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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

Chief, Agricultural Branch:

R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.

T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 22, 1933, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the thirteenth of a series of 15 weekly telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the three Prairie Provinces. Forty-two correspondents distributed over the agricultural area supply the information on which the reports are based. Most of these correspondents are agriculturists of the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture but in Manitoba and Alberta, a number of selected private observers and grain men also co-operate in this service.

SUMMARY

Another week of clear, hot weather broken only by local showers has enabled farmers in the southern districts to make rapid progress with cutting and threshing and has also rushed the crops in northern Saskatchewan and Alberta to maturity so that cutting will be general this week. The continued period of drought has further damaged pastures, late grain crops, roots and potatoes. The feed situation is serious in the south and a general rain would encourage new growth to last stock until the snow falls. Precipitation during the week was confined to scattered showers, except in some parts of southern and west-central Alberta and the Peace River country. Calgary had a heavy rain of l.l inches and it was badly needed in that district. Entomologists report continued damage to late crops by grasshoppers. Sawfly damage is evident in Saskatchewan and south-central Alberta. Two extensive hailstorms were reported, one in west-central Saskatchewan, where crops are light, and another in west-central Alberta, where wide and severe damage was done to more promising crops.

Manitoba.

Dry, clear weather permitted rapid progress with harvesting. Threshing is reported as 90 p.c. completed at Morden, 75 p.c. at Teulon and 50 p.c. at Brandon, with wheat yields running about as follows:- Morden, 10 bushels; Teulon 15-17 bushels; and Brandon, 10-25 bushels. Coarse grains have suffered more than wheat and pastures are still short through lack of rain. The feed situation is most serious in the extreme south-west corner of the province.

Saskatchewan.

Harvesting is also proceeding rapidly in Saskatchewan, interrupted only by local showers. 65 per cent of the wheat and 45 per cent of the coarse grains in the province are now cut and threshing is well advanced in the light crop areas. Crops are turning out about as expected, but with some disappointing returns. Sawfly and grass-hopper depredations are continuing, while some of the light crops in west-central areas were beaten down by hail. Late crops and pastures have deteriorated further and potatoes will be a light crop.

Alberta.

The weather has been generally hot, with light precipitation and night temperatures falling below the freezing point in the foothills. The heat was quite generally of benefit in encouraging maturity, but forced some late crops and caused reductions in yield. This situation is characteristic of the good crop areas in the west-centre, north-centre and the Peace River district. Throughout the province, a great variation in yields is reported. Cutting will be fairly general this week, except in the Peace River country, where it will start on the 25th. Hail, sawflies and grasshoppers caused further damage during the week, but the high temperatures were an offsetting advantage as they minimized the menace from frosts.

REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Grasshoppers are continuing to damage late crops in infested areas; otherwise situation unchanged.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta.

General dispersal flights of grasshoppers causing losses to late crops and gardens in hitherto uninfested areas. Wheat stem sawfly losses appearing in south central Alberta.

HAIL DAMAGE

Saskatchewan.

Result of storm of August 20th, losses reported at Glidden, Madison, Eston, Houghton, Dinsmore, Bracken, Outlook, Druid and Allan. No particulars of extent of storm or percentage of loss.

Alberta.

Hail fell west of Bowden and north of Munson. Damage severe over large area.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

The Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto reports the following precipitation in the week ended August 21 at 7 a.m. (in inches):

Manitoba		Saskatchewan		Alberta	
Winnipeg Boissevain Swan River Minnedosa Portage la Prairie Cypress River Dauphin Russell Le Pas	1 1 1 .1 .1 .3	Battleford Moosomin Yellow Grass Kamsack Yorkton Kindersley Macklin Qu'Appelle Indian Head Shaunavon Estevan Consul Prince Albert Swift Current Moose Jaw Saskatoon Outlook Melfort	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Medicine Hat Foremost Stettler Cardston Drumheller Red Deer Jasper Macleod Brooks Fairview Coronation Calgary	1 1 4 .4 .5 .5 .7 1.1

REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Threshing ninety per cent complete; average yields - Wheat ten, Oats twenty-four, Barley eighteen. Rainfall 0.03 inches for the week.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Weather dry, permitting rapid progress with harvesting and threshing. Quite a variation in yield on different farms. Wheat yielding locally ten to twenty-five bushels. About half wheat crop threshed.

Agricultural Representative, Toulon.

Threshing seventy-five per cent completed. Wheat running fifteen to seventeen bushels, exceptional yield twenty-five. Oats twenty-five to thirty. Barley twenty to twenty-five and only a fair sample. Oats better quality however. Arborg district threshing five days later. Indications are that yields will be about four bushels heavier than Teulon, with Stonewall and south a lighter crop than here.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina.

The weather during the past two weeks has been generally hot and dry, except for a few local showers, and good progress has been made with harvesting operations. In the southern and central part, wheat cutting is nearing completion, about 85 per cent being cut. Cutting in the west-central area is slightly less advanced with about 70 per cent completed. In the northern and east-central districts, where the crop is heavier, as a whole, about 65 per cent of the wheat acreage and 45 per cent of the coarse grain but not sufficient to give a definite indication of the outturn, especially in the areas where crops are best. Although some express disappointment with the yields, it appears to be turning out about as expected with a wide variation in yield in most districts. Grasshoppers have continued to damage the standing crop and considerable loss has occurred in gardens. Sawfly injury is showing up as cutting proceeds. The late crops have also suffered from the recent hot dry weather and pastures need rain badly. Indications are that the potato crop will be considerably less than last year. Live

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Wheat cutting well advanced; combining and threshing now in progress. Early returns less than expected. Several farms with threshing finished have average yields of five to seven bushels. General average will likely be less than five. Grades so far one to three, mostly two. Oats and Barley almost worthless.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

In west-central Saskatchewan eighty per cent wheat and fifty per cent coarse grains cut. Hundred miles north cutting has just started and vicinity of Meadow Lake cutting will not start till next week. In open plain region, sawfly damage heavier than usual and threshing due to commence.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Weather during week hot and dry. Cutting over fifty per cent completed and threshing started with wheat and barley. Late-sown crops suffering severely and will be of little value. Pastures poor.

ALBERTA

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary.

Heavy rains night nineteenth but no hail reported. Temperature night twentieth thirty above but no frost damage reported. Cutting will again be general latter part of this week if weather continues bright. Looks like eight to ten bushel average wheat of high grade, with practically no coarse grain for market.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

Week of extremely hot dry weather matured early crops almost too rapidly for good filling but may save late crops from frost. Cutting of wheat well started and will be general this week. Straw rather short but heads good length and yield should be good average. Pastures need rain.

Telegraphic Correspondent. Edmonton.

Wheat harvest general. Has been quite hot since last week's report; cooler since Saturday. No rain no hail or frost but nights quite cool. Oats and barley were being forced by heat. Oat yield will vary from twenty to sixty five bushels per acre. Ideal weather at present; clear and fairly cool.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

Cutting is general and some crops are good on account of the farming and lucky showers. Hay is a good crop but generally the weather has been too severe since haying began for grains and gardens and consequently the crop must be light.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Ten days of hot dry weather advanced maturity unexpectedly so that, while yields may be reduced, a few localities may cut wheat by 25th if present weather continues. Some oat fields turning. Cereal yield prospects fair to good.

