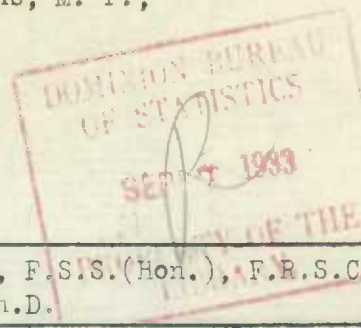


22-002
no. 10
1933
Sept. 6
c. 1

Published by Authority of the Hon. H. H. Stevens, M. P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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



Dominion Statistician:
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, September 6, 1933, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the last 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

During the past week two main factors have affected the crop situation in the Prairie Provinces. In the first place damaging frosts have been received in the Peace River district and moderate frosts over a wide area in northern and central Alberta. These frosts have been sufficiently severe to damage late crops. The extent of the actual frost damage will not be apparent until threshing is under way in the affected areas. In the second place, harvesting has been interrupted throughout the three provinces by varying amounts of rainfall during the past week. Precipitation has been heavy in central and northern Manitoba, southern and northern Saskatchewan and moderate to light throughout most districts in Alberta with the exception of the Peace River where substantial rains and some snow were received. In general, harvesting is well advanced in Manitoba, southern and central Saskatchewan and southern Alberta and the rains received are advantageous in improving the feed situation. In northern Saskatchewan and central and northern Alberta a continuance of wet weather would delay the ripening of late crops and harvesting generally.

Manitoba.

Harvesting has proceeded rapidly in Manitoba in spite of delays caused by rain during the past two weeks. In the south-central area of the province about 90 per cent of the threshing is completed. The percentage of grain actually threshed diminishes in a northerly direction until in the Swan River Valley not more than 25 per cent of the crop is threshed. As might be expected in a season characterized by unusual climatic conditions, yields in Manitoba are variable, ranging from a total failure in some areas in the south-western portion of the province to fair to good yields in northern sections of the province.

During the past two weeks Manitoba has received some helpful rains. Seasonal farm work is well advanced and little importance is attached to delays caused by late-season rainfall. A notable feature of the past two weeks has been the exceptionally heavy precipitation in local areas. For instance, Portage la Prairie has received 7 inches of rainfall during the past two weeks, 5.1 inches of which fell during the past week. The Dauphin area has received 4 inches of rainfall during the past fortnight. Over the balance of the province rainfall has ranged from negligible to about 2 inches. Rains have favoured central and northern portions of the province rather than the southern areas where moisture would be exceedingly helpful. Coming after an unusually hot, dry summer, autumn rains have been extremely welcome. Pastures, forage crops, root crops and late gardens have been benefited. In many districts, farmers have taken advantage of the improved moisture conditions to make progress with fall ploughing. In other areas, more rain is needed to expedite fall cultivation.

Saskatchewan.

Harvesting is not as far advanced in Saskatchewan as in Manitoba. Wheat cutting is nearly completed in all parts of the province but at least 25 per cent of the coarse grains are still standing. As a rule, standing crops are located in the northern and east-central portions of the province. By the end of August about 30 per cent of threshing was completed, most progress being made in the southern part of the province and in areas where crops were light and where maturity was forced by unusual

weather conditions. The last few days of August and the first few days of September brought a considerable amount of rain which has delayed threshing. During the past week well over an inch of rainfall was received in the northern portion of the province where harvesting is inclined to be late. Prince Albert, Battleford, Lloydminster and Melfort received from 1.5 to 2.9 inches of rain. Heavy precipitation was also received in the southern part of the province. During the past two weeks Assiniboia has received 4.1 inches, Shaunavon 2.8 inches and Swift Current 2.5 inches. These areas have experienced a dry summer and fall rains will improve conditions. Wet weather may affect the grade of unthreshed grain and some bleaching may result. Grasshoppers are still numerous and damaging, but damp weather has been unfavourable for these pests. Pastures have been revived where rains have been received and live stock are generally in fair condition.

Alberta.

The most important factor in the crop situation in Alberta is undoubtedly the fact that frosts have been experienced over wide areas in central and northern Alberta and as a result late grains will be damaged. The frost was most severe in the Peace River country and moderated in a southerly direction. The full effect of the frosts will not be apparent until threshing is under way in the affected areas. In addition to the frost, snow was received in the Peace River district and has resulted in a certain amount of lodging.

Harvesting has been delayed during the past week by showers and rains in many districts. In many cases precipitation was just sufficient to delay cutting and threshing. Heaviest rains were reported from Beaverlodge and Fairview, districts where crops are relatively late. In the Athabasca district wheat cutting is now about 50 per cent completed but progress was delayed by rain last week and frost damage was reported. In the Vermilion area considerable grain is standing and rain has delayed harvesting. Frost damage is also reported in this area. In the Edmonton district, cutting is well advanced and threshing will start shortly if drying weather is received. In the Red Deer district, cool showery weather has delayed harvesting but a large percentage of the wheat crop is now cut. A considerable number of green crops is reported in this district. Cutting is completed in the Stettler district and threshing now under way. Harvesting has been delayed in the southerly areas of Alberta during the past week but good progress had been made before rains were received. Recent moisture supplies have improved the feed situation but will probably have a deleterious effect upon the wheat crop in northern Alberta where warm, dry weather is needed to ripen green fields and expedite harvesting operations. Grasshoppers are still active in southern Alberta and continue to damage late crops and gardens. No new migrations are reported.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

The Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto reports the following precipitation during the week ending September 4, at 7 a.m. (in inches):

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Russell	.2	Yorkton	.2	Coronation	.1
Winnipeg	.3	Broadview	.4	Stettler	.1
Dauphin	.4	Estevan	.4	Brooks	.2
Le Pas	.4	Humboldt	.5	Foremost	.5
Swan River	.8	Kamsack	.6	Cardston	.5
Portage la Prairie	5.1	Swift Current	.6	Vegreville	.5
		Yellow Grass	.7	Calgary	.5
		Macklin	.7	Macleod	.6
		Outlook	.8	Empress	.6
		Kindersley	.8	Drumheller	.6
		Qu'Appelle	1.1	Red Deer	.7
		Shaunavon	1.3	Edmonton	.7
		Indian Head	1.3	Fairview	1.0
		Moose Jaw	1.4	Beaverlodge	1.2
		Melfort	1.5		
		Lloydminster	1.7		
		Battleford	1.9		
		Prince Albert	2.9		
		Assiniboia	3.1		

The following stations report less than one-tenth of an inch: Moosomin, Consul, Pierson, Boissevain, Emerson, Morden, Virden, Medicine Hat and Minnedosa.

Reports from Correspondents.

MANITOBA

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Threshing completed. Ploughing progressing but ground very hard. Weather continues dry. High winds during past week burning what little pasture there was.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Dry all week. Threshing well advanced. Fall ploughing under way on some farms. Rain two weeks ago improved pasture greatly. Damage from grasshoppers continues south and west.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Teulon.

Threshing practically completed. Teulon, and Arborg sixty per cent with heavier yields than here. Some rain in the northern sections while frost reported last night but no apparent damage. Pastures quite green and remarkable growth since of alfalfa and clover. Farmers busy fall ploughing.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Wheat cutting is nearly completed in all parts of the province according to reports received over the week-end by the Statistics Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Most of the wheat which is still standing is being left for the combine. About seventy-five per cent of the coarse grains acreage is cut and most of the standing fields are in the northern and east-central districts. Threshing was getting well under way when rains on the thirtieth and thirty-first of August and on the first of September stopped operations in most districts. About thirty per cent of the wheat has been threshed and many expect with good drying weather that the machines will start to operate again early this week. Damage from the rain is not yet apparent although in some districts correspondents report that bleaching may cause the loss of a grade. Grain up to the present has been of very high quality with a large percentage going in the top grades. Information as to yields is somewhat indefinite and shows pretty wide variation but it is evident that the average will be very much below that of last year. Grasshoppers are still very numerous and are doing damage to some of the later crops. Live stock are generally in fair condition. Pastures were getting very bare but have been somewhat revived by the recent rains.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Harvesting almost completed except for late crops. Threshing interrupted by rain during latter part of week. Late crops and pastures benefited by rains. Total rainfall one decimal two nine inches. Threshing resumed Monday.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Binder cutting completed. Some wheat still to combine. Harvesting and threshing again delayed by rain August thirty-one. Threshing returns indicate average yield wheat this district three to four bushels on seeded acreage. Considerable coarse grains destroyed by grasshoppers. Remainder cut for feed. Grasshoppers still abundant. Less active since rains.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

A slow rain totalling one point eight nine inches received the latter part of the week has freshened late oat fields and pastures. About sixty per cent of threshing was completed but many farmers have insufficient yield to pay for threshing and provide feed for next year.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

One and a half inches rain fell last three days this week which may halt threshing nearly a week. Practically all cutting and over fifty per cent threshing completed. Wheat yielding five to twenty bushels per acre and grading One and Two. Coarse grain yields very poor.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Showers of past week delayed harvesting and threshing. Have not affected grade of grain. Average yields around twelve to fifteen bushels per acre. Yields not as good as expected, grain not well filled. Pasture and feed conditions good in this district.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

Week cool, showery weather delayed ripening and cutting but ninety-five per cent wheat and ten barley and oats cut. Considerable crop still green but frost has done little or no injury except to tenderest garden crop. With only one inch rain in August good rain would renew dried up pastures.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Stettler.

Cutting will be finished this week. Threshing has started but will not be general for a few days. Wheat is yielding from five to twenty bushels. Sample is good for this season. Weather has been cloudy and cold with some rain.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

Considerable grain remains to be cut in some districts north but rain and dull weather are holding things up. A few threshers claim crop from eight to twenty-five bushels. Frost cut down garden stuff and doubtless damaged late grain in some places.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Cool backward weather recently. Snowing this morning. Wheat harvest almost completed. Yield twenty-two bushels. Barley harvest completed, yield at thirty. Small percentage oats to harvest, yield at forty-five to fifty bushels. Threshing will start shortly. Good deal depends on weather conditions. Cloudy and cool at present.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca.

Harvest delayed about two days with light showers. Wheat fifty per cent cut. Cool weather prevails with six degrees frost twice. Many oat fields still green could not escape damage. Lower grades expected from the late wheat fields.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Harvesting half finished in a few important districts though little accomplished in certain outlying bush areas. In Grande Prairie district considerable shrinkage from drought, while in some neighborhoods sample degraded and a few wheat crops ruined by late August frosts. Much further damage will result from widespread frost morning second. Injury varies greatly according topography. Station reading thirty-four and nasturtiums unharmed but a slough half mile distant reading was twenty-two.

(Later wire) Rain commencing here Saturday night changed to soft snow Sunday night. Precipitation totalling point 91 including one inch snow on grass Monday morning. Minimum thermometer reading 29 point five and grain lodged badly. Similar weather Fairview and Pouce Coupe while Hudson's Hope reports six inches snow on ground yesterday and Fort St. John two inches this morning. Storm general but apparently less snow eastward. Light snow Falher. Extensive crop injury expected though temperature difference between high and low land probably much less than previously. Danger of severe frost Monday night.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Grasshoppers still causing some loss to late grain and truck crops. No further migrations reported.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010525123