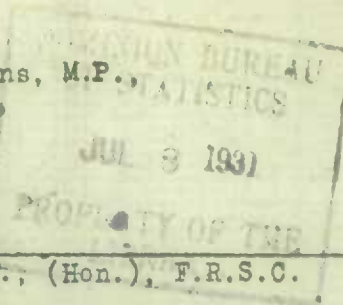


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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



Dominion Statistician:
Chief, Agricultural Branch:

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Ottawa, July 7, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the sixth of a series of weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces.

SUMMARY

The past week has been generally rainy and cool in the West. The moisture was extremely helpful to late grain, pasture, hay and garden crops, and to the filling of the very light wheat crop which is maturing in the central and southern areas. Wheat prospects remain the poorest in the records of the Bureau at this season, but there was a slight improvement during the week.

In Manitoba, the heaviest rainfall was recorded at Brandon, where 5.1 inches fell, but needed moisture was received over practically all the agricultural region. The rain came too late for the wheat crop, which will be very short, but will greatly relieve the feed situation by its effect on grasslands and coarse grains. Grasshoppers are still numerous and destructive.

A similar situation exists in Saskatchewan, where the general rains of the past week were welcomed as a relief to the serious feed situation, but came entirely too late for the early-sown wheat. The northern regions still promise good crops. Freezing temperatures were reached in west-central districts.

In Alberta, the rainfall was very scattered and quite inadequate in the south-east and north-west. West and north of Lethbridge and throughout most of north-central Alberta, the rain was heavy and beneficial. Grasshoppers are increasing in southern Alberta and wheat-stem sawflies are damaging crops in south-central districts. The crops in the Peace River country have been retarded by cool and windy weather, with limited rainfall.

Meteorological Report.

The Meteorological Service, Toronto reports the following precipitation (in inches) in the week ending July 6 at 8 a.m.:

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Winnipeg	1.2	Broadview	1.3	Medicine Hat	1.0
Portage la Prairie	2.5	Estevan	1.4	Foremost	0.7
Morden	0.9	Melfort	2.2	Lethbridge	1.0
Brandon	5.1	Kindersley	1.2	Cardston	1.3
Virden	2.6	Yellow Grass	1.2	Brooks	0.05
Dauphin	1.0	Assiniboia	1.5	Calgary	0.9
Boissevain	2.0	Regina	1.2	Drumheller	2.7
Cypress River	2.4	Humboldt	1.2	Red Deer	0.6
Pierson	1.3	Yorkton	1.2	Coronation	1.1
Russell	0.8	Indian Head	1.2	Stettler	2.1
Emerson	0.7	Empress	0.6	Vegreville	1.8
Swan River	0.5	Macklin	1.4	Edmonton	3.1
Minnedosa	3.1	Outlook	3.2		
		Moose Jaw	1.8		
		Saskatoon	2.8		
		Vidora	1.0		
		Lloydminster	1.8		
		Shaunavon	0.8		
		Elbow	0.5		
		Moosomin	1.0		
		Kamsack	0.2		
		Battleford	0.5		
		Prince Albert	1.8		
		Qu'Appelle	1.2		
		Swift Current	1.1		

Hail Damage.

The following reports on hail damage during the past week have been received from our correspondents:

Manitoba: "Hail fell June 30th damaging about two sections at Brandon, 15 per cent; three sections Basswood-Newdale, wheat - 25 per cent, coarse grains - 10 per cent; Elkhorn, one section, 10 per cent. Very little insurance written, making it difficult estimate extent of areas affected."

Saskatchewan: "Losses reported storm of June 30th, covering small areas in Lafleche, Assiniboia, Mortlach, Caron, Spring Valley, Avonlea and Climax districts. Loss should not be extensive."

Alberta: "Hail claims received from Ponoka, Rimbey, Olds and Acme. Light damage."

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REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

M A N I T O B A

Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Early part last week saw good scattered showers and July 4 brought liberal general rain. Crop in parts of province pitifully thin and short. Grasshopper poisoning proceeding in several districts. Potato beetles numerous. Gardens very poor. Should liberal July rains come, late crop and feed situation will improve greatly.

Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Over five inches rain fell locally during past week. Should supply moisture for light wheat crop and for feed for live stock. Potatoes have greatly improved since early last week and pastures are starting away well. Delayed germination of garden seeds now taking place.

Experimental Station, Morden.

