

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

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Ottawa, July 21, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the eighth of a series of weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces.

SUMMARY

The weather in the West during the past week has been generally favourable for crop growth. Helpful rains fell in most areas, being heaviest in northern Manitoba, south-central Saskatchewan and central Alberta and lightest in southwestern areas of Manitoba and Saskatchewan and in southern Alberta. The late-sown crops have improved in prospects since the first of the month, while wheat on summerfallow not subjected to undue wind and drought damage promises a fair return. The wheat stubbled in or on ploughed land is thin and uneven. In those areas outside the drought region where the wheat stands are heaviest, and particularly in north-central Alberta, hot weather is needed to mature the backward crops. The wheat has now reached the stage where it is subject to hail damage and some bad storms were reported in Alberta.

In Manitoba, the prevailing moderate temperatures and frequent showers have improved all feed crops and have benefited early-sown wheat at the critical filling period. Precipitation was very light in the southwest and drought conditions are again serious in the Deloraine and Pierson districts.

In Saskatchewan, the rainfall was spotty, the heaviest falls being recorded in the drought region southeast of Regina, at Kamsack in the east-centre, and at Battleford and Scott in the northwest. Over the rest of the province, the showers were very light. On the whole, the crop situation has been improved.

The southeast and east-central districts of Alberta are suffering from lack of moisture, but over the rest of the province, good prospects prevail. In many districts, the crops are quite backward and hot weather is required more than rain.

Meteorological Report.

Precipitation during the week ending 8 a.m. July 20, in inches, was reported as follows by the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto:

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

Hail Damage.

The following reports on hail damage were received from our correspondents in Manitoba and Alberta:

Manitoba: "Hail fell July 15 damaging approximately five sections average of 35 per cent southwest of St. Agathe."

Alberta: "In the past week, hail fell at Vulcan, Olds, Cheadle, Crossfield, Wimborne, Trench, Huxley, Rumsey, Big Valley, Provost, Oyen, Evergreen, Rimbey, and Ponoka. Some of the storms very destructive."



REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

MANITOBA

Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Past week very favourable. Good scattered showers and moderate temperatures. Vegetation growing rapidly. Crop prospects improving. Insects prevalent, especially grasshoppers.

Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Good growing weather. Barley and field corn have made rapid growth due to thin stands of early crop. Wild oats are more abundant than usual and will seriously decrease the yield of market grain. Increase in cream deliveries is result of improvement in pastures.

Experimental Station, Morden.

Late rains have had beneficial effect on all crops, particularly late oats and barley. Wheat crop very light, some summerfallows will probably yield as high as 12 to 15 bushels, while fall ploughing will be very short and hard to handle and yield probably 4 to 8 bushels. Cutting fall rye.

Agricultural Representative, Carman.

Some rain during week; mostly warm. Early crops ripening. Late crops improving. A few good crops clover and alfalfa. Weeds very bad. Hopper damage in most fields, also wheat stem maggot. Caragana beetles damaging beans and hedges. Sufficient moisture for present. Traces of stem rust.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Deloraine.

Heat and lack of moisture during past 10 days again creating serious condition with both crops and feed, some wheat being ploughed down or pastured. Rain badly needed.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Minnedosa.

Have had several nice showers; enough moisture at present. Hay, pastures, gardens and late grains improving, but some early wheat blighted in the blossom during hot weather of June 26 to 29.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin.

Many heavy showers this past week excellent for feed crops and filling wheat. Very poor hay weather. Some clover and alfalfa lying in swamp for week. Practically no sign of rust yet. Stock doing well on improved pastures. Bright weather would benefit hay.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell.

Scattered showers and warm weather. Wheat filling satisfactorily and late grains making fair progress. Practically all grains headed. No stem rust reported. Small damage from stem maggot. Yields apparently will be all the way from poor to fairly good.

SASKATCHEWAN

Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Further improvement is shown in crop conditions as a result of heavy showers which have fallen in many parts of the province during the past week. Crops in the north continue to show fairly good promise, while in the drier areas in central and southern Saskatchewan, the fodder situation has benefited considerably. Some hail damage has been reported, but the area affected is not widespread.

Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Rains during past week have greatly improved general crop conditions. Feed prospects improving. More rain required. Subsoil very dry. Pasture fields picked up.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, reporting from Yorkton.

Yorkton to Churchbridge - grain on fallow, fair; on stubble land, mostly light, uneven. One and half inches rain Churchbridge July to date had improved crop prospects. Grain filling well. Hay crop light.



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S A S K A T C H E W A N - Cont'd.

Experimental Station, Scott.

Almost an inch of rain received during past week will be materially helpful in filling grain crops. South for sixty miles considerable second growth promoted by recent rains destined to produce uneven maturity. Good prospect north, but south little to no crop in evidence. Pastures fair to good.

A L B E R T A

Department of Agriculture, Edmonton.

Showers were reported at many points during the last week. Crops in north central and western area and in the Peace River district are making excellent growth, but later than usual. Rapid rise in temperature July 19 will hasten maturity. Feed situation tends to improve. Haying in progress; supply will be adequate to needs.

Experimental Station and Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge.

Scattered showers at some points, but on whole weather dry and hot. Crops very spotted. Generally speaking, best crops will be in same areas as last year as west of Lethbridge conditions mainly good. Southeast fair, 80 per cent will be harvested; while east and northeast, perhaps 40 per cent. Some grasshopper damage. Irrigated districts generally satisfactory.

Experimental Substation, Beaverlodge.

All northerly points still report crop conditions excellent with abundance moisture and no recent damage. Grand Prairie district fair, except central portion where early crop did not stool and yield there consequently estimated about half of last year's. At Beaverlodge, light rains totalled 0.25 inches. Much heavier rain at other points. Crop growing nicely and blossoming prolonged. Strong easterly winds drying ground today; rain needed.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Grasshoppers increasing throughout southern Alberta and causing some losses to grain. Considerable poison bait being used and several mixing stations opened. Reports of false chinch bug injuring grain may be very serious if weather remains dry.

Experimental Station, Lacombe.

Frequent light showers with warmer weather following. Rapid growth of early seed. Wheat and oats headed, straw good length, but thin stand and short heads. Crops all about 10 days late. A little hail damage. Haying started. Less breaking and summer-fallow than usual being done.

Agricultural School, Okla.

With ample moisture and higher temperatures, crops making excellent progress. Seventy-five per cent wheat in head. Several local hail storms.

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Maryberries.

Crops suffering from recent high temperature. Wheat beginning to ripen; some not well filled. Eye all out in past week; very light crop.

Late Reports

Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

No rain. Crops being forced. Yield certain to be low and feed short.

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