

22-002
no. 10
1935
June 11
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lished by Authority of the HON. R. B. HANSON, K.C., M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 11, 1935, 4 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the first 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

Although the usual summer variation in crop conditions is becoming apparent, prospects on the whole are very satisfactory. In each section of the country, drought has caused some damage, the particular areas being western Nova Scotia, west-central Saskatchewan, north-eastern Alberta, and Vancouver Island and the lower mainland of British Columbia. During the past week, rains have fallen in other districts of New Brunswick and Quebec, which were badly in need of more moisture. The season is late throughout most of the Dominion, but, with the greater rainfall in the Prairie Provinces, there is more uniformity and balance in the agricultural situation than has been evident for some years. With warmer weather and timely rains, harvests of average size may still be garnered.

In Prince Edward Island, spring seeding and planting are nearly completed and there has been strong germination and early growth. Meadows and pastures suffered winter injury and are now in need of rain. The fruit blossom was heavy. Conditions are rather variable in Nova Scotia, with growth less than normal because of the cool, dry weather. Pastures and meadows are particularly backward. The fruit bloom was generally heavy. Western Nova Scotia is in need of rain and warm weather would be of benefit to the whole province. Crops in New Brunswick are also late, but rains at the month-end have quickened growth. Hay and pastures are backward. The fruit bloom was reported as good.

After a late start in cold and dry weather, Quebec crops are now picking up rapidly. Recent rains and higher temperatures have been of general benefit. Insects and plant diseases are becoming troublesome but are not expected to cause as much damage as in 1934. In Ontario, the dry, cold spring was relieved much earlier than in Quebec and the Maritimes and for nearly three weeks, growth has been strong and fairly rapid. Moisture is fairly abundant everywhere and all crops are doing well.

In the Prairie Provinces, the rainfall of the past week was rather light, with effective precipitation mostly limited to southern and north-western Saskatchewan and parts of Manitoba. Grasshoppers are starting to hatch and some poisoning has been necessary. No damage is reported from this source yet, but cut-worms and wireworms are working in many districts. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, crop growth is well advanced, but in Alberta, the season is still very late, particularly in the north. The promising hay crops and better pastures are an important feature in the improvement of crop conditions in western Canada.

British Columbia has experienced a very severe drought in May and early June, with resultant damage to nearly all crops.

The Maritime Provinces.-

Seeding was delayed by the cold weather but once started was completed very rapidly and recent growth has been rapid. The western counties of Nova Scotia and parts of the Island have suffered particularly from drought. Grain acreages have increased at the expense of hay and potatoes. There was a heavy bloom of cherries, pears, plums, and strawberries and most varieties of apples. Hay and pasture lands seem to have suffered most in the cold spring.

Quebec and Ontario.-

In Quebec, the season is late and seeding not yet completed. Up until a week ago, drought was fairly general over the province but it has now been relieved in most districts. Warmer weather and more rain are needed almost generally. Spring-sown grains and gardens are thriving but pastures are in only fair condition. The apple bloom was excellent and strawberries promise a good crop despite some frost damage. In Ontario, spring-sown crops have made remarkable growth during the past two weeks and now promise good harvests. Meadows and pastures are improving, but still show the effects of early drought. Fall wheat is heading out in western Ontario. Small fruits are promising and all apples, except Baldwins, have set well. Strawberries are now coming on the market.

The Prairie Provinces.-

While the rainfall of the past week was rather light, reports on the development of the western grain crops are generally favourable. Rain is needed in west-central Saskatchewan and in north-eastern and south-western Alberta. The warmer weather has quickened growth so that Manitoba crops are now said to be normally advanced, with Saskatchewan crops a little later. Northern Alberta crops are still very backward. The hatching of grasshoppers has just started although wireworms and cutworms have been damaging crops in Saskatchewan and Alberta particularly. Compared with the same date of 1934, there is a marked improvement in prairie crop prospects.

Heavy frosts were recorded during the week in Manitoba, although damage was practically confined to corn, potatoes and tender vegetables. Rains of the week were light but were well distributed. Grain crops are in healthy condition. Grasshoppers are beginning to work in south-eastern areas.

With fair weather promised for the next two days, the crops over most of Saskatchewan are not in great need of rain. An exception must be made for the west-central district around Scott where the season's rainfall to date has been about an inch less than in the same period of 1934. Crops are suffering in this district. Frost was also recorded at scattered points in Saskatchewan during the week, the damage being confined to garden crops. Grasshoppers are starting to hatch on light land while cutworms and wireworms continue to cause local damage.

