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

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Ottawa, July 12, 1932, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the third of a series of six fortnightly telegraphic reports on crop conditions throughout Canada. This service is based on the valued co-operation of 80 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, crops in the Maritimes and Eastern Canada have generally improved as a result of substantial rains during late June and early July. In general, hay crops are below average although greatly improved in some areas by recent rains. In Quebec, the condition of all crops is below average as a result of unfavourable spring temperatures and lack of precipitation. In Ontario, a good winter wheat crop is in sight and harvesting is under way at the present time. Pastures have been greatly improved by recent rains.

During the past two weeks, growing conditions have been satisfactory in Western Canada, and the wheat crop of the Prairie Provinces has made good progress. Rains are still needed in some areas in central and south-western Saskatchewan, and lack of sub-soil moisture over large areas will necessitate further rains during the next few weeks, which are critical in the development of the wheat plant. Wheat is heading out in all three provinces and an early harvest is anticipated in Manitoba.

Crop prospects in British Columbia have been improved with heavy rains during the past week, resulting in improved pastures and an improvement in the condition of cereal crops.

Maritime Provinces.

The Maritime Provinces received substantial rains during the past ten days and prospects have generally improved as a result.

The past two weeks have been favourable for all crops in Prince Edward Island. About three inches of rain is reported during July with a resulting improvement in both hay and cereal crops. Root crops and fruits are promising. White grubs and cutworms are reported working in some districts.

Substantial rains in Nova Scotia during the past week have improved the outlook for all field crops, but warm weather is now required to promote growth. Fruit crops are generally reported below average.

New Brunswick also received good rains during the past ten days and an improvement in field crops and pastures is noted. Roots are growing slowly as a result of the cool weather. Haying has commenced in some districts but has been delayed by the recent rains.

Quebec.

Practically all crops are reported as being below normal at the present time. The hay crop is light and the poor condition of pastures is affecting the flow of milk. Recent rains were beneficial to all field crops and also improved the outlook for root crops and potatoes. Haying is under way. Tobacco is late and growth is slow.

Ontario.

July rains came at a most opportune time for all crops in Ontario, and pastures have been greatly improved. Fall wheat promises a good yield, although some lodging is reported in western areas. Tobacco is growing well, but somewhat backward. Haying has been delayed by recent rains. In northern Ontario, crops are reported as being generally good, and late June and early July rains have improved the hay crop considerably.

Prairie Provinces.

Manitoba has experienced cool and showery weather during the past week and, in general, the area west of Winnipeg has sufficient moisture for the present. Wheat is well advanced and indications point to an early harvest. Haying has been retarded by frequent showers.

In Saskatchewan, crops have made satisfactory progress during the past week but some areas in central and southwestern Saskatchewan need more rain. Wheat is heading throughout the province and further rains will be necessary during the filling period owing to the lack of subsoil moisture over large areas. Pastures are in good condition.

In Alberta, crops are progressing favourably and rains have been received during the past week in areas that were suffering from drought. It is doubtful, however, if recent rains will offset crop damage already sustained in the Peace River and Grande Prairie districts. Taking the province as a whole, the outlook is favourable.

Grasshoppers have appeared in new areas in southern Alberta and some further damage is reported. In Saskatchewan and Manitoba the cool, damp weather and rapid growth of crops has tended to restrict actual damage. Beet webworms are reported active in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, doing considerable damage in late fields of oats and barley and in gardens.

Meteorological Report.

The following wire was received from the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto:

"June was two to three degrees warmer than normal in Alberta and western Saskatchewan, excepting for the Peace River district where temperatures were normal. Eastern Saskatchewan was four to five degrees above normal, while Manitoba was four to seven degrees warmer than normal. June rainfall three to seven inches in Western Alberta and less than two inches in the extreme Southeast. The Peace River district received from one-half to two inches. Saskatchewan received three to eight inches, except the central western area which received one and a half to three inches. Manitoba received three to five and a half inches, except in the Red River Valley which received two to three inches.

During the past week Alberta received five-tenths to seven-tenths of an inch except in the South, where from less than one-tenth to five-tenths were received, and Vegreville reported three inches. Saskatchewan received three to eighteen-tenths and Manitoba two to twelve-tenths of an inch."

Forecast - Showers have occurred in Manitoba while it has been for the most part fair in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Temperature is below normal in the west. Manitoba fair to-night and Wednesday, a little higher temperature on Wednesday. Saskatchewan and Alberta fair today and Wednesday, with somewhat higher temperature.

Entomological Reports from the Prairie Provinces.

The following reports were received from Dominion Entomologists stationed in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, respectively:

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Treesbank (reporting from Nesbitt).

Cool, wet weather has temporarily checked grasshopper activities but rather heavy easterly migrations have taken place during the past three days and some further damage to grain crops has been done. Excellent kills with poisoned bait are still being obtained. Other insect activities are as noted in last week's report.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon.