Most early grain crops nearly failure. Later wheat, oats, barley and summer-fallows and corn land benefit from four-fifths inch rain and promise seed and feed and some surplus grain. Corn is good, roots patchy but improving, legume hay fair, grass hay meagre and pastures fair.

Agricultural Representative, Portage la Prairie.

Had three inches rain Friday night after week of cool weather. Still showery. With fair weather, wheat should go twenty now. Hay and pasture very short, but recent rain will greatly improve. Hoppers very numerous. Poison being distributed.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Dauphin.

Two good rains past week will be very beneficial to feed crops and pastures. Heat caused some blight on Reward heads but Marquis escaped by being slightly later. Sweet clover cutting will be general when weather clears. General prospects encouraging.

S A S K A T C H E W A N

Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Rain fell in many districts in Saskatchewan during the past week. While generally considered too late to materially benefit the cereal crops in the area affected by drought, the feed situation has improved, and if good rains continue to come, a serious fodder shortage will be greatly relieved. Over most of the south-central and central part of the province the crop varies from a complete failure to short thin stands. In most of the northern districts, the crop continues to make satisfactory growth.

Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Copious rains during week have improved coarse grains and pasture prospects. Rain too late to benefit wheat crop. Considerable reseeding to oats and barley. Frequent rains required throughout July to ensure winter feed for live stock.

Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Wheat on fallow fully headed, twelve to eighteen inches high. Inch and half rain will help filling, but crop will be short and light. Stubble wheat poor to failure. Pasture and feed prospects improved by rain, but much more rain needed to make sufficient winter feed.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current.

Swift Current to Parkbeg - good rain. Cool weather this week will help grain fill. Too late to make better than half crop wheat on fallow. Early sown crop and stubble land very light or failure. Wheat mostly headed, some in shot blade. Prospects for late sown feed crop much improved. Pastures getting green.

Experimental Station, Posthorn.

Three inches rain during past week have greatly revived crops. Prospect of ten to twelve bushel average. Very little hay but pastures good.

Reports from Correspondents - (Cont'd)

Saskatchewan - (Cont'd)

Experimental Station, Scott.

One and a quarter inches rain fell during past week which means that grain heading under favourable conditions, increasing straw length although many fields thin from earlier blowing and cutworm damage. Large portion northwestern Saskatchewan presents best grain crop prospect since spring opened with ample feed in sight.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Saskatoon.

Generous rains fell in districts from Fenton to Tisdale over the weekend. Crop conditions have improved. Much of the wheat has headed out and promises from fair to good crops.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon.

Cutworm feeding ended for season. Where not too seriously damaged, crops are showing considerable recovery as a result of recent heavy rains. Reseeded and late seeded crops making excellent progress. Grasshoppers continuing moderate ravages and wireworms still active.

ALBERTA

Experimental Station, Lethbridge.

During past week rains from almost an inch to three inches have been general over area south of Calgary and have materially aided late grain but early crop in many districts can now only make partial recovery. In many districts west of Lethbridge crop prospects are extremely promising.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Calgary.

Rains of week steadied grain crops that were suffering for moisture and grain that was normal continued a favourable growth. Vicinity of Lethbridge, dry land crops are injured. Travelling at weekend, Nobleford to Vulcan, grain fair in development, from Vulcan, via High River to Calgary, crop growth good.

Experimental Station, Lacombe.

8.1 inches rain in June and .45 in July has supplied sufficient moisture, but cool weather and high winds somewhat retarding growth. Early-seeded wheat and oats headed with short straw and thin stand, but later seeding stooling well and promises above average yields.

School of Agriculture, Vermilion.

One and three-quarters inches of rain since last report with cool weather. Heat wanted. Grain heavy on fallow and breaking. Wheat thirty per cent in head. Forage crops excellent. All crops looking well.

Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

During past fortnight, crop prospect somewhat impaired by bleak winds following scattered frost injury on twenty-fifth. Widely distributed showers over weekend beneficial but at Beaverlodge, past week's precipitation was only .3 inches and moisture is needed. Northward, the June rains were heavier. Fallow crops weedy as a result of dry weather after plowing last summer. Grain has remarkably good colour. Wheat heading. General prospect still good for grain. Hay light on station.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Recent rains have generally improved conditions from the insect damage point of view. Grasshoppers are increasing throughout southern Alberta, necessitating some control campaign work. Cutworm damage for this season is over. Wheat stem sawfly in south-central Alberta is severely infesting the few fields which have a chance of producing wheat. Lake wireworm injury is increasing in areas receiving recent rains.



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