Crops in Alberta are responding to the warmer weather and good growth is generally reported. More rain is needed at Lethbridge, Cardston and Vermilion. Grasshoppers are hatching in southern districts but are not troublesome yet. Pastures are benefiting from the good rains and live stock are in good condition. Rain in the south and warmer weather in the north are needed at present.

Reports of Dominion Entomological Laboratories, Prairie Provinces.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Brandon, Manitoba.

Grasshoppers are hatching generally due to onset of warmer weather, particularly in Red River Valley. Practically no damage has occurred as yet and only a limited amount of poisoning has been necessary. Wireworms have damaged a few fields of corn in the Brandon district.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Warm weather of last few days is bringing about abundant hatching of both stubble and sod-infesting grasshoppers. More hatching has occurred near Saskatoon than elsewhere, necessitating use of poison bait. In southern Saskatchewan and especially in heavy soils, hatching is not yet marked. Serious cutworm damage is occurring in Prelate, Burstall, Richmond area. Wireworm damage is increasing, averaging over ten per cent in Swift Current area.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta.

Grasshopper hatching becoming more general particularly along the Foothills. Wireworms have caused slight losses to wheat, general in southern Alberta. Pale western cutworm losses increasing particularly in Lethbridge and Lethbridge Northern districts; some loss in Travers area.

Meteorological Report, Prairie Provinces.

The following precipitation (in tenths of an inch) was reported by the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto for the week ending Monday, June 10, at 7 a.m.:

Manitoba

Saskatchewan

Alberta

Pierson	-0.1	Outlook	Trace	Macleod	-0.1
Virden	0.1	Consul	Trace	Foremost	-0.1
Morden	0.2	Kindersley	Trace	Coronation	-0.1
Minnedosa	0.2	Elbow	-0.1	Empress	0.1
Brandon	0.3	Shaunavon	-0.1	Drumheller	0.1
Swan River	0.4	Moosomin	-0.1	Brooks	0.1
Russell	0.4	Yorkton	-0.1	Cardston	0.1
Emerson	0.4	Lloydminster	0.1	Vegreville	0.2
Portage la Prairie	0.5	Melfort	0.1	Red Deer	0.2
Boissevain	0.5	Moose Jaw	0.1	Edmonton	0.2
Winnipeg	0.6	Macklin	0.2	Calgary	0.2
Cypress River	0.8	Assiniboia	0.2	Medicine Hat	0.2
Dauphin	0.9	Saskatoon	0.2	Beaverlodge	0.3
		Kamsack	0.3	Stettler	0.4
		Broadview	0.3		
		Battleford	0.3		
		Yellow Grass	0.4		
		Swift Current	0.4		
		Humboldt	0.5		
		Indian Head	0.6		
		Estevan	0.6		
		Qu'Appelle	0.6		
		Prince Albert	0.7		
		Regina	1.3		

Four degrees of frost at Fairview and Beaverlodge morning 8th. Frost at Winnipeg mornings 5th, 6th and 7th, Saskatoon 4th and 7th, Moose Jaw 4th, Regina 4th and 6th. Week generally two to five degrees below normal temperatures.

Light to moderate showers have occurred over about half of Saskatchewan, the south-western and north-eastern portions receiving little or none. Manitoba and Alberta have been generally fair. Forecasts - very light scattered showers are probable today in Manitoba but weather in west next two days is likely to be generally fair and warm.

British Columbia.-

One of the worst droughts in the history of this province has lowered the condition of nearly all crops. It has been particularly dry on Vancouver Island and along the southern coast, but non-irrigated crops in some of the interior valleys have also suffered. Most fruit crops are promising but the berries have suffered from the drought.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Dominion Experimental Station, Charlottetown.

Spring seeding and planting about completed. Cereals and early roots germinated well and have made strong growth. Later grain and corn now appearing. Cutworms very numerous. Meadows and pastures in need of rain. Clover winter-killed in many fields. Heavy fruit blossom with apple bloom opening. Vegetables promising.

NOVA SCOTIA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Halifax.

Spring has been dry and cold. Growth two weeks behind normal while seeding commenced late. Weather has been favourable for work and cropping well advanced. Prospects depend upon favourable rain and heat. Reports indicate large increase in grain acreage but big reduction in area seeded to hay due to high cost seed. Hoed crops about average acreage. Apple blossoms two weeks late with prospects of at least good average crop.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kentville.

