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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 5, 1930, 4 p.m. - With the valued co-operation of agriculturists of the Dominion Department of Agriculture and of the statisticians of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the eighth of a series of twelve weekly telegraphic reports on the crop situation.

General Conditions in Canada.

The Maritime Provinces.

The crops of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia have suffered from lack of moisture in the last two weeks of July, while New Brunswick has been favoured with more precipitation. Haying is nearly completed with about an average crop of hay somewhat spoiled by age and weathering. Cereals have ripened early and show average promise. Pastures are dry and need rain. The Annapolis Valley promises an apple crop of fair size, free from disease.

Quebec.

Agricultural conditions continue favourable. Haying is practically completed and a heavy crop has been harvested. Inclement weather lowered the quality slightly. Garden and field crops promise good yields and tobacco has improved in the past fortnight.

Ontario.

Ontario conditions are generally good with a few reports of insufficient rainfall. Haying was done in unsettled weather that lowered quality. Small grain crops are now being harvested and will yield well up to average.

The Prairie Provinces.

Although the western wheat crop is generally well advanced in the filling stage, there is still much uncertainty as to the probable yield. Lack of moisture in Saskatchewan and southern Alberta and damage from rust in Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan are the features of this week's reports. Alberta crops alone have registered an improvement in the past two weeks, the large central area being again benefited at the last week-end by good rains. Cutting of early wheat and barley is common in all three provinces, with indications that harvest will be general in a week or ten days.

The weather has again been hot and dry, with central Saskatchewan points registering over 100 degrees on the last day of the month. Effective precipitation fell only in central Alberta.

Rust infection varies greatly with date of maturity, variety, and stand of the crops. Although future weather conditions will have an important effect there is every indication that the damage will be light on early maturing, light crops, but heavy on the good crops maturing later. The telegraphic report from the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg for this week reads as follows:

"In Manitoba, hot dry weather of past week has hastened maturity of all cereal crops. Cutting of early fields of wheat and barley is now general in central and southern part of province. Losses from stem rust will be heavy in about sixty per cent of fields of common wheat in area included within radius of sixty miles from Winnipeg. Many heavily rusted fields in this area now being cut, although not mature. In remainder of province severe rust infection appears to be localized with total loss difficult to estimate. Only light infection of stem rust on durum. Stem rust increasing rapidly on oats and barley. Because of hot dry weather stem rust has not increased rapidly in Saskatchewan but has spread northward to Pontrilas and southwest to Shaunavon. Severity of infection about twenty per cent on common wheat in eastern Saskatchewan. Durums have only traces stem rust. No stem rust reported Alberta."



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British Columbia.

All reports complain of drouth and heat. The apple crop will be considerably larger than last year and other fruit crops are of average size and high quality. potatoes and small grains, particularly crops planted late, have suffered from lack of moisture.

Reports from Correspondents.Prince Edward Island

Experimental Station,
Charlottetown.

Last two weeks July dry. Haymaking about completed. Cereals ripening rapidly, about ten days early. Crop about average. Corn and potatoes very promising. Roots, vegetables and fruits about average. Pastures are dry, showers have been local. Rain needed in many districts.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations,
Charlottetown.

The last half of July very dry. Haymaking is more than three-quarters finished. The crop was slightly lighter than last year in the central and eastern portions of the island, about average in western portions. Considerable hay old when cut. Corn growing exceptionally well. Pastures dry.

Nova Scotia

Experimental Station,
Amherst.

First half of July showery, rain falling on seven dates. Since fifteenth only two light showers recorded. Total precipitation 3.44 inches versus twenty-two year average of 3.06 inches. Maximum temperature 83, minimum 46, mean 66.02, sunshine 238 hours. Early cut hay stored in poor condition but last two weeks have been excellent hay weather. Upland cutting eighty per cent of average. Grains ripening rapidly. Pastures drying up and rain badly needed.

Experimental Station,
Kentville.

Very little rainfall since middle of July and crops are suffering. Cereals ripening rapidly with prospect of light crop. Potatoes and roots badly in need of rain. Corn good. Haying well advanced and crop light. Apples sizing fairly well with prospect of a clean crop.

New Brunswick

Experimental Station,
Fredericton.