Grasshopper situation same as last week. Beet webworms causing serious losses of all susceptible crops, also causing damage to late seeded oats and barley and to wheat just heading out.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Grasshoppers appearing in several new localities and damage to late grains increasing. Early wheat shows no appreciable loss. Beet webworm has destroyed occasional fields of late oats and barley and many gardens. Caragana beetle appearing in bean, pea, and alfalfa fields.

Hail Damage.

The Hail Insurance Board of Alberta wires as follows:

"Hail claims received from Lacombe, Red Deer, Bowden, Didsbury, Crossfield, Munson, Craigmyle. Storms not extensive nor damage severe!"

British Columbia.

Recent rains have delayed haying operations but have been beneficial to all growing crops. In general, moisture conditions are satisfactory although pastures in some areas need rain. Tree fruits indicate a satisfactory yield. The strawberry season is over and the raspberry crop is moving, the yield from the latter being disappointing in some areas.

REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Dominion Experimental Station, Charlottetown.

Beneficial showers amounting to three point eight seven inches fell during last two weeks. Hay and cereals greatly improved. Timothy hay about average. Clover light. Haymaking commenced. Roots and corn promising. Fruit set good, strawberries full crop. White grubs reported doing considerable damage in some districts.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Charlottetown.

Growth of all crops rapid during the past two weeks throughout the province. Three inches of rain has fallen this month to date. Heavy rains on the fourth and eighth were general and relieved dry conditions. Haymaking started. Clover light. Timothy average but better in western section of province. Considerable cutworm damage to roots.

NOVA SCOTIA

Dominion Experimental Farm, Nappan.

All crops except corn are making very satisfactory growth. Two point nine six inches of rainfall during past week has supplied sufficient moisture for all crops. Warmer weather required for good growth. Haymaking just beginning.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kentville.

Rains during past week bringing along grains and field crops, which promise to be average. Clover crops average. Dark weather hindering harvesting. Apple set many places not up to expectation; doubtless late spring frost did more damage than anticipated. Strawberries light due to late frost injury. Plums and cherries much below normal from same cause.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Fredericton.

Grain fields, hay lands and pastures benefited by heavy rains of last ten days. Roots and all crops growing slowly account cool season. First hay cutting beginning this week Upper St. John River district.

Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton.

Continued wet weather has promoted growth most crops but has delayed haymaking and increased cost weed control. Hay good, fair percentage clover. Pastures excellent. Grain heavy. Straw commencing to lodge. Most vegetables good. Apples fair set. Potatoes and corn backward.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Fredericton.

Sucking insects, particularly aphids abundant on many plants. Field crop insects not troublesome.

QUEBEC

Department of Agriculture, Quebec.

Vegetation is from two to four weeks later than last year. June temperature varied from 25 to 93 Fahrenheit. The month started very dry, which delayed growth. The end of the month was more favourable but rather cool. Local hail damage in areas south-east of Montreal and Ottawa Valley, and by frost in some places. All crops are quite below normal. Clover was destroyed in hayfields. Hay crop is more than 20 per cent below average. Pastures are very poor, and the milk flow is decreasing. July temperature more favourable. Lower St. Lawrence: Temperature favourable; the average condition of hay is 85; grain very good; potatoes good. Pastures good; gardens very good. Quebec district: Slight decrease in hay, except in Charlevoix county where damage reaches fifty per cent; cereals are improving following rains, pastures are normal. Three Rivers district: First cut of clover for seed is completed. Growth of hay is 75 per cent less than usual, with clover hay a failure. Haymaking is beginning. Milk flow is decreasing because of bad pastures. Hoed crops and cereals require more rain.

CHAPTER I

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Department of Agriculture, Quebec - Con.

Bois Francs and Eastern Townships: Temperature keeping cool; hay crop poor; grains, vegetables and fruits, promising; pastures, good; milk production, normal; recent rains have greatly relieved all vegetation; hay making started; clover all killed by winter; insects quite numerous; the use of feed decreasing and farmers prefer fertilized pastures. South-East and North of Montreal: Haymaking started; yield less than a ton to the acre; clover is nil, but has good stand. Vegetables and roots are late; pastures poor. Recent rains have improved conditions. Cereals are growing well; potatoes have good appearance. Ottawa Valley: Hay crop very light; clover is nil. Grain is fair. Lake St. John district: Pastures poor; decrease of 50 per cent in timothy hay and of 35 per cent in clover; cereals have very good appearance; vegetables and green fodder, good; other crops, fair.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville.

Very light hay crop but much improvement in the crop since last report and with two and one-quarter inches rain just fallen. Prospects are crop will be up to the average. All other crops looking favourable.

