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AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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Ottawa, August 11, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the tenth of a series of weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces.

SUMMARY.

Rains, varying from light showers to heavy downpours, covered most of the western grain lands in the past week. Eastern Manitoba, northern and southwestern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta received the least benefit, but both the Saskatchewan drought area and the Alberta region of heaviest wheat stands received heavy rains.

Harvesting is underway in Manitoba with greatest progress in the southwestern area. The weather has been cool and showery causing slow ripening of late crops and general improvement in pastures, and potato and corn crops. Grasshoppers continue to damage standing crops in many districts.

In Saskatchewan harvesting has commenced but will not be general until next week. Rains and cool weather have been helpful in southern and central portions of the province in improving the feed situation and pastures. The general crop situation remains the same with total failure to light crops in south and fair to good crops in north. Saw-fly and root rot damage is reported more prevalent than usual.

In general the wheat crop of southern Alberta is ripening early due to drought and high temperatures in the latter part of July. Grasshoppers are doing considerable damage in southern districts. Cool weather and heavy precipitation have retarded the maturity of crops in central and northern Alberta and warm dry weather is required in this area to ripen heavy stands of grain.

Meteorological Report.

The following rainfall records (in inches) are reported by the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, for the week ending 8 a.m., August 10:

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Morden	Nil	Humboldt	Nil	Medicine Hat	Nil
Emerson	0.05	Battleford	0.1	Drumheller	0.05
Portage la Prairie	0.2	Macklin	0.2	Lethbridge	0.2
Boissevain	0.2	Outlook	0.2	Cardston	0.3
Dauphin	0.3	Melfort	0.2	Calgary	0.4
Pierson	0.4	Swift Current	0.5	Beaverlodge	0.7
Minnedosa	0.4	Saskatoon	0.5	Coronation	1.4
Winnipeg	0.4	Prince Albert	0.6	Red Deer	1.4
Swan River	0.7	Vidora	0.6	Stettler	1.7
Cypress River	0.8	Assiniboia	0.6	Edmonton	2.5
Le Pas	0.9	Empress	0.7	Vegreville	2.8
Brandon	1.0	Kindersley	0.7		
Russell	1.2	Kamsack	0.7		
		Moosomin	0.7		
		Indian Head	0.9		
		Qu'Appelle	1.0		
		Shaunavon	1.0		
		Elbow	1.1		
		Virden	1.1		
		Broadview	1.3		
		Regina	1.4		
		Estevan	1.6		
		Yorkton	1.6		
		Moose Jaw	1.8		
		Lloydminster	2.1		
		Yellow Grass	2.8		

Weather cool in West today with forecast of scattered showers in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Hail Damage.- The following report was received from the Hail Insurance Board of Alberta: "Hail claims received last week from Rimbey, Ponoka, Camrose, Ryley, Vegreville, Manville, Viking, Vermilion and several other points. Heavy damage reported".

No hail was reported during the past week in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.
Rust.- The following report was received from the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg, Man.: "Little change in rust situation in Manitoba, heavy inspections confined to late fields of common wheat in Red River Valley. Light general infection of stem rust of oats and wheat reported from Canora, Kamsack and Yorkton in north-eastern Saskatchewan".

MANITOBA

Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Harvest progressing practically everywhere but two or three weeks difference in progress in various areas. Recent weather cooler and somewhat showery. Pastures, potatoes and corn improving. In worst drought stricken districts crops even more disappointing than early reports indicated but some nice fields especially of wheat in east and north.

Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Harvest underway but not yet general. Crops ripening slowly since rains commenced. Second growth in oats now in milk stage. Oat rust is prevalent. Weather ideal for filling of all cereal crops.

Experimental Station, Morden.

Crop conditions unchanged. Cutting completed on many farms. Threshing will be in full swing this week. Weather continues dry and cool. Pastures improved. Corn short, roots and potatoes fair. Grasshoppers still continue to be a menace. Stock looking well, feed scarce in many parts.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Dauphin.

Weather past week cool with odd light showers. Considerable wheat in stock and the remainder will be ready for cutting by the end of the week. Some coarse grain ready for binder. No rust damage to any crops. Slight white frost reported last night. Corn and potatoes doing well!

Telegraphic Correspondent, Carman.

