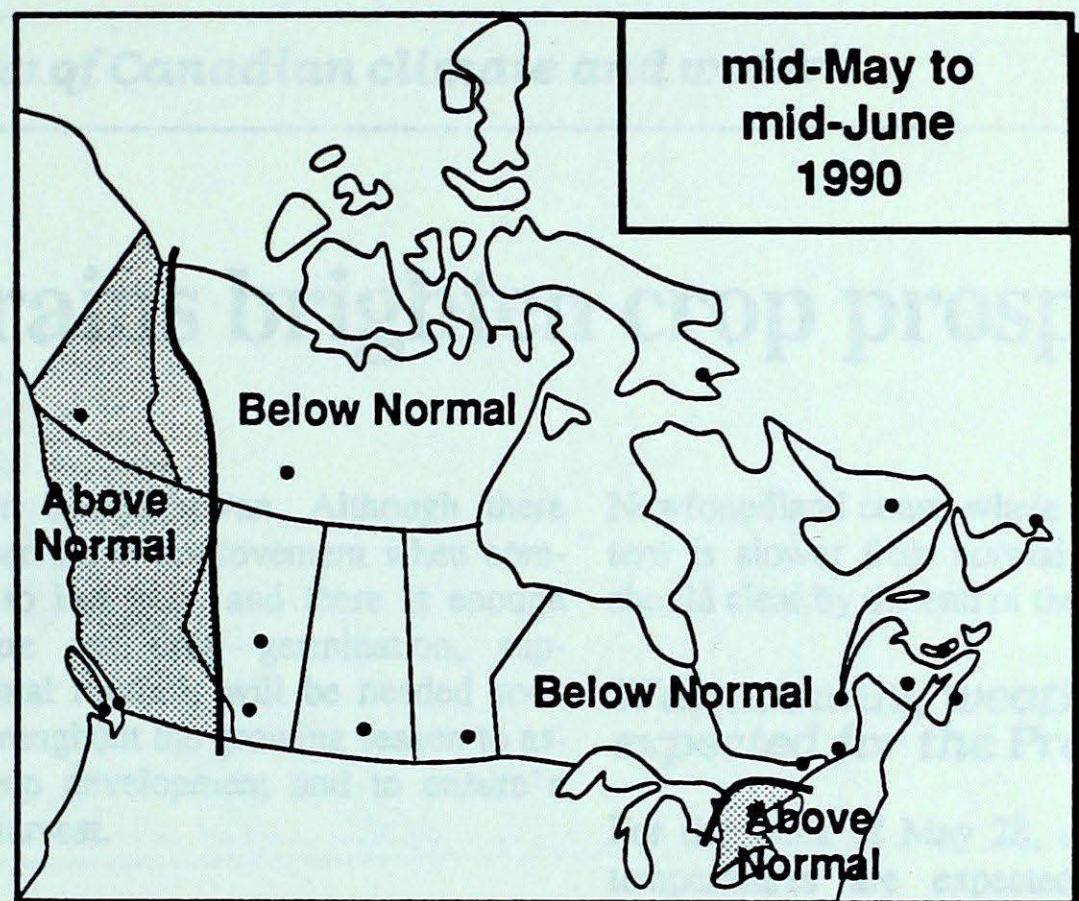
Environment
CanadaEnvironnement
CanadaAtmospheric
Environment
ServiceService
de l'environnement
atmosphérique

MONTHLY TEMPERATURE FORECAST

Normal temperatures for mid-May to mid-June, °C

Whitehorse	9	Toronto	15
Yellowknife	9	Ottawa	15
Iqaluit	-1	Montréal	16
Vancouver	14	Québec	14
Victoria	13	Fredericton	13
Calgary	11	Halifax	11
Edmonton	13	Charlottetown	12
Regina	14	Goose Bay	8
Winnipeg	14	St. John's	8

mid-May to
mid-June
1990



Canada

In the last few weeks, the eastern prairie spring thaws have occurred and the amounts of precipitation, as a result, are heavier. In Manitoba, Manitoba and in the Prairies region, the snow cover has been reduced and the water supply currently with respect to reservoirs and lakes in the provinces is very good. In fact, the water supply is now sufficient to meet two years of relatively dry weather.

In April, the several districts in the provinces between Saskatchewan and Alberta. Although the situation was critical, this amount of precipitation has in fact delayed field work and agricultural operations, which are now running behind schedule.

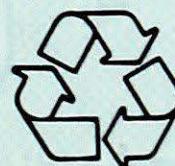
There still continues to be a lack of quite measure to stop Alberta, where Saskatoon and throughout Alberta. Soil moisture levels are especially low in the areas of southern Alberta.

to report

Although the general distribution of the snow cover in the western half of the country is close to normal, there is more snow than expected. The ice pack over the Yukon and coastal British Columbia as far south as the straits to the Strait of Belle Isle, which is still closed to navigation. Ice patches are still evident on the waters of Lake Superior, Lake Huron and Lake Erie. Quebec will be about 2° below normal.

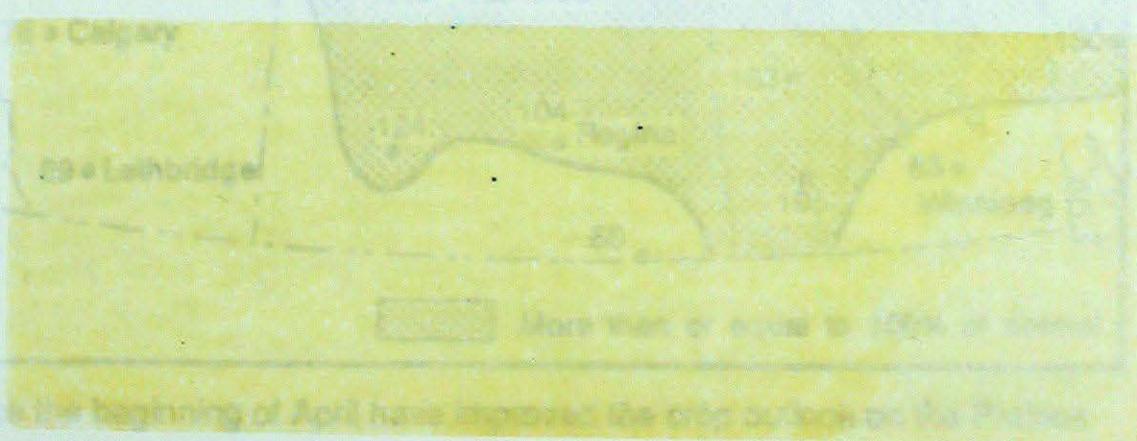
PERCENT OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION
APRIL 1 TO MAY 22, 1990

Think recycling



Pensez à recycler

IMPRIMÉ SUR
DU PAPIER RECYCLÉ



Fairfax's climate beginning of April have improved. The crop outcome this year is likely to be better than last year.