Fine weather enabled farmers to store bulk hay in good condition, although rather mature when cut. Grain beginning to turn, free from disease and promises good crop. Roots, vegetables, corn forward. Potatoes promising. Apples will be average crop. Pastures fair. Cows maintaining milk flow.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations,
Fredericton.

Haying operations delayed on account of dark weather. Quality of hay impaired by over maturity. Root crop developing favourably. Late blight in potatoes not in evidence to any extent. Early grain beginning to color with prospects of a large yield. Early vegetables abundant and cheap. Strawberry season very short. Blueberries abundant.

Quebec.

Department of Agriculture,
Quebec.

Yield of cereals average, tobacco good, apples excellent, other fruits poor, hay on first year meadows excellent, and on those of second and third years poor. Haying delayed by rains. Quebec district had 33 showers giving 4.58 inches of precipitation. Pastures excellent. Milk production excellent in spite of a weak market. Marked progress in poultry.

Experimental Station,
Lennoxville.

Haying nearly completed, excellent yield. Grain crop looking much better. Corn making splendid growth and sunflowers good. Turnips only fair. Vegetables and garden truck doing nicely.

Experimental Station,
Farnham.

Favourable weather. Hay crop good, three-quarters in barn. Cereals good. Oats light in weight. Alaska ready to harvest this week. Corn improving but yield lowered on account of bad start. Tobacco improving, not even a quarter now topped. Vegetables, potatoes and fruits in the average.

Experimental Station,
Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

Crop appearance east Quebec, from Quebec to Riviere du Loup, south St. Lawrence: hay crop very heavy especially clover. Haying delayed by rain. Cereals damaged by rain. From Riviere du Loup to Gaspé, north and south peninsula: hay crop fairly good. Cereal, potatoes, turnips promising. Favourable weather in this region.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations,
Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

Clover and timothy hay crop heavy, with unfavourable weather for its harvest to date. Grain, potatoes and roots growing well, prospects good, pastures holding very good.

Experimental Station,
L'Assomption.

Hay not quite finished. Much hay too ripe. Oats fair. Silage corn very uneven, will give a medium yield. Potatoes very promising. Tobacco fair to very good.

Experimental Farm
Cap Rouge.

At this farm, clover and timothy hay all stored in good condition. Summer ploughing started. In district hay and pastures very good. Haying half done. Grain and corn very good on dry land, medium on wet land. Potatoes look well. All garden crops, except apples, are promising. Ornamental plants very good.

Experimental Station,
Harrow.

Ontario.

Very hot drouth period causing severe damage. Late crop prospects critical in immediate districts. Oat crop light. Corn also suffering. Second cutting hay short. Tobacco prospects poor and light crop. Bottom leaves burning. Flue cured tobacco acreage decreased Essex County and increased Norfolk County. Barley tobacco acreage increased one quarter.

Experimental Station,
Kapuskasing.

Hay about half cut. Spring grains nearly all in head. Potatoes and root crops growing fairly well. Bad attack of cutworms on root crop and now seeding. No frost. Weather very broken for haying.

Department of Agriculture,
Toronto.

Early crops in Ontario very good. Harvest two weeks earlier than average. Grain cutting almost completed in south western Ontario and well advanced in all other parts. Wheat is yielding well and spring grain a good crop. An excellent crop in eastern Ontario. Western and central very dry. No rain in south west since June. All late crops and pastures suffering. Water supply not as serious as last year but running short. Moisture good in eastern section. North area too wet. Timiskaming crops drowned. Horse paddle through water in ploughing now. Best alfalfa seed crop since 1926. Alsike prospects poor.

Manitoba

Department of Agriculture,
Winnipeg.

Past week hot and dry but vegetation looking well. Considerable early crop cut in some parts, very little in others. Rust universally distributed and will damage late wheat decidedly. Early fields of all kinds of grain look well. Corn growing fast, vegetables good.

Experimental Station,
Morden.

Cutting of early wheat is general. Continued hot weather has hastened maturity. All common wheat badly rusted, late sown fields heavily infected. Barley and oat crop will escape heavy infection. Corn and roots badly in need of rain. Pastures are poor, suffering for rain.

Experimental Farm,
Brandon.

Weather very warm and crops maturing rapidly. Wheat cutting commencing in many districts. Rust is widely prevalent and doing considerable damage. Most fields of oats still green. Barley varies from poor to good crops, depending on date of seeding. Good crops of sweet clover in stook and stacks.

Saskatchewan.

Department of Agriculture,
Regina.

The weather over the province during the past two weeks has been generally hot and dry and crops in the dry areas have been adversely affected. In the northern west central and east central districts, where moisture conditions were satisfactory, crops have withstood the heat fairly well and still give promise of fair to good returns, but in the central and southern districts where the supply of moisture is low, crops have continued to suffer as a result of the protracted spell of hot dry weather. Rust has appeared in districts in the eastern part of the province and appears to be most prevalent in the southeast where it is fairly general and is causing some anxiety particularly regarding the late grain. In other parts of the province the crops are reasonably free from rust and other diseases. Fall rye cutting has commenced in all districts and has been completed in some sections. Hot weather has hastened the ripening of crops and in some of the southern districts cutting of wheat is under way, while in many other parts it is expected to start either this week or next. Scattered hail storms have occurred and caused heavy local damage in several places. A few reports of sawfly have been received, but loss on the whole from this source has not been material.

Experimental Station,
Swift Current.

West and north, prospects all grains fair to good. East and south large area poor to nothing. Rye harvest almost finished. In drought areas wheat harvest under way. Better districts ready for binder August 8th to 15th, combine ten days later. Extreme heat damaging prospects all late seeding.

Supervisor of Irrigation Stations,
Swift Current.

From Swift Current east to Moose Jaw all grains are poor, some fields a failure. Wheat cutting started. Moose Jaw to Gravelbourg and Assiniboia, most crops poor, few fair, started cutting. South of Assiniboia, fair. Assiniboia to Ogema, fair to poor, started cutting. Ogema to Avonlea and Moose Jaw, fair to poor, cutting.

Alberta.

Experimental Station and Supervisor of Illustration Stations,
Lethbridge.

Hot weather during past week has hastened ripening of wheat. Harvest started in isolated cases. General start will be made with binders in a week and with combines in two weeks. Throughout southern Alberta the rains ten days ago have worked wonders in filling grain in fields of scanty straw. Out from mountains grain is ripening rapidly and harvest is becoming general. Early yields reported are nine bushels No. 1 spring wheat on stubble and twenty-five bushels winter wheat on fallow. Some wheat on stubble will not harvest.

Experimental Station,
Lacombe.

With light showers and bright warm days, weather has been ideal for growing and filling crops. Early wheats coloring rapidly and some cutting will start about August 15th. Owing to damage from cutworms, drought, and soil drifting yields will vary greatly and be very difficult to estimate.

Experimental Sub-station,
Beaverlodge.

Present weather favourable, but crops still about ten days late and uncertainty yet concerning extent of frost injury on twenty-sixth. None worth mentioning at Beaverlodge, but disquieting reports of blackened potato tops at widely scattered points.

British Columbia.

Department of Agriculture,
Victoria

Weather conditions continued very warm and dry for the last two weeks, which is excellent for harvesting. Owing to lack of moisture, late crops will undoubtedly suffer before end of season. Second crop of alfalfa making excellent growth. Indications are that the apple crop will show an increase of about twenty per cent over the nineteen twenty-nine crop. Pears and stone fruits sizing well and vegetable crops looking good.

Experimental Station,
Sidney.

The whole country side is suffering because of heat and exceeding dryness. The fruit crop promises average in yield and above normal in quality. Early potatoes have been plentiful, but low in price. Main crop is poor and becoming worse as the season advances. Prospects for crop in general below average.

Experimental Station,
Summerland.

With bright hot weather, crops making rapid growth. Moisture supply is becoming depleted in shallow soil. Early apples, peaches, plums, cucumbers, tomatoes being shipped, quality about average. Pears and canteloupes will move in quantity by middle August. Apple crop estimated twenty per cent above 1929, pear crop twenty per cent below 1929.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations,
Coquitlam.

Weather generally dry and warm with short intervals of extreme heat. This is bringing grain to quick maturity. Cutting of oats starting at coast. Second crop of hay is being harvested. Pastures failing under heat. Raspberries about over. Early apples and apricots on the market.

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