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

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Ottawa, June 14, 1932, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the first of a series of six fortnightly telegraphic reports on crop conditions throughout Canada. This service is based on the valued co-operation of 75 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 Department 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

There is a rather wide variance in crop conditions throughout Canada. Seeding and growth are backward in the Maritimes, Quebec, and eastern Ontario. In central and southern Ontario and in the western provinces, crops look much more promising. The western grain crops are much improved over 1931. Fruit prospects range from good in the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario to excellent in British Columbia.

The spring season was very backward in the Maritimes and growth has been much slower than usual. Hay and pasture lands have less than normal promise because of winter-killing, weeds and cool weather. Potato acreage is reduced and the area in grains is somewhat higher. The set of apple blossoms promises a crop approaching average; plums and cherries will give a fair yield; while bush fruits and strawberries have been damaged to some extent.

Over most of Quebec and in eastern and northern Ontario, the weather has been similarly cold and dry so that the season is very backward. In the southern and central counties of Ontario, there has been more rainfall and higher temperatures so that the yield outlook is more promising. Fall wheat is maintaining its high condition.

In the Prairie Provinces, recent rains have been fairly well distributed, but northern and south-eastern areas of Manitoba report that drought is reducing crop prospects. Grasshoppers and cutworms are numerous and menacing, but still fairly well under control. The crops throughout Alberta promise particularly high yields. The general soil moisture situation is quite satisfactory at present, but June and July rains must be relied on to offset the deficiencies resulting from three years of drought.

In British Columbia, temperatures have been high and very little rain has fallen recently, so that, while present prospects are good, rain will soon be needed. Strawberries and early cherries are now being shipped and are excellent.

The Maritime Provinces.

Although the spring season was late in Prince Edward Island, the cool, dry weather during May was very favourable for seeding and planting. Subsequent weather has been rather cool, thus retarding growth. The acreage is slightly reduced. Meadows are weedy and some sown in 1931 wintered badly. The season is now less than a week later than normal.



In Nova Scotia, the seeding was completed earlier than first expected and recent favourable weather has improved prospects for hay, pasture and field crops. In the Annapolis Valley, the apple blossom was slightly less than last year, but the fruit is setting well. Low areas were slightly affected by frost. Strawberries were also injured by frost. The set of plums and cherries was only fair. Winter-killing will reduce the yield of hay and pasture lands.

New Brunswick crops have been checked in growth by the cold, wet weather. Hay and pasture crops are more promising than in Nova Scotia, but clover winter-killed considerably. Prospects for apples and other tree and bush fruits are fair. The grain acreage is increased and promises a good return.

In all three provinces, insects are abundant, but damage is well under control.

Quebec.-

Seeding was late in most districts, but was completed under excellent conditions. Dry, cold weather has caused diminished growth of hay and pasture and spring grains. In the townships south of Montreal and in the Ottawa Valley, winter-killing of hay lands was very severe. Recently, rains have improved the outlook, but crop conditions are generally below average.

Ontario.-

In eastern and far western districts of Ontario, crops have suffered in the cold, dry weather. In southern and central counties, conditions are much better. Fall wheat is exceptionally promising. Cutworms are causing some damage to gardens and spring grains. The fruit prospects are generally good.

The Prairie Provinces.-

During the past week, there has been a further improvement in the crop situation over most of Saskatchewan and Alberta, but a distinct decline in some districts of Manitoba. Southern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba received particularly heavy rains during the week.

In Manitoba the crops are well advanced, but in some northern and southern districts, drought is forcing the grain too rapidly. Wheat is in the shot blade in some places. Grass crops are generally short and sparse. Grasshoppers are still menacing, but under control, except in the Morden district, where fields have been badly damaged.

In Saskatchewan, the crops have made excellent growth because of general rains and warm weather. Wind-damaged crops are recovering slowly. Grasshoppers are troublesome south and west of Regina and cutworms are generally present over the south-central area. The weather has restricted insect damage.

Alberta crops continue to show the greatest promise with weather and soil conditions almost ideal. Cutworm damage has increased and grasshoppers are hatching in southern areas, but reports give very few complaints of any nature.