Nice rain August first which will help pastures, potatoes, corn and clover crops. Many farmers will finish cutting in few days. Serious damage caused by grasshoppers, also considerable loss from rust. Corn and second growth sweet clover doing well. Summerfallow mostly in good shape. Animals mostly looking fair.

SASKATCHEWAN

Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Some early crops have been cut and some fields for green feed but cutting is not general as yet in any district, according to telegraphic reports received over the week-end by the Statistics Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Several districts expect to start this week and it is likely that cutting will be general next week. Many districts received good rains during the past ten days which were especially welcome in the central and southern portion of the province and also as a relief from the excessively hot weather which several reports indicate caused a serious setback to both grain and feed crops. During the past ten days the weather has been mostly cool and in many districts in the south present moisture conditions appear to be the best of the season. It is generally too late however to materially benefit cereal crops but pastures and feed will improve if favourable weather follows. The grain crop in central and south-central Saskatchewan varies from complete failure to the possibility of seed. In the north they vary with generally fairly good prospects. Traces of rust on the late crops in a few scattered areas are reported but it is not likely that damage from this source will be material. Several also report damage from sawfly which appears to be more prevalent than usual. Live stock are in fair condition and pastures should improve as a result of the recent rains.

Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Rains during past week have improved feed situation. Farmers cutting light grain crops for hay. Pastures improved. Harvesting commences this week.

Experimental Farm, Swift Current.

Rain and cool weather has delayed wheat cutting. Grain yields will be light but quality good. Some sawfly damage now evident. Warmer weather needed to materially improve feed and pasture crop.

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Experimental Station, Scott.

Wheat cutting commencing middle of week. General August seventeenth with promise of average crop. Oat crop not heavy but barley good. No rust but sawfly damage quite noticeable. General crop situation in immediate vicinity fairly good. Proceeding north and west crops improve but southward crop possibilities decrease.

Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Estimate average yield wheat fifteen bushels per acre. Coarse grains will be up to average. Cutting commenced on eighth will be general on twelfth. Farmers selling hay at six dollars per ton to get cash for twine but feed shortage probably here before spring.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon.

Indian Head District root rot severe in wheat and oats, injury from slight to heavy. Very little barley examined. Rye shows considerable infection of a slight nature. Northeast District - Canora, Kamsack, Yorkton common but slight to moderate damage. Oats slightly affected. North section - Humboldt to Melfort, root rot of wheat less than usual injury slight to moderate mostly slight. Oats and barley relatively free from conspicuous root rot. Saskatoon wheat root rot very heavy in some fields and injury moderate to severe, oats, barley and rye show root rot of a slight nature. From reports received root rot prevalent in some fields in the North Battleford area with probable injury in the more severe cases.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current.

Vanguard to Aneroid and Assiniboia heavy rains last week but too late for grain. Will benefit late oats, pastures, gardens. Grain crops practically total failure over most this area. Possibility some feed from late sown oats. Some fields wheat being harvested Lafleche to Assiniboia but light crop.

A L B E R T A

Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology, Edmonton.

Wheat crop in southern Alberta ripening prematurely from effects of drought with light yield generally and considerable root rot. Crops in central Alberta north and east good to particularly heavy in Edmonton district and ripening slowly. Much late grain with the soil moisture abundant. The root rot will continue to increase and cause definite damage in many fields. To date stem rust apparently absent in Alberta.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Grasshopper situation unchanged. Warm weather resulting in heavy oviposition. Alfalfa seed crop at Brooks quite promising but grasshoppers are taking a heavy toll in seed fields as well as in grain crops.

Experiment Station, Lacombe.

With twelve inches rain since June ninth, all crops making very rapid growth and filling well but cool weather delaying ripening. Heavy hail losses in several districts. Wheat promises average yield with barley and oats heavy. All crops about week late. Very little summerfallow or breaking being done.

School of Agriculture, Olds.

Little progress in maturity of crop during past week as weather has been cool with an inch of rain. We have ample moisture and need bright warm weather.

District Agriculturist, Sedgewick.

Three inches of rain general over this district last week. Early seeded wheat and early varieties sown later give promise of a good crop. Later seeding green and will need three weeks to ripen. Some cutting may be done this week. Pastures good. Five per cent of hay damaged by rain. No frost. Little hail damage this week.



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