Middle of May to date dry permitting uninterrupted work on land. Spring generally late. Grass and clover are fair to good and grain good. Apples and pears generally heavy bloom with warm, excellent weather for pollination. Other tree fruits fair to good. Strawberries good.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Kentville.

Cool, dry weather has permitted earlier seeding than was first anticipated. Seeding nearly completed except small areas barley and buckwheat. Province needs rain particularly western Nova Scotia. Hay crop will be greatly lessened if dry weather continues. Newly-seeded meadows not generally good.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Nappan.

Good growth retarded by cold, late spring weather. Seeding general between May twenty to twenty-fifth. Some late fields and roots yet to be seeded. Germination was slow. Pastures and grass lands fair but all growth improving rapidly. More rain and heat would be extremely beneficial. Clover below average. Conditions generally reasonably satisfactory.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Annapolis Royal.

Season somewhat late and dry. Good apple bloom with conditions suitable to good set. Orchard pests well under control.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Fredericton.

Season cool and dry. Seeding operations began late, were uninterrupted, and acreage now three-fourths sown. Raining today. Pasturage fair and all grain crops thriving. Acreages oats, wheat, barley, increased over last year. Potatoes reduced.

Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton.

Late dry season. Crop backward although growth has been excellent following rain May 28th and 29th. Considerable winter-killing both hay and pasture land. Grain and hoed crops germinated well. Apple trees good bloom. Pastures good. Hay promising. Soil dry; rain badly needed.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Fredericton.

Cropping operations two weeks later than last year. Early season cold; at present, dry and hot. Hay and pasture show plenty of evidence of winter injury. Hay not promising at present. A good rain would alter outlook entirely. Seed bed preparation good. Potato acreage reduced. Seventy-five per cent of grain acreage sown.

NEW BRUNSWICK - Concluded.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Fredericton.

Local cutworm outbreaks in places but no extensive damage to crops. Tent caterpillars abundant and causing some injury to neglected orchards. Province-wide outbreak of raspberry byturus; quite severe injury to raspberry buds.

QUEBEC

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Quebec.

Season late. Seeding not over yet. Recent rains have improved conditions and stimulated growth. Grass and pastures should benefit. Live stock generally poor. Little damage reported by frosts during last few weeks. Dry and cold weather has generally delayed the development of disease, particularly scab. Poison campaign proceeding in most orchards. Unless there is excessive moisture apples will not be spotted to the same extent as last year. Insects active in gardens and truck crops, particularly cutworms, potato bugs and cabbage worms. Great number of new seedings and young plants have had to be replaced. Numerous tent caterpillar webs along roads. Spraying prevents infestation of orchards but ornamental trees exposed to attacks. Work in corn fields of quarantined zone progressing very satisfactorily and thousands of corn borers have been destroyed. Heat has stimulated rapid growth of weeds. Extensive campaign against wild mustard will be started in Kamouraska, Lac St. Jean, L'Assomption, Verchères, Richelieu and Yamaska.

Dominion Experimental Station, L'Assomption.

Grain crops sown fully two weeks later than normal but coming up. Silage corn planted one week later than usual. Pasture poor. Meadows made a poor start but the rains of the last two weeks improved them wonderfully. Tobacco plant beds were very uneven and late. The plantation of the tobacco is late, not over 25 per cent has been made. Wireworms and cutworms very abundant.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville.

Hay light. Grain sowed late but growing well. Roots, corn and late potatoes just through ground. Pastures fair. Prospects for apples and small fruits are fair.

Dominion Experimental Station, Farnham.

Pastures and hay fields in perfect condition. Less winter-killing than last year. Oats mostly sown. Sweet corn sown but little silage corn. Garden crops doing well. Planting tobacco just started.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Hemmingford.

Pasture and hay crops good. Seeding completed. Abundant moisture. Apples excellent bloom on healthy trees but losses in past two years about thirty per cent bearing trees. Cutworms prevalent in gardens area covered south-western Quebec.

Dominion Experimental Station, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere.

Seeding started a week or ten days later but mostly finished except potatoes, roots and corn. They were done in good condition. Newly-seeded meadows promising but old meadows rather poor so far. Pastures very good for the season.

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

Spring a week later than last year. Seeding practically done, in very good condition. Meadows promising as a whole but first year meadows damaged to some extent by winter. Pasture very promising specially improved area. