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

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Ottawa, August 3, 1932, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the fourth of a series of six fortnightly telegraphic reports on crop conditions throughout Canada. This service is based on the valued co-operation of 85 correspondents composed of agriculturists of the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, as well as a number of selected private observers. Most of the provincial Departments of Agriculture send in summaries for their provinces, based on advices received from their own field men. The Meteorological Service, Toronto provides official precipitation data.

SUMMARY

During the past two weeks there has been a further improvement in crop conditions in the Maritime Provinces and eastern Quebec. Western Quebec and eastern Ontario crops have suffered severely from lack of rainfall. In western Ontario, the weather has been more favourable, but crops will not yield heavily. A good winter wheat crop is now being threshed; the expected yields were lowered by damage from lodging and Hessian fly. Corn is a rather poor and patchy crop in most districts of eastern Canada because of the cool and dry weather. The potato crop is improved, but subject to blight. The hay crop was very moderate in size and quality was impaired by weathering in many large districts. There has been little change in fruit prospects during the past fortnight, with growth proceeding normally despite prevalence of disease.

The month of July was again fateful to the prospects of a bumper western wheat crop. Fair to excellent prospects still remain in Manitoba, northern Saskatchewan and north-central and western Alberta, but the large central wheat area which was drought-stricken in some degree during the seasons of 1929, 1930 and 1931 has been greatly reduced in crop prospects during the past three weeks. This decline is still proceeding and is rather rapid in certain wide areas. Rainfall on the prairies during the past week was the lightest since early spring. The western rye crop was improved by early July rains and is yielding better than expected. Coarse grains have suffered even more than wheat from insect and weather damage.

In British Columbia, prospects for field, garden and orchard crops have further improved during the past two weeks. Along the lower coast and on Vancouver Island, the rainfall has been very heavy, but some interior and northern districts are suffering from drought.

Maritime Provinces.

Continued improvement in crop prospects features most of the reports from these provinces.

In Prince Edward Island, there is now an abundance of moisture and all crops are growing rapidly. Pastures are much better and potatoes, though patchy, are promising. Hay and oats have benefited particularly from the plentiful rains.

Nova Scotia crop conditions are fairly generally improved, but some damage to the quality of hay has resulted from the rainy weather. Cereals and roots have been greatly accelerated in growth. Cherries and strawberries yielded fair crops, while raspberries are a little better. Apples are promising and are sizing rapidly.

Most crops and pastures in New Brunswick have improved under the more favourable weather conditions of recent weeks. The yield of hay is better than anticipated but quality has been lowered by weathering. Root and cereal crops are making fine progress. Potatoes are also promising, but there is some fear of late blight. Apples are sizing normally.

Quebec.

Considerable variation in crop conditions has become more evident in recent weeks. Rainfall has been more plentiful in eastern areas, but crops in some western districts are suffering from drought. Haying is nearly completed and only a fair yield of good quality was harvested. Late-sown crops and pastures are improved. The cool season has resulted in backward growth and crops such as corn are quite poor.

Gardens and orchards are promising. Tobacco is late, but improving. The potato crop has made fine progress recently.

Ontario.

Crops in most districts have suffered through the effects of unfavourable weather. The eastern and Lake Ontario counties have had very limited rainfall, but still some hay was spoilt by wet weather. Prospects in western Ontario are better. The wheat harvest is completed and threshing is proceeding. The crop is heavy, but less than anticipated because of damage from lodging and Hessian fly. Corn and late-sown cereals and roots are generally patchy. Oats will be a light crop. Other spring grains are uneven, but improving.

Prairie Provinces.

The wheat harvest has commenced in most districts of Manitoba and will be general within a few days. Although there is a wide variation in yields, the provincial average will be nearly normal. Coarse grains, because of later seeding, have not been so fortunate. Grasshoppers, weeds and drought have reduced their promise considerably in most districts. Gardens have also suffered from the same causes.

In the Morden district, where drought prevailed earlier in the summer, the season is reported as exceptionally early, with cutting 75 per cent completed and some threshing machines now operating.

Hot weather has hastened the ripening of grain crops, but the kernels have filled well.

There is a wide variance in crop conditions in Saskatchewan. The south and south-central districts have continued to suffer from drought and deterioration has recently been more rapid in the east-central and west-central districts. Only fair crops are possible in the southeastern and southwestern corners. Northern districts still promise high yields.

Over most of the south and centre of the province, rains are needed; in many districts, only early rains will prevent serious and rapid declines in yield prospects.

Cutting of wheat has commenced but will not be general for about 10 or 12 days.

Hot, dry days with a few thunderstorms containing hail have prevailed recently.

Pastures are falling off.

The weather has been generally fair and hot in Alberta with some thunder and hail storms. Rains improved conditions in the southeast and in the Peace River district, but not before severe drought damage had become evident. In the central areas southeast of Edmonton, where much wheat and oats are grown, the dry hot weather caused great damage in the past week. Along the foothills and in the Saskatchewan valley, crops are still very promising.

Hail Damage.

Our correspondent in Regina reports that the only storm which did considerable damage in Saskatchewan last week was in the Creelman-Heward-Stoughton area, where many crops sustained one hundred per cent loss.

The Hail Insurance Board of Alberta received claims from 20 municipal districts in the past week with appraisers reporting heavy damage in 3 of these.

Meteorological Report.

The following precipitation was recorded in the week ending August 1 at 7 a.m. (in inches) by the Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto:

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Le Pas	0.1	Kindersley	0.1	Medicine Hat	0.1
Swan River	0.1	Assiniboia	0.1	Coronation	0.1
Dauphin	0.1	Saskatoon	0.1	Stettler	0.1
Cypress River	0.2	Kamsack	0.1	Edmonton	0.3
Morden	0.2	Qu'Appelle	0.2	Beaverlodge	0.4
Portage la Prairie	0.2	Consul	0.2	Vegreville	0.4
Russell	0.2	Lloydminster	0.2	Red Deer	0.4
Emerson	0.5	Shaunavon	0.2	Cardston	0.4
Brandon	0.9	Outlook	0.2		
Boissevain	1.1	Moose Jaw	0.2		
Winnipeg	1.2	Yorkton	0.2		
Pierson	1.3	Prince Albert	0.3		
		Swift Current	0.3		
		Melfort	0.3		
		Indian Head	0.3		
		Broadview	0.3		
		Moosomin	0.3		
		Regina	0.4		
		Virden	0.6		
		Yellow Grass	0.6		
		Estevan	0.9		

Empress and Elbow in Saskatchewan and Calgary, Alberta recorded precipitation of less than one-tenth of an inch.

- 2A -

British Columbia.

The weather has been dull and cool in the Okanagan and Interior districts and very wet on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. The Windermere district is suffering from drought. Haying has been delayed and the quality of the crop lowered by wet weather. Pastures have improved and grain and root crops are about average. The apple crop is sizing rapidly with some loss in quality and tonnage due to scab. Small fruits have suffered in some districts from heavy rains and hail, but are still promising.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS FOR CANADA

The following weather synopsis has been wired at noon today (August 3) by the Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto: Pressure is high over the Gulf of St. Lawrence and in the Western States but low in the Canadian Northwest while a moderate disturbance is passing northeast off Bermuda. A depression over the Great Lakes is causing rather heavy rain with thunderstorms in many districts of Ontario. In other parts of the Dominion the weather has been fair and it is now moderately warm. In the Western Provinces.

Forecasts: Lower Lake Region and Georgian Bay, fresh southwest to west winds, clearing tonight. Thursday, northwesterly winds, fair and moderately warm.

Northern Ontario, fresh northeast winds with rain. Thursday, winds shifting to westerly, clearing.

Ottawa and Upper St. Lawrence Valley, fresh southeast to southwest winds with rain and thunderstorms. Thursday, westerly winds, clearing before night.

Northwestern Quebec, fresh northeast winds with rain. Thursday, winds shifting to westerly, clearing.

Lower St. Lawrence and Lake St. John, fresh easterly winds, becoming unsettled tonight with rain on Thursday.

Gulf and North Shore, moderate winds, fair. Thursday, fresh easterly winds, cloudy, followed by showers.

Maritime West, fair at first, fresh southerly winds and becoming unsettled tonight and Thursday with showers, probably fog.

Maritime east, light winds, fair. Thursday, fresh southeast winds, becoming unsettled.

Grand Banks, moderate winds, mostly westerly, fair today and Thursday.

American Ports, fresh southwest winds, warm with thundershowers today and Thursday, fog on coast.

Lake Superior, Kenora and Rainy River, fresh westerly winds, fair tonight and Thursday.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan, westerly winds, fair and moderately warm today and Thursday.

Alberta, westerly winds, fair and somewhat warmer today and Thursday.

Reports from Correspondents.

NOVA SCOTIA

Dominion Experimental Farm, Nappan.

A very marked improvement noted in all crops during the past two weeks, except corn and mangels. Hay, wheat, oats and barley now promise better than average, with favourable weather continuing. Potatoes, tree fruits, average; bush fruits, below average; pastures, good up to date. Poor hay-making weather has prevailed, which will result in a high percentage being overripe when cut.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kentville.

Frequent showers delaying harvesting hay crop, which is much better than first expected and above normal. Roots, cereal crops making splendid growth. Apples sizing well and good crop generally. Cherries and strawberries harvested; fair crops. Raspberries are good crop.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Department of Agriculture, Fredericton.

Haying general but progressing slowly now, two to three weeks later than last year. Half uplands cut; crop heavier than first anticipated. Grains headed and progressing favourably. Potatoes, roots promising average yields.

Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton.

Heavy hay crops. Continued wet weather retarding hay-making. Grain, heavy straw, comparatively little lodging or disease. Potatoes fair, but danger of late blight, owing to mild humid weather. Roots and vegetables good. Corn backward. Apples promising crop. Pastures excellent.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Fredericton.

Hay harvest proceeding slowly due to rain and dark weather. Grain crops luxuriant but starting to lodge. Potato growers anticipate late blight due to sultry weather. Root crops making good growth. Pastures good. Hay yield will be average, but quality poor.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Fredericton.

Field crop insects generally well under control. No infection on other than small individual fields known to exist in the province.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere (reporting from Edmundston, N.B.)

Haying is much delayed by rainy weather which has prevailed for a month. Cereal crops are making satisfactory growth and promise yields equivalent to last year, if not better. Root crops are fair. While there is some mosaic in potatoes, there is no blight noticed yet.

QUEBEC

Department of Agriculture, Quebec.

Lower St. Lawrence: - Grains have excellent appearance; potatoes are very good; gardens are excellent. Hay crop fair. Rainy during July. Pastures fair. Quebec, Abitibi and Lake St. John: - Grains, good; potatoes are in bloom and look very well. Pastures are excellent. Hay crop fair, except in Charlevoix where there is a big decrease. Hay-making was delayed by frequent rains. Southeast of Montreal and Ottawa Valleys: - Hay is generally all in and is of good quality. Grains have good appearance. Pastures are poor. The crop of clover seed is nil; that of timothy seed has good appearance. Vegetables, good; potatoes excellent. Fodder corn growing well; growth is being favoured by cool temperature.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville.

Hay crop mostly harvested. Considerable improvement from estimate; slightly below average. Grain crop in excellent condition, still green and growing. Corn backward and very short. Root and potato prospects good. Pasture good. Ample rainfall although temperatures low.

Dominion Experimental Station, La Verme.

Hay-making has just started, three weeks behind normal date; hay is below the average in the district and at the farm. Cereals, potatoes and green forage are very nice. Rain nearly every day. Pastures are good and the milk flow abundant.

Dominion Experimental Station, Farnham.

Haying mostly done; general quality better than last year. Yield good on light soils; poor on heavy soils. Clover is poor on both types of soils. Oats very good. Corn good. Tobacco late and uneven; yield per acre expected to be below average. Fruits and truck crops very good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Cap Rouge.

Most of hay is stored. Pastures were greatly improved by rain. Oats, sunflowers and roots are about average. Apples and potatoes are promising. Garden crops and ornamental plants are good. Plums are medium. The weather is rather cold for the season.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Hemmingford.

Haying well advanced; crop medium to light. Corn very poor. Oats and barley fair. Potatoes very good. Sufficient rainfall, but cold nights. Apples fair to good; very little scab, but hail injury plentiful. No serious outbreaks of insects or diseases.

Dominion Experimental Station, L'Assomption.

Very light crop of hay, but harvested in good condition. Oats are very promising. Some of the early oats are ready for cutting. Corn crop going well. Potatoes are very good. Tobacco improved very much during the two last weeks; there are some good fields but most of the fields are very late.

Dominion Experimental Station, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

The hay harvest; somewhat late, is well under way with slightly less crop than last year. Cereal and potato crops are promising. Small fruits good, with corn progressing slowly. Precipitation for July very good. Weather slightly cool for best results. Honey crop very poor, due to too much rain.

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

On the average the hay harvest is late but the crop is lighter than last year. Potatoes and root crops promising on some stations, medium on others. A few stations have started ploughing for summerfallow. Weather cool. Precipitation good. Pasture good.

ONTARIO

Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Rainfall has been abundant during July in all districts except eastern Ontario where rain is still needed. Haying has been prolonged and much hay has been damaged by wet weather. Fall wheat yields lower than expected as result of heavy lodging and damage by hessian fly. All spring crops have improved during month but yield of grains will be lower than last year. Alfalfa seed is setting poorly. Pastures are holding up well.

Dominion Experimental Station, Harrow.

Production of both flue-cured and burley tobaccos will be considerably less than last season. Corn crop much poorer than last year; many late crops and poor stands. Corn borers already causing damage. However, crop prospects in western Ontario are as good or better than other districts in province.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Strathroy.

Insect injury light. Wheat cutting finished; crop generally heavy; many fields badly lodged. General light infestation of hessian fly. Wet weather has retarded hay-making; some hay completely spoilt. Corn and root crops making satisfactory growth. The oat crop is lighter than usual. Pastures are in excellent shape.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Chatham.

Crops in district doing well. Threshing general. Hessian fly infestation shows increase over last year but serious only on localized farms.

MANITOBA

Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg (reporting from Dauphin).

Two weeks variation in maturity of crops in different parts of Manitoba. Cutting well advanced in earliest districts but majority of fields quite green in later parts. Crop maturing normally and should yield quite up to or above ten-year average. Scattered showers with some hail during last week. Strong wind today. Rust attacks so far negligible.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Cutting seventy-five per cent completed. Few threshing machines are going. Late crop being badly attacked by grasshoppers. Considerable crop cut green to avoid complete loss. Season exceptionally early. Crop light. Pastures poor. Corn crop looking well but being damaged by grasshoppers since cutting of crop began.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Treesbank.

The grasshopper situation is unchanged. Infestation of wheat by the wheat stem sawfly is now apparent over a fairly wide area more particularly between Hamiota and Griswold. The damage to date is not great.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

This has been a week of exceptional favourable weather. Crops have ripened unusually rapidly and wheat harvest has commenced. Early sown grain has filled well. Yield will vary greatly in different districts with fair to very good yield predominating.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Carman.

Warm dry weather has brought crop in early. Harvest general. Hoppers damaging oats and barley; must be cut at once to save. Wheat not heavy, but fair yield and grade expected. Pastures dry. Flies very bad.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Minnedosa.

Weather has been hot and dry. Wheat cutting has begun; will be general by end of week. Late wheat and oats may be affected by rust. Considerable weeds in some crops, which will reduce yield. Haying almost completed. Most summer-fallows are being kept in fairly good shape.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Dauphin.

Cutting wheat started and will soon be general. Whole crop coming in fast so some wheat will be cut on the green side. All crops at present appear to yield above average. Corn and alfalfa doing well. Some excellent catches of spring-sown clover and alfalfa.

Agricultural Representative, Teulon.

Wheat cutting general this week; berries plump. Coarse grains filling nicely but some of these crops will have to be cut owing to grasshoppers stripping heads. Present weather as last week, variable from extreme heat to cool evenings, some rain. Balmoral district, crops lighter, shortage moisture. Garden crops suffering some damage from hoppers. No hail.

SASKATCHEWAN

Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Crops in different parts of the province vary from excellent to very poor. Heat and dry weather have put the crops back in the areas of low moisture, especially in the south-central and central districts and here the crop varies from fair to very poor. In the northern districts the crops are fairly uniform with a good stand and give promise of good yields. Prospects in the east-central and west-central areas are from fair to good, although in some districts the crops have deteriorated as a result of the heat. In the southeast, the grain is more patchy but on the whole the crops here as well as in the extreme southwest are fair. In the northern areas, there is ample moisture but in the south, rains are needed and in many places urgently needed, especially for the later crops. The crop on the whole is free from disease. A few hail storms have occurred and some fairly heavy damage reported in the Heward, Stoughton and Lampman districts. The prospective date of cutting shows wide variation. Odd fields of early varieties of wheat have been cut and in some districts cutting will start this week, while in others it will not be general before the end of next week. Rye cutting has commenced in all districts and is completed in some. Live stock are generally in good condition and, with the exception of the drier areas, pastures are reported in good condition.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Dry, hot weather forcing early sown wheat to premature ripening. Wheat harvest commenced in some districts. Rain and cool weather required to advance late wheat and coarse grains to maturity. Thunder showers and scattered hail damage during week.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Weather hot with few showers. Wheat ripening too rapidly for best filling. Rain would still benefit late crops. Condition southeast getting worse; elsewhere, this general area will have average crop wheat, oats, flax. Rye cutting almost finished. Wheat harvest will begin August eighth to twelfth.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current (reporting from Weyburn)

Lisieux - weather hot; grain ripening too fast; light crop; grasshopper damage. Willow Bunch - crops on fallow fair to light; stubble land very light; harvesting started. Avonlea - fallow crop fair; stubble land fair to light, ripening too fast; harvest started. Radville to Trossachs - fallow grain fair crop; stubble land fair to light, spotty; ripening too fast.

Dominion Experimental Station, Posthern.

No rainfall during week. Wheat ripening rapidly due to hot dry weather. Moisture in soil deficient where the growth has been heavy. Late-sown crops and pasture will suffer if rain does not come soon. Stem rust appeared on July seventh. No severe damage is anticipated owing to advanced stage of grain. Wheat cutting expected to commence about August fifth.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

Wheat prospect average, oats slightly above, and barley slightly below in immediate vicinity. Expect fall rye cutting to commence in about a week and wheat cutting general about middle August. No crop diseases of major importance. Past week has been hot and dry with pastures falling off.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon.

Insect conditions substantially the same as last report. There is evidence that the infestation of wheat stem sawfly is generally heavy.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Scattered showers improved crop conditions in certain areas. Early sown wheat ripening fast and, in some cases, badly burned. Cutting fairly general in the next ten days. Rain badly needed for later crops. Range and pasture conditions good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe (reporting from Red Deer).

Dry warm weather during week was favourable for grain crops and for haying, which is now general and very heavy. Wheat heads large and filling well. Oats and barley somewhat uneven in stand and will yield relatively lower than wheat. Severe hail damage but over small area during week.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Crop conditions, since last report, Edmonton district quite dry not hot. Good ripening weather. Wheat heads well filled. Harvest looks like starting August 20. Weather now quite cool and cloudy. Odd hail storm; nothing serious. Peace River districts had good rains early last week; good help to late grains and filling early wheat. Crop estimated at sixty per cent of last season.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Crop prospect decidedly improved during past week by frequent showers totalling .81 inches Beaverlodge and bringing July total to 1.93 inches with 2.57 at Fairview. Some hail both north and south of Peace may reduce yield by quarter million or more.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Camrose.

Since last report we have had no rain but mostly hot and windy. Crops are suffering badly, drying up and ripening too fast; some fields forty per cent gone. Oats sown early are not too bad but late-sown will not amount to much; barley much the same. Pastures are turning brown. Cows slacking off in milk. Gardens are suffering. Taking it all around, crop prospects have gone back twenty-five per cent in the last two weeks.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge.

Drought with heat continued at Lethbridge throughout past eight days. July rainfall 0.74 inch. These conditions have cut back crop considerably. Spring wheat harvest commencing on a number of farms. Taber reports combined wheat grading number one delivered to the elevator August second.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Olds.

Wheat all headed out. Sufficient moisture. About 7 per cent hail damage. Oats and barley 75 per cent headed and all grains are coming on fast lately with plenty of warm weather.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

Crops are generally good. Plenty of moisture. Beginning to ripen in spots. Hail damage little.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Grasshoppers abundant in some new areas. Oviposition commencing with weather ideal for same at present. Prospects are second generation of beet web-worms will be bad. Considerable damage to alfalfa by same reported. Potato beetles and aphids still bad.

-8-
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Vancouver Island and Lower Mainland districts have experienced one of the wettest Julys on record. In Okanagan and interior districts, weather during past two weeks dull and cool, with odd light showers. Haying considerably delayed and quality will be below average. Second cutting alfalfa in full swing. Fall wheat harvesting commenced. Good crop of all grains. Roots and truck garden stuff coming along fine. Pastures improving. All tree fruits sizing rapidly and indicate fruit normal to above in size for the growth period. Apple scab is prevalent and has already seriously reduced grade prospects in McIntosh; tonnage also has been affected to some extent.

Dominion Experimental Station, Windermere.

July rainfall half average. Crops need irrigation or rain badly. Second crop alfalfa likely to be reduced fifteen per cent. Spring sown grains are beginning to ripen and will be average crops. Small fruits have been above average. In field, stock in good condition but ranges need rainfall.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Agassiz.

July with 4.3 inches precipitation, the wettest for six years. Much hay spoiled. Hot dry weather badly needed to mature good oat crop and save remainder of hay, and help corn. Roots good. Harvesting discouraging. Raspberry crop completed. Pastures good. Live stock and poultry conditions slightly improved.

Dominion Experimental Station, Summerland.

Heavy rain with scattered hail week of July tenth caused extensive cherry splitting, also damaged second crop alfalfa. Severe wind July twenty-eighth caused heavy losses of pears, early apples, corn and tobacco. Cantaloupe and tomato harvest commencing. Nights remain very cool. July sunshine lowest since nineteen eighteen.

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