

22-002

no. 10

1934

July 10

c. 1

22-002 Historical File Copy
Published by Authority of the HON. H. H. STEVENS, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

Dominion Statistician:

R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)

Chief, Agricultural Branch:

T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 10, 1934, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the third of a series of 6 telegraphic crop reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the third of a series of 15 weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. Seventy-nine agriculturists distributed over the farming areas provide the basic information for these reports. In many cases, the Provincial Statisticians report for their entire province.

SUMMARY

Dry weather is again causing moderate concern throughout many of the principal farming districts of Canada. Crops in Nova Scotia, western Quebec, many sections of Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are already suffering. Hay crops have been considerably reduced and spring grains are also affected. Fall-sown grains did not recover from the May drought and will only thresh out about half a crop. In other parts of the country, such as New Brunswick, eastern and central Quebec, northern Ontario and northern Alberta, moisture supplies range from ample to excessive and in these districts, warm weather is required to hasten growth.

In Prince Edward Island, crops are progressing normally in the warmer weather. Similar conditions exist in New Brunswick, but in Nova Scotia, the lack of rain is limiting the hay and pasture growth and spring grains will soon suffer. Crop prospects in Quebec have improved recently but are not up to average. From widely different causes, crops seem to be patchy. There has been little change in the Ontario crop situation in the past two weeks with some betterment in the west and further deterioration in the east. The soil in eastern Ontario is extremely dry and crops are suffering noticeably. More misgivings with regard to the prairie wheat crop have arisen during the past week. The crop is extremely patchy over most of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, moisture reserves are small, and dry, hot weather in July may lead to grasshopper damage. In northern and eastern Manitoba, east-central and northern Saskatchewan, and over most of Alberta the crops are extremely promising. British Columbia crops are reported as in need of rain, but the fruit and vegetable crops promise to be plentiful.

The Maritime Provinces.-

In Prince Edward Island, beneficial rains have fallen to help all crops. Haying is now under way. The crops in Nova Scotia are handicapped by lack of moisture. The hay crop is well below average and pastures are drying up. Spring grains will soon be affected. The apple crop is bearing up well. All crops in New Brunswick made satisfactory growth during the past two weeks. Hay and pastures are below average in some counties. Potatoes responded to the warmer weather and made rapid progress.

Quebec.-

Rainfall has been fairly adequate over most of the province and excessive in some districts. Local damage has been caused by hail and insects. Haying is nearly completed and the crop was of fair size and good quality.

Ontario.-

There has been a slight improvement in crop prospects in some northern and central districts, but in the south-west and in the district from about Trenton eastward, recovery from the May drought has been limited and the recent period of dry weather has further reduced crop yields. Pastures in this region, with the exception of some favoured lands, are becoming bare. Fall wheat and fall rye yields will be very low and since harvest is beginning, there can be little improvement now.

Prairie Provinces.-

During the past week the weather in Manitoba has been cool with scattered showers. In general crops in southern Manitoba are showing the results of drought and insect damage and rain is badly needed. In the extreme south-western portion of the province crops are being cut for fodder and live stock is being moved northward. Frost was reported in western Manitoba on July 6 but the extent of damage is not known. All crops are developing satisfactorily in the northern part of the province. Grasshoppers are numerous but there is less apparent damage from this source than at the same time last year.

A wide variation in crop conditions is noted in Saskatchewan. In the southern portions of the province crops are uneven. In south-eastern Saskatchewan crops are very poor as a result of drought and grasshopper damage. In central and west-central districts stands are uneven, but in general crops have made good progress during the past week. Rains are needed over the southern half of the province. Conditions continue favourable throughout the east-central and northern parts of the province where adequate moisture supplies are reported for the time being. On July 6 frost was reported over wide areas but was most severe in the south-central districts. Gardens were blackened but it is difficult to ascertain the damage sustained by cereals. Cool weather has curbed the activity of grasshoppers but a return of hot, dry weather would mean more damage from this pest. Taking the province as a whole about seventy per cent of the crop is in shot blade and thirty per cent in head.

Reports from Alberta are generally favourable and crops have made substantial progress during the past fortnight. Warmer weather has been helpful to the heavy crops in northern Alberta. Some frost damage was reported on July 4 and 5 but damage seems to have been confined to low-lying land. Crops are progressing well in central Alberta although some districts are showing the effects of dry weather earlier in the season. Grasshoppers seem to be under control. All crops are doing well in southern sections of the province. In the irrigated districts a somewhat better yield of alfalfa and sugar beets is in prospect as compared with a year ago. Scattered hail storms were reported throughout the province but damage was relatively light.

Reports of Dominion Entomological Laboratories, Prairie Provinces.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Brandon, Manitoba.

Crops in southern and western Manitoba suffering from drought, remainder of area good. Grasshoppers inactive in Red River Valley but may do considerable damage if warm, dry weather sets in. Some migrations have occurred in western Manitoba.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

In the drier areas heavily infested with grasshoppers it has become necessary to cut much of the crop for fodder and little or no threshed grain can be looked for there although should frequent heavy rains start immediately the situation could still be helped in some of these districts. This area includes most of the districts south of a line through Storthoaks, Carlyle, Handsworth, Sillmore, Weyburn and Bengough, though grasshopper infestation is not so intense in rural municipalities one to six. In heavy soil of Regina plains most stubbled-in crops now being seriously stripped by intense infestations hatching there. Losses from grasshoppers have generally been held by campaign to relatively low amount in areas having moisture sufficient for fair crop.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Edmonton, Alberta.

Grasshoppers migrating on small scale but no losses yet. Oat thrips have caused ten per cent loss to oats in southern Alberta.

Hail Damage

Saskatchewan: No hail loss during past week.

Alberta: Claims received from Shepard, Forestburg, Sedgewick, Loughheed, Red Deer, Innisfail, De Winton. Heavy damage in many places.

Meteorological Report

The following report from the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, gives the rainfall (in inches):

(a) In the week ending July 9 at 7 a.m.-

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Minnedosa	0.5	Qu'Appelle	0.1	Fairview	0.1
Brandon	0.5	Saskatoon	0.1	Edmonton	0.3
Le Pas	0.9	Swift Current	0.2	Lethbridge	0.4
Winnipeg	0.9	Regina	0.2	Medicine Hat	0.6
		Battleford	0.4	Jasper	0.7
		Moose Jaw	0.5	Calgary	1.4
		Prince Albert	0.8		

(b) In the week ending July 8 at 7 a.m.-

Pierson	0.1	Estevan	-0.1	Brooks	-0.1
Portage la Prairie	0.3	Yellow Grass	-0.1	Drumheller	-0.1
Swan River	0.3	Assiniboia	-0.1	Coronation	0.1
Virden	0.4	Consul	-0.1	Vegreville	0.2
Boissevain	0.4	Empress	0.1	Foremost	0.3
Dauphin	0.4	Moosomin	0.1	Stettler	0.5
Russell	0.5	Elbow	0.1	Cardston	0.6
Emerson	0.7	Macklin	0.1	Red Deer	0.7
Cypress River	0.8	Humboldt	0.1	Macleod	0.8
Morden	1.0	Outlook	0.2	Beaverlodge	0.2
		Kindersley	0.2	(incomplete)	
		Broadview	0.3		
		Indian Head	0.3		
		Kamsack	0.4		
		Melfort	0.7		
		Yorkton	0.8		
		Shaunavon	1.0		
		Lloydminster	1.0		

Note:- The minus signs denote less precipitation than the amount indicated.

No rain has fallen in the West during the past twenty-four hours and little or nothing indicated for to-day or to-morrow.

British Columbia.-

The hot and dry weather of the past two weeks has lowered the promise of spring-seeded crops. Harvesting of fall wheat and fall rye is becoming general and the second cutting of alfalfa is nearly ready for the mowers. Pastures have suffered from the drought. Vegetables, berries and fruits are in better condition. Most of the berries are marketed and early varieties of apples and stone fruits are now moving. Insect damage has been severe in some areas.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Dominion Experimental Station, Charlottetown.

Beneficial rains June 29, July 2, 3, 4 and 8 have greatly improved hay and pastures. Clover cutting commenced fourth. Haymaking general next week. Cereals, roots, potatoes, corn growing rapidly, very promising. Small fruits good; plums, cherries poor; apples set fair. Very little injury from insects or disease.

NOVA SCOTIA

Department of Agriculture, Halifax.

Continued dry weather means inevitable short hay crop; not more than fifty to sixty per cent average. Notwithstanding, there are some excellent fields. Spring seeded crops not yet injured and can produce large yields with favourable rains. Pastures becoming bare and dairy production dropping. The apple crop has not yet suffered and promises good average yield, if favourable conditions follow. Strawberries less than half crop.

Dominion Experimental Station, Nappan.

Crop conditions improved during last two weeks. 0.73 inches of rainfall with warm weather hastened growth of grain and food crops. Hay maturing rapidly; prospects fifteen to twenty per cent below average. In district pastures only fair; other crops good, except strawberries, fifty per cent yield quality good. Rain and more heat needed.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Department of Agriculture, Fredericton.

All crops made satisfactory growth during last two weeks. Hay over western half province good crop and haying beginning few days. Over coastal counties, hay and pastures below average. All kinds grains growing rapidly. Barley headed and good yields indicated. Potatoes made remarkable advance last ten days; now in bloom Carleton County. Roots fair indications.

Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton.

June rainfall of 6.39 inches provided sufficient moisture for all soil and excess in low-lying fields. June cold; growth slow. July warmer; growth rapid. Hay short, but good bottom. Grain thrifty appearance. Potatoes good stand; thrifty. Roots poor stand, fair growth. Early apples good; late variety poor. Pastures good.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Fredericton.

Root maggots have caused considerable damage to cabbage and allied crops. Cutworms have caused local damage to mangels and turnips but no widespread loss. Potato insects abundant but under control. Grain not injured by insects.

QUEBEC

Department of Agriculture, Quebec.

Growth was somewhat late at the beginning of June due to drought. In the last three weeks generally rainy weather has provided an abundance of moisture and given new life to all crops. However, in certain parts of the province, the rain came too late and the hay crop was appreciably reduced. It is reported that on low and badly drain lands the crops are damaged by excess moisture. The rainy weather has interfered with work on the land to eradicate weeds. Insects, particularly cutworms, flea beetles, white grubs and potato beetles are causing local damage. Market garden crops generally have a good appearance, except canning peas in St. Jean Iberville which are damaged. Damage caused by hail about the 8th of June. Hail has also caused some damage to market gardens on the Island of Montreal.

QUEBEC - Continued.

Dominion Experimental Station, L'Assomption.

Rains every day or every other day. Four hail storms during the last fortnight. Haying just beginning. Heavy crop of hay on new meadows, poor on old meadows. Silage corn late and suffering from an excess of moisture. Oats very uneven. Potatoes very good on well-drained soil. Tobacco very uneven; damaged by hail and storms.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville.

Haying well under way. Crop twenty-five per cent below average. Grains promise average crop. Corn, roots and potatoes average. Pastures average. Strawberries average. Raspberries fair.

Dominion Experimental Station, Farnham.

Haying is going on; clover is deficient, timothy is better. Corn, garden and truck crops are growing satisfactorily. Tobacco is all planted and the damage by cutworms and wireworms is no more noticeable.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Hammondsford.

Grain crops fair to good. Pastures good. Haying started with yields fair to good. Corn stands good but warm weather required. Potatoes promise an excellent crop. Digging of early varieties started last week. Apple crop about forty per cent of last year. Rainfall plentiful. Raspberry cane borer seriously injuring young canes.

Dominion Experimental Station, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

For the last fifteen days, weather was very favourable. All field crops have actually very good appearance. Hay storing was started and yield seems very good. In orchard, cherry and plum crops will be medium but apples seem to be normal. Good honey crop expected due to abundance of clover.

Dominion Experimental Station, Cap Rouge.

Making alfalfa and clover hay under difficulties; rainy weather. Cereals doing well. Cool nights checking corn; more heat needed. Pastures good. Strawberry crop short due to insects and poor pollination. Local fresh vegetables coming on market.

ONTARIO

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Stratford.

Insect injury light and scattered. Recent rains have improved crop prospects. Haying almost completed. Wheat ready to harvest in a few days. Straw short, light yield expected. Potatoes and corn making satisfactory growth. Oats in head. Straw short. Probable yield below average.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Guelph.

Recent rain has considerably improved agricultural outlook. Wheat harvesting beginning. No widespread insect outbreak. Some chinch bugs and flea beetles reported on corn and beans respectively.

Dominion Experimental Station, Harrow.

Recent showers have immensely brightened all late crop prospects but many fields will require late fall for complete harvest. Great variation in growth exists in many bean, sugar beet, corn and tobacco crops. Wheat, early tomato and early potato harvest under way with low yields reported. Burnt pastures somewhat revived.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Kemptville.

First year meadow excellent and grain crops good. Pasture very good on account of abundant rains. Vegetables of all kinds have been affected badly by legion of cutworms and insects.

ONTARIO - Continued.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kapuskasing.

Crops are looking excellent in the north. Abundance of moisture but could stand more heat. A wonderful timothy and clover crop but haying will be late owing to cool, damp weather. Grain looking excellent.

MANITOBA

Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Past week moderately cool with roving showers. Generally favourable to crop growth. Grasshoppers abundant but working less apparent devastation than at this time last year. Present prospects are for harvest at normal time. Hay light in many places.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Weather continues cool; 1.14 inches rain during week. Crop continues to improve. Some fields of oats and barley showing leaf badly burned due to dwarfing of root system caused by high winds and long drought prevailing during May. Grasshoppers still menace to crop. Pastures good. Hay crop light.

Agricultural Representative, Melita.

Less than one and one-half inches rain all spring, none in the last two weeks. Grasshoppers active. Grain crops being cut for fodder. No crops and little winter feed in sight. Stock is being moved north.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Cooler weather with showers beneficial to crops and pastures. Hay crop generally light. Slight frost damage morning of July 6.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell.

Crops in this district suffered considerable damage from frost July 6. Too early to estimate extent of damage. Otherwise making good progress.

Agricultural Representative, Teulon.

Crops making good progress with one-half inch rain during week. Many fields headed out and stand will be excellent. No rust and only one or two reports of hail in the northern part of the district. Haying will be general this week and much of the clover crops cut. Farmers experiencing difficulty in curing due to wet weather. Hot wind to-day, however, which will absorb much of the moisture from the soil. Grasshopper station closed Saturday.

SASKATCHEWAN

Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Considerable variation in crop conditions is revealed by the crop reports received over the week-end. Crops in the southern part are generally uneven and patchy. In the south-eastern part drought and grasshoppers have done irreparable damage and crops in this section are very poor and this condition prevails with slight improvement westward into a portion of the south-central area. Although there are some fair crops in the western section they are on the whole uneven and patchy as a result of drought and soil drifting in May and grasshopper damage. Crops in central and west-central Saskatchewan although variable have made fairly good progress although some parts can stand a lot of rain. Crops are generally good in the east-central and northern areas. There is some difference of opinion but the crop on the whole seems to be somewhat later than last year with about seventy per cent in the shot blade and possibly thirty per cent in head. Good general rains over the southern areas would be beneficial. In the northern and east-central districts moisture conditions are generally reported good. A frost occurred on the morning of July 6 and potato tops were blackened and some garden stuff touched at several points in the south-eastern and the Regina-Weyburn districts where it appears to have been heaviest and at some points in east-central, central, and south-central and at a few points in north-eastern and west-central Saskatchewan. Damage to the cereal crops is not apparent but undoubtedly some of the wheat which was in head

SASKATCHEWAN - Continued

Department of Agriculture, Regina - Continued.

will later show the effects of the frost. Grasshopper activity has been slowed up somewhat by cool weather. Large numbers have developed wings but poisoning is continuing although it has abated to some extent. Cutworms have stopped working and the total damage from this source is not reported great. Scattered hail storms are reported and although severe in places the damage over the province is small. Farmers in all parts of the province are busy summerfallowing but progress has been retarded in some instances by lack of power and in some cases in the north by wet weather. Pastures in the south are generally poor to fair.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Frost ranging from two to eight degrees throughout district caused considerable damage to garden crops. No apparent damage to grain crops to date. Fallow crops looking well. Stubble fields require moisture. Grasshoppers very active and beginning to migrate. Rain urgently required.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Early sown wheat headed out. Later sown crops in all stages progressing satisfactorily. Condition of coarse grains similar to wheat. Grasshoppers damaging crops in few places. Frost damage to crop in blossom stage reported in district but no damage to crops locally. Moisture conditions satisfactory. General condition of crops better than last year at this time.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current.

Riverhurst scattered showers and cool weather past week. Most grain growing well but late. Some stubble and crops patchy. Hoppers numerous, checked by weather, starting to fly. Tugaskie and Parkbeg similar conditions but grain more advanced. Wheat heading. Herbert, fallow crops making favourable growth. Some stubble land patchy. Rain needed.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Weather during week cool and cloudy with 1 inch rainfall. Minimum temperature July 5 thirty-six. Approximately fifty per cent wheat headed. Considerable late-sown grain patchy but will make good crop. Tame hay very weedy and about half crop. Pastures good. Majority summerfallowing completed.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

Scattered showers of varying intensity occurred over north-western Saskatchewan during past week. Records at Scott station show wheat heading four days ahead of average date and that existing damp soil down eighteen inches in grain fields is exceptional. Estimate fifteen per cent grasshoppers winged in northern part infested area.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Crop conditions are still favourable with all grains well advanced. Approximately 50 per cent headed out. Grasshoppers continue damage in some areas. Range and pasture grasses fair to good. High winds rapidly drying soil. Moisture will soon be needed. Weather has been generally cool recently.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lethbridge.

The relatively cool weather with scattered showers during past week in southern Alberta has been most favourable for crop development. On irrigated land harvesting of first crop of alfalfa, which is better than usual, is nearly completed. Sugar beet crop promising and is about ten days earlier than normal.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge.

Lethbridge to Taber - winter wheat colouring. All irrigated crops pleasing to look upon. East of Taber to Whitla - fall rye harvest on. Spring wheat fields - a number of uniform well-headed crops, above average, and numbers of fields uneven and ragged evidently on second crop land.

ALBERTA - Continued

Telegraphic Correspondent, Cardston.

Crops looking fine. Plenty moisture at present. Spring wheat 30 per cent headed balance in shot blade. Fall rye ripening, should be ready to harvest by end of month. Grasshoppers still active but are being fairly well controlled.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary.

Crops made excellent progress during past week with scattered hail only damage reported. Wheat averages from eighteen to thirty inches high and heading out nicely with heads of good length. Moisture satisfactory for time being.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

With .54 inch rain for week all crops made good growth. No reserve moisture and more rain needed for average crop. All wheat headed but on stubble straw and heads short with tips dried out. Hail damage unusually widespread and in many places very heavy.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Hanna.

Rainfall last week .76 inch. Season cool. Having local showers. Stubble crops are done. Summerfallow very light; heading out and small heads. Grasshoppers numerous. Pastures good. Stock are doing fine.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Stettler.

One-half inch rain. Wheat about fifty per cent headed. Some hail about 20 per cent of district. Weather is warm and crops all doing well. Pastures fair. No damage from grasshoppers.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Camrose.

Showers during past week with higher temperatures. Crops making good growth. About 25 per cent of wheat in head. Coarse grains, hay and pastures very good. Crops of all kinds have possibilities for excellent yield.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

Past week has been warm and showery and crops doing well, most of wheat in head and most fields are heavy and straw will be long. Hail has struck in some small spots but damage in this district less than five per cent.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Crop conditions improving. More rapid growth account clear warm weather. All grains well stooled and continued clear weather required. Wheat coming out in head and coarse grains forming shot blade. Frost reported nights of fourth and fifth. Some damage in low places, considered not serious. No hail.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca.

Warmer weather for past week, also some cool nights. Slight frost but no reported damage to crops. Ample moisture. Prospects good.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Showery weather carrying crops along quite favourably. Wheat quite half headed many districts. Droughty conditions in Fort St. John district apparently relieved. Light frost Fort Vermilion and east of Peace River July 3.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Weather during past two weeks has been mostly hot and dry with considerable wind. Majority of spring-seeded crops are showing need of moisture and should customary July hot spell occur yield will be much curtailed. Fall wheat and rye are good with harvesting becoming general. Harvesting timothy and clover about ended. Second crops alfalfa making rapid growth; cutting will commence in about week's time. Oats heading out short in straw. Pea crop has been affected by aphids. Pastures drying up. All vegetable crops developing rapidly. Cucumbers, celery and semi-ripe tomatoes being shipped. Strawberries over. Raspberries and loganberries now past peak. Blackberries ripening rapidly; crop heavy. Some early varieties apples, plums and peaches being shipped. Apricots moving in volume. First cantaloupes shipped from Osoyoos on Monday.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Victoria.

Dry weather affecting spring-sown grain and cane fruits. Rain badly needed now for all crops. Some fall wheat ripening. Reports have been received of damage to grain by hessian fly. Flea beetles troublesome on truck crops and earwigs have done serious damage on small farms near Victoria.

Dominion Experimental Station, Sidney.

Dry weather affecting grains and root crops to some extent. Fall sown wheat beginning to ripen. Loganberry crop quite short and about over; demand good. Cherry crop finished in a week; prices low but quality good. Plums are short. Pears and apples normal. Early apples now in.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Agassiz.

All crops require rain at present, especially pastures, second crop hay, late oats and roots. In spite few showers, soil dried rapidly last week. Harvesting first crops hay almost completed; crop heavy, price low. Raspberries and cherries just over. Early apples ready. Cows milking well with flies troublesome.

Dominion Experimental Station, Summerland.

Weather hot. Precipitation low. Irrigation supplies likely to be short some districts. Crops maturing earlier than usual. Shipments cherries completed; finest quality ever shipped out of the valley. Apricots moving in volume; running heavy. Small sizes tomatoes and cantaloupes being shipped from Oliver. Second crop alfalfa hay cured good condition.



1010525105