Dominion Experimental Station, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

The Agricultural School is the only farm which started haying. Yield to be about forty per cent lower than last year. Cereals have very good appearance and will soon head. There is lack of growth in hoed crops, but appearance is very good. Since June twentieth rains were sufficient for different crops.

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

Haying is just beginning. Hay crop is much lower than last year. Cereals^s promising but much delayed by dry weather. The area in cereal is about same as last year. Hoed crop and pastures have suffered from drought. The actual rainy days are of great value for crop and pasture.

Dominion Experimental Station, Cap Rouge.

Hay and pastures were much improved by recent rain, but yields will be below average. Oats just heading with rather short straw. Roots, sunflowers and all garden crops are good and promising. Apples and potatoes are about average. Haying is delayed by heavy rain of last two days.

Dominion Experimental Station, La Ferme.

Grain very good. Vegetation season tardy. Hay is only heading but will be above average at the Farm and average in the district. Pastures good. Rains nearly every day for the last fortnight.

Dominion Experimental Station, L'Assomption.

Hay crop very small specially on new meadows. Pasture poor. Oats are good. Corn is good. Tobacco has been set late and suffered heavy damages from cutworms, hail and heavy rain. Potatoes are good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Farnham.

Haying began July fourth. Yield below the average. Tobacco growing slowly. Much damage cutworms. Expect outbreak grasshoppers. Oats, corn and potatoes doing well. Truck crops satisfactory.

ONTARIO

Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Fall wheat promises excellent yield generally. Considerable lodging western Ontario. Damage hessian fly. Harvesting wheat commenced Essex and Kent. July rain came right time although delayed hay operations. Untold value pasture, field and hoed crops. Oats and barley headed but western Ontario short. Haying full swing. Eastern Ontario very light. Western good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Harrow.

The soil moisture in district is high as result of frequent showers. Heavy winds caused considerable damage in heavy wheat crops. Wheat harvest in full progress. Marketing early tomatoes and potatoes general through district. Tobacco crop growing well but some wind damage and slight hail damage in Delhi district.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kapuskasing.

Precipitation received latter part June and July first improved hay crop considerably but crop will be medium. Cutting will start end of week. Pasture, sun-flowers, roots and vegetables are good. Oats, wheat and barley are very good. Cut-worms which were general finally checked. Prospects are for good crop generally.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Strathroy.

While heavy frequent rains have checked haying, all spring grains have benefited particularly oats. Many wheat fields have lodged badly and while there is a general light infestation of hessian fly no serious injury to the crop will result except in isolated cases. Insect injury is generally light.

MANITOBA

Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Past week moderately cool and showery. Some difficulty in curing sweet clover hay. Early wheat advanced and looks well. Oats and early barley promise fairly good yield but late barley not very good. Rains have been more local than usual. Almost all parts west of Winnipeg have had enough rain. Much of grasshopper infested area has outgrown any damage so far in a surprising way.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Early wheats well advanced. Filling practically completed. Marquis filling seventy-five per cent completed. Barley and oats filling well. Corn making good growth. Grasshoppers on wing. Wet cold weather has checked activity during last week. Point seventy inches rain during week. Crop that has not been attacked by grasshoppers looking well.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Rain has fallen over the greater part of this territory. Light showers in some districts and heavy rains locally. Haying delayed but grain crop making satisfactory progress.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell.

All crops continue to make excellent progress. Wheat filling. Oats and barley heading. Late crops very healthy. No rain needed for some time. Showery weather has interfered with haying.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Dauphin.

Remarkable growth of past weeks is continuing. Weather has been dull and cool. Scattered showers. Haying very backward due to weather. Crops especially later ones looking well. Indications point to an early harvest. Numerous grasshoppers flying but damage immaterial at present. Moisture supply ample.

SASKATCHEWAN

Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Crops on the whole made satisfactory growth during past week but some sections in central and southwestern Saskatchewan need more rain. Wheat rapidly coming into head also some coarse grains. Hail damage of varying degree reported in strip running from north of Bulyee to east of Grenfell. Pastures coming along well.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Crops generally making good progress. Ample moisture for immediate requirements. Early crop apparently suffering from lack of subsoil moisture. Oats and barley heading. Pastures in good shape.

Dominion Experimental Station, Roschtern.

Cain crops progressing well. Frequent showers delaying haying. No rust. Beet webworm appearing in large numbers with only slight damage to gardens. No other insect pests active. Ninety per cent summerfallowing completed. Pastures excellent.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

Cool showery weather has brought a total of one point three two inches of rain since the first of July. There is shortage of subsurface soil moisture which means that good rains and favourable weather are needed to fill wheat crop which is now heading.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Scott.

Heavy rains fell in many localities during the week. Moisture supply good at Scott, Revenue, Tramping Lake. Too dry at Kerrobert. Excellent crops and plenty of moisture for present needs at Kindersley. Early wheat fully headed. Later sown wheat emerging.

ALBERTA

Department of Agriculture, Edmonton.

Generally speaking crops progressing favourably. Grasshopper outbreak in southern areas extensive and number of poison bait stations are now in operation. Situation well under control. Damage not expected to be heavy. Several districts where rain was needed have had moisture. Peace River and Grand Prairie district already have suffered somewhat from dry conditions. Have had recent rains but need more. Medicine Hat territory crops on light land have suffered from hot weather. Heavy growth of crop in many districts require more than usual amount of moisture. With continued favourable weather general prospects appear to be for a good harvest. Some hail reported but damage so far not extensive. Heavy rains over weekend in central Alberta.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Crop conditions since the fourth, considerable rain, cool weather close to frost. Still cloudy and sunshine needed. Edmonton district good east side. Around Manville affected by early drought and crops lighter. Thirty per cent wheat in head over all Peace River. Good rain early part week. Too late. Crops generally will be short. No further reports cutworm or hail damage. On the whole prospects not as good as last year.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

No change crop conditions since the ninth report. Heavy rain yesterday. Cloudy and quite cool. Hail reported at Iacombe, Bawlf, Haridsty, Ryley and Roundhill from ten to fifty per cent reported.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary.

Plenty moisture at present in Calgary district and crops making rapid growth. Temperature running around 70 to 75 degrees. Nights rather cool. Two to four degrees frost night of eighth. No damage reported. No damage from hoppers or cutworms. Very little from hail which being early will be more than offset by extra moisture. Prospects very good at present although about ten days later than last year.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lethbridge.

Moderately cool weather following the rains of the early part of last week has been favourable for crop development. Cutting of alfalfa in full swing. Sugar beets making rapid growth.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge.

Rains light Lethbridge district last week. Wheat well in head, going north many good fields noted with Earons centering a well favoured area. West toward High River (a point that received six and one-quarter inches rain in June) cereals were not so far advanced. Crop condition to Calgary good.

Reported by S. J. Macdonald.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

One and one-half inches rain in frequent showers during week makes total of eleven inches for growing season. Considerable alfalfa harvested. Wheat heading. Slight hail damage in district. Crop prospects never better but warm weather needed to ripen crop.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Throughout most of Peace River district crops are holding their own but need a soaking rain. Prospects fairly good at Peace River but tending to be short and thin elsewhere. Some showers during week. Later wire states general rain amounting to point six inches received in Alberta south of the Peace River.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Camrose.

Since last report have had a few nice rains. Have had a little hail about two per cent loss, and wind has knocked some of the crop down. Wheat is about eighty-five per cent headed out. Good even stand and fair length. Oats are in the shot blade and from twelve to twenty inches high. Barley is coming along nicely. Looks good average crop. The weather is very cool and threatening frost every night. Pastures are good and stock is doing well. Potatoes and gardens are doing well.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Heavy rains on tenth followed by cloudy weather and forecast of more showers will delay haying which was general and will cause some loss to cherries and raspberries but will greatly benefit pastures, grains and late-sown crops which were much in need of moisture. Strawberries finished. Loganberry crop heavy and moving to canning factories in quantity. Early cherries finished, main varieties. Now picking early green apples. Commencing to move apricots about middle July followed by semi-ripe tomatoes.

Experimental Station, Sydney.

Small fruit crop of considerable importance in district well under way. Prices low. Tree fruits maturing. A heavy crop hay of good quality harvested. Roots and cereal crops fair. Demand for farm produce poor.

Experimental Station, Summerland.

Since last report weather moderately warm with no precipitation. Second crop alfalfa now being harvested with yield normal. Fruit crop making satisfactory growth. Apricot harvest commencing today. Cool evenings retarding growth of tobacco, tomatoes and cantaloupes. Moisture conditions satisfactory. Storage dams being opened July twelfth. No appreciable insect or disease damage.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Agassiz.

Many dairymen pastured hay meadows too late resulting in light hay crop. Unpastured meadows good. Early hay saved in excellent condition. Oats excellent. Pastures getting dry. Root and decreased corn crop doing well. Peak raspberry crop just reached in many districts. Disappointing in price and yield. All live stock low.

Dominion Experimental Station, Windermere.

Crops prospects above average. Haying under ideal conditions with crop ten per cent above average. Spring sown grains fine. Fall rye starting to ripen. Roots and potatoes show good top growth but acreage is slightly reduced. Stock in good condition.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Hemmingford, Que.

Hay crop medium. Clover very poor. Grain and corn growing slow. Good stands, abundant moisture. Raspberries considerably winter injured. Hail visited all apple districts. Injury varies from light to total loss. Very little scab or insects.



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