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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 19, 1930, 4 p.m.- With the valued co-operation of agriculturists of the Dominion Department of Agriculture and of the statisticians of the three Prairie Provinces, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the first of a series of twelve weekly telegraphic reports on the crop situation.

General Conditions.

The decline in general conditions of the western crop has been halted for the present by the rains which began on June 11. Except in Manitoba and in other scattered districts, moisture is only sufficient for present needs. In the important wheat areas where drought and wind damage have been most severe, there is urgent need of more rain.

Manitoba is the bright spot in the western crop situation. Damage from winds and cutworms was least in this province and recent rains have been abundant and beneficial. The crops are a little backward and warm weather is a necessity.

Present conditions suggest that Saskatchewan will need a remarkable combination of heavy rain and warm weather to assure an average crop. Stands have lost their promise, mainly through wind damage. Crops in the area of concentrated wheat production, marked roughly by the triangle between the Indian Head, Shaunavon, and Battleford districts, present a patchy appearance, damaged severely by drought, high winds, and cutworms. The rainfall map of the period June 11 to 16 shows a variable distribution in this important area, with less precipitation than in the regions north and east.

The other western area where wheat production is concentrated is a belt running along the mountains from the Magrath to the Lacombe districts. Hot weather and high winds have seriously reduced crop prospects in this region, which had real promise at the beginning of last week. The central district of Alberta from Olds to Edmonton has suffered most from high winds and only a temporary relief was given by last week's showers. Alberta presents almost the same conditions as at this time last year, with lower moisture reserves and less general promise.

Reports from Correspondents.

Manitoba

Department of Agriculture,  
Winnipeg

Following period of late spring frosts and high winds which caused some soil drifting, generous rains fell throughout Manitoba June twelfth to fifteenth. Crops now growing very fast and look excellent. Prospects good. Slight cutworm damage.

Experimental Farm,  
Brandon.

Season has been cool but cereal crop conditions are generally satisfactory. Thin stands cultivated hay crops. Potatoes are late. Rains commencing June eleventh heavy and beneficial. A little damage from soil drifting and cutworms.

Experimental Station,  
Morden.

Wheat looks well, some in shot blade. Late sown oats and barley backward. Grass and clovers fair. Corn and roots backward but looking well. Some grain cut off by winds. Some cut worm damage in local areas. Moisture sufficient for present needs. Crop later than average. Warm weather needed.

Saskatchewan.

Department of Agriculture,  
Regina.

Fairly general rains on Friday and Saturday were very welcome, especially in those parts of the province severely damaged by high winds. While the crops have benefited by these rains, more will be required shortly as there was only sufficient to meet temporary needs. Crops are generally somewhat backward and in the blown area are patchy. Warm weather with copious rains are needed to bring them up to average.

Experimental Farm,  
Indian Head.

High winds and cutworms have caused considerable damage to crops in this district. Many farmers reseeding to flax, barley and oats for feed. Rye heading out and well forward. Plenty of moisture over week end. Warm weather required to promote growth.

Experimental Station,  
Rosthern.

Half inch rain last week did not stop soil drifting. Rain needed. Winter rye in head. Pasture short. Hay prospect poor. Heavy rains within two weeks would save grain situation where there has been no drifting.

Experimental Station,  
Swift Current.

Five percent wheat crop blown out reseeded flax, oats, barley. Drought forced early wheat to shot blade, rye to head, causing damage that good rains cannot repair. One and a half inches rain June 13 to 15 stopped drought and drifting. Reserve moisture low. Good rains needed to make average crop.

Experimental Station,  
Scott.

Approximately thirty percent damage to grain has been caused by soil drifting but fields not affected are slightly better than a year ago. Over half an inch of moisture was received last week but more is needed. Damage by cutworms and wireworms is much more severe than last year.

Alberta.

Experimental Station,  
Lethbridge.

Rain needed practically all points southern Alberta and urgently needed at most points due to high temperatures and hot persistent winds of past week. Fortunately there was no previous wind injury of moment. No serious insect damage. Irrigation general. Excellent stand sugar beets. Thinning well advanced.

Experimental Station,  
Lacombe.

Precipitation nineteen thirty under four inches. June only half inch in light showers recent days. Very high winds caused bad soil drifting. Twenty-five percent crop in central Alberta ruined. Thirty percent can be saved only by very heavy rains. Much reseeding under way but results very doubtful.





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