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Meteorological Report

In the week ending June 13, at 7 a.m., the following precipitation was reported at western points by the Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto, (in inches):

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Swan River	0.1	Yorkton	0.1	MacLeod	0.1
Dauphin	0.1	Kamsack	0.5	Drumheller	0.2
Russell	0.1	Mobsomin	0.5	Cardston	0.2
Emerson	0.4	Elbow	0.7	Lethbridge	0.5
Portage la Prairie	0.9	Consul	0.7	Stettler	0.5
Pierson	1.3	Broadview	0.8	Red Deer	0.9
Boissevain	1.5	Saskatoon	1.0	Foremost	0.9
Brandon	3.2	Outlook	1.1		
		Regina	1.4		
		Virden	1.6		
		Estevan	1.7		
		Cypress Hills	1.7		
		Yellow Grass	2.0		
		Melfort	2.0		
		Assiniboia	2.4		
		Moose Jaw	2.4		
		Indian Head	2.4		
		Shaunavon	2.6		
		Humboldt	3.3		

Macklin in Saskatchewan and Empress on the border between Saskatchewan and Alberta reported rainfall of less than one-tenth of an inch.

Forecast:-

The weather has been mostly fair and warm in the western provinces. A few light scattered showers have occurred in Ontario and in western Nova Scotia. Manitoba - fair and warm today and most of Wednesday. Saskatchewan - fair and warm; Wednesday, mostly fair and warm, probably a few local thundershowers. Alberta - mostly fair today and Wednesday with local showers or thunderstorms.

Hail Damage.-

Our correspondent in Regina reports some damage to fall rye as a result of storm of June 6. The area was not extensive.

REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Dominion Experimental Station, Charlottetown.

Planting season late. Cool, dry weather during May very favourable for seeding and planting; these were completed about average dates. Germination good. Cereals and vegetables made satisfactory growth. Potato planting late; acreage below average. Pastures and old meadows fair; new meadows generally poor and weedy. Fruit promising. Insects numerous.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Charlottetown.

Season 1932 about four days later than 1931. Average seeding dates from thirteen stations as follows: wheat and oats, May 20; potatoes, June 7; corn and turnips, June 11. Weather cold at present, retarding growth. Clover and timothy average but sheep sorrell prevalent. Increased acreage in fodder corn. Potato acreage slightly reduced.

NOVA SCOTIA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Halifax.

First part May cold and dry facilitating work. Seeding completed earlier than expected; larger acreage ploughed last fall seeded to grain and roots for feed. Acreage potatoes less in general. Stock turned into pasture twentieth May; pastures steadily improving. Spring lambs average number; quality above average. Valley orchards well cared for; blossom slightly less; fruit apparently setting well. Poultry production high. Increased garden crops. Hay crop variable; many seeding alfalfa.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Nappan.

Seeding operations retarded by unsettled weather during latter part of May. One-third swede and potato area planted to date. Condition grain, grass and pasture land fair; clover generally badly winter killed. Prospects at least average crop yield, except hay. Warmer weather badly needed.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kentville.

Although lower than normal temperature with considerable rain, the grass, grain and root crops are normal. Frost in some sections has injured apple blossoms, but in general a normal set is apparent. Injury to strawberries from frost reported in some sections. Plums and cherries a fair set only.

Entomological Laboratory, Annapolis Royal.

Apple blossom average. Frosts affected low areas valley. Individual severe losses. Area involved not large. All pests under control to date. Blossoms set excellently. Present prospects apple crop average or slightly larger. Hay and grass excellent; other crops average, but backward.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Fredericton.

Seeding began two weeks late. Optimum working conditions account for completing sowing wheat, oats, potatoes usual time in northwestern, central and southern regions. Northeastern section later and work delayed by rains week beginning June fifth. Ten days required for finishing operations. Acreage oats increased; potatoes decreased. Hay fair to good southern section; poorer north.

Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton.

Cold wet weather has checked growth of hoed crops and increased cost of weed control. Hay and pastures good. Clover plentiful. Grain promising. Roots, corn, potatoes and vegetables backward. Bush fruits promising. Some winter-killing of strawberries. Prospects fair apple crop.

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NEW BRUNSWICK (Cont'd.)

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Fredericton.

Favourable seeding season. Grain acreage increased; potato acreage decreased. Abundant moisture. Heat needed. Pastures, hay land and grain crops promising; clover below average due to winter-killing, may be increased acreage. Root and garden crops backward. Couch grass control difficult due to frequent rain.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Fredericton.

Garden cutworms, potato beetles and striped cucumber beetles numerous and causing injury. Raspberry byturus widespread and injurious to cultivated and wild raspberry buds. Field crops in good condition.

QUEBEC

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Quebec.

Lower St. Lawrence: Excellent temperature up to date, though rather cold. Seeding practically through under good conditions and grains are germinating well. Hay has good appearance; pastures, medium; gardens, excellent. Ottawa Valley: General appearance of hay fields, average; seventy-five per cent of clover and alfalfa winter-killed. Oats growing well. Fodder corn all sown. Vegetation tardy.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville.

Prospects good for average hay crop, ten to twelve days later than last year, with light crop of clover. Prospects for grain good, fruit favourable.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Hammingford.

Season somewhat late due periods cold wet weather. Hail has been frequent lately, but only serious over ten square miles North Hammingford. Most grain sown and up few inches. Most corn planted. Hay fair. Clovers and alfalfa light. Pastures medium. Apples set well; promise good crop.

Dominion Experimental Station, Farnham.

Fifty per cent winter injury in new prairie hay crop; outlook poor, June rains beneficial to prairies. Oats looking good. Tobacco acreage reduced ten per cent; one-quarter acreage now planted. Weather cold in June, all crops suffered. Hail storm caused damage in scattered parts of the district.

Dominion Experimental Station, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

Seedings are all finished, representing two to three weeks earlier than last year. Weather was very favourable to the seedings. Germination, although slow, was very good and the actual condition of culture promised good crops. Meadows and pastures were delayed by the drought and announced a rather low yield.

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

Spring opened a little later than last year, but the weather kept so fine that seeding was done earlier and in good condition. Weather kept dry until beginning of June so that pasture and meadow growth was considerably delayed. Late rainfall is of great value for crop and pasture.

Dominion Experimental Station, L'Assomption.

Season very late and dry - two weeks late. Hay very short. New meadows very poor. Between 50 and 70 per cent of clover and alfalfa have been winter-killed. Oats very uneven; excellent on some farms, very poor on some others. Corn is coming up. Tobacco plants are late.

ONTARIO

Dominion Experimental Station, Harrow.

Spring grains somewhat late but making excellent growth. Both wheat and hay show promise of excellent crops. Sugar beet stand poor in some districts. Heavy rainfall Chatham district; prospects very good for fruit crops in district. Strawberries and truck crops on market. All common insects in district exceptionally prevalent.

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ONTARIO - Cont'd.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Strathroy.

Insect injury light, heavy flight of June beetles. Potato and flea beetles abundant on early potatoes, tomato and egg plants. Slight injury to early corn and garden crops by cutworms. Sawfly injury quite marked on raspberries. Cucumber beetles injurious to pumpkin and early mellons. A heavy flight of rose beetles expected.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Chatham.

Grains, clovers, pasture crops excellent. Tobacco and corn planting about completed after wet weather delay. Bean planting late, but progressing. No serious insect outbreaks, except in small isolated parts of certain farms.

MANITOBA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Satisfactory local showers during past week. Crops well advanced and developing rapidly. Grasshoppers still increasing but poisoning campaign continues. Cutworm damage in some gardens. Potato beetles seem plentiful. Animals improving in condition.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Carman.

Heavy local rains recently have relieved situation greatly. Crop prospects excellent, except for hoppers. Considerable damage already; rain may bring it on again. Mixing poison night and day. Live stock doing very well.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

All crops require rain. Some wheat in shot blade. Oats and barley making fair growth. Clover and grass crop short. Corn looking well. .19 inches of rain during week. Heavy infestation of grasshoppers throughout district. Some fields being badly damaged. Grasshoppers still hatching. Large quantities of bait being scattered.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Beneficial rains have penetrated soil and well covered most of western Manitoba, improving crop prospects considerably. Late sown cereals; hay and pasture crops helped most. Few scattered outbreaks of grasshoppers reported.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Minnedosa.

Have had good rains this week, with warm weather. Everything is making excellent growth. Wheat is in shot blade; coarse grains doing well; hay and pastures growing very rapidly. Weeds are growing well on summerfallow.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell.

All crops looking well but rain needed badly in spots. Rains have been very scattered. Wheat in shot blade in places; shooting out prematurely. No damage. Pastures O.K.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin.

Crops needing rain badly. Few light showers last week; little help. Some wheat coming into shot blade very short. Grasshoppers numerous, but poisoned bait has kept them from harming very much crop. Many will soon be flying as wings are developing. Pastures and hay land need rain.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Swan River.

Weather continues warm and dry. Crops doing well, but would be benefited by rains; if delayed long, wheat will be short. Grass improving with recent showers. Oats and barley doing fairly well. Hay crops will be short, except sweet clover and alfalfa, which are good.



MANITOBA - Cont'd.

Agricultural Representative, Teulon.

Wheat healthy color; twelve inches high. Late grains suffering badly from want of rain. Some local showers occurred last week. Grasshoppers serious in many places; some barley destroyed, also hay and pastures from this menace. Active campaign being waged against them. Rye crops in head. Insect pests unusually plentiful this year.

Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology, Winnipeg.

Survey of southern and central Manitoba made in week ending June eleventh. General seedling infection of wheat and barley by foot and root rot diseases, especially where soil drifting occurred; traces only on oats and rye. Damage small excepting in southwest where thinning of stand was occasionally considerable.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Treesbank.

The grasshopper situation is still serious and many additional areas have been found to be infested. Vast numbers of the insects have been destroyed by poisoned bait and the losses to date do not exceed a few hundred acres. The outbreak is the worst experienced in more than fifty years.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Crops have made excellent growth during past week following good general rains. Large proportion of wind damaged crop has recovered and will not require re-seeding. In most places, there is now a good supply of moisture in the soil. Decrease in cutworm activity during past week.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Generous rains and cloudy weather beneficial for crop growth. Fields severely damaged by wind slow to pick up. Cutworm damage lessened by rains. Hay and pasture fields improved. Ample moisture for present. Summerfallow work in progress.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Two inches rain past week materially improving crop condition and prospects. Some late feed oats still to seed. Wireworms and cutworms now evident in many fields; possibly ten per cent loss. Most of blown crop recovering, but will be late and thin; small amount reseeded.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Wheat coming into shot blade. Growth of all grains very rank. No damage from disease or insect pests. Sufficient moisture for immediate needs. Pastures good. Live stock good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

Crops in general are making good progress in northeastern Alberta and northwestern Saskatchewan. Weather hot and dry the last few days; rain would be beneficial especially in certain local areas and where soil is light. Cutworms and wireworms present in some areas, but little damage reported.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon.

Since last report cutworms chiefly pale western have caused serious losses to field crops in sixty-seven additional localities; damage being general and heavy in twenty-one areas. Crop loss in Bradwell and Colonsay municipalities averages one-fifth seeded area. Marked damage by wireworms reported from nine additional points. Grasshoppers in seven new localities numerous enough to require control. Gophers very numerous in parts south Saskatchewan. Above includes only definite reports to this office data lacking for many other areas of probable infestations since crop correspondents of farm press report cutworm damage from ninety other points.

ALBERTA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Edmonton.

Very satisfying uniform excellence of crop conditions throughout province keynote of reports from all agents this week. Precipitation keeps up with gratifying regularity in nearly all districts and abundance of moisture so far for the growing crops, which are making splendid progress. Early wheat now ten to twelve inches high. Rains have been heavy in some districts, light in others, but every week has brought some rainfall. Lacombe territory reports record of nine inches of rain since middle of April; Olds district reports having had nearly five inches in past fortnight. Southern Alberta has also had splendid showers. Lethbridge and Raymond report rather cool with growth somewhat slow but general conditions excellent. Some damage from cutworms and wireworms in some districts, the Peace River territory reporting wireworm damage to some extent in certain districts. Grasshoppers not yet developed any serious menace and not expected to if rains continue. Pasturage and general feed crops making good progress; considerable increase in alfalfa acreage in some southern districts. Hay crop expected to be heavy. Present week has opened very warm and dry with little prospect for rain, but most districts would withstand week of dry weather without actual suffering.

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Over one inch steady warm rain during past week. Warmer weather prevailing. Growth conditions excellent. Wheat and oats four inches high; prospects for crop excellent. Range and pasture conditions ideal.

Dominion Experimental Station and Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge.

The week in southern Alberta was cool with some heavy showers up to Friday, when a change to clear, hot weather occurred. Cereal and grass crops made good growth and the rise in temperature has stimulated heat-loving plants. Farm and range pastures are excellent.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

With almost nine inches rain since middle May, sufficient present moisture, but more rain needed during June. All seeded except some oats for green feed. Crops all making good growth. Fall rye and brome grass heading. Hay crops will be heavy. No damage from any cause.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Local late-sown crops in need of moisture. Hot wind today very drying. General situation satisfactory but rain needed.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Cutworm damage increasing with advent of few dry days and acreage destroyed doubled in last ten days. New localities with serious losses are Cowley, Kipp, Wilson Siding, Iron Springs, Turin, Retlaw, Enchant, Skiff, Bow Island, Winnifred, Whitla, Foremost, Judson, Milk River, Carbon, Sundial. Grasshoppers beginning to hatch in numbers in some localities - Barons, Carmangay, Enchant and Retlaw particularly. Wireworms causing losses to grain in southeast and to beets in Barnwell district.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Weather past week has been dry with extremely high temperature. Crops generally look well but now needing rain. Considerable cutworm damage and some from grasshoppers. Carlot shipments strawberries commenced June sixth; crops good and of excellent quality. Some early cherries also shipped. Lamb crop up to average; shearing complete.

Experimental Station, Sidney.

Harvesting of strawberry crop almost in full swing. Dry weather conditions, if continued, will shorten crop. Loganberries promising and through blooming stage. Tree fruits show heavy set in all cases with exception of sweet cherries. Field crops good; heavy hay crop assured.

BRITISH COLUMBIA - Cont'd.

Experimental Station, Summerland.

Storage water plentiful. Moisture conditions satisfactory. Cherries falling, crop will be much less than expected. Apricots and peaches sizing rapidly and crop generally good. Thinning all fruits in progress. First crop alfalfa good, well cured. Hot weather now prevails. All growth rapid. First cover spray on apples about finished.

Experimental Farm, Agassiz.

Total precipitation to date this year 41.56. Spring cool, wet and late. Just starting to cut excellent crop early hay; pastures and oats good; mangels late; less corn than usual. Cows milking well; demand poor. Strawberries excellent; prospects for other fruits good.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Agassiz, (reporting from Spences Bridge).

Alfalfa cutting general in Okanagan and Kootenays; stand excellent; fine quality; average yield two and half tons. Fall wheat well headed. Spring grains not so well advanced due to cool spring weather but are well rooted and tillered. Warm weather now will hasten growth. Moisture conditions good.

Experimental Station, Windermere.

Soil well charged with moisture. Hay crops ten per cent above average. Fall sown grains fine; spring sown grain eight to ten inches high and prospects good. Fruit crops in fruit sections promise increased yields above the past two seasons. Live stock in good shape as pastures and range are fine.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Victoria.

Grains backward. Rain badly needed. Several days very dry hot weather just now. Vegetables backward. Turnips and cabbages in early stages seriously damaged by flea beetles. No reports cutworm damage.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Vernon.

Fruit, vegetable and hay crops in excellent condition. Severe cutworm damage to field and garden crops has taken place and apple fruit worms are more plentiful than usual. Grasshoppers hatching and some damage to range lands expected.

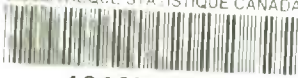
LATE REPORT - ONTARIO -

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

In general, crop development is favourable in Ontario and, apart from the eastern section of the province, hay and pasture crops are good. Cutworm damage is reported in a few counties. Rain is needed in the Kenora and Port Arthur districts.

In western Ontario fall wheat is growing well. Grass, clover and alfalfa crops are exceptionally good. Live stock are reported in good condition. Crops in southern Ontario promise well. Some lodging is reported as a result of recent heavy rains. Both fall and spring wheat are progressing favourably. Hay and alfalfa crops are good. In central Ontario hay crops are promising. Some cutworm damage is reported to cereals. Fruit prospects vary, but in general, a good set is reported. In eastern Ontario, the pasture situation is not as favourable as elsewhere owing to the dry, cool spring which has retarded growth. Renfrew county reports considerable cutworm damage. Kenora and Port Arthur districts report rain needed, the former badly. Temiskaming reports rain needed but growth to date has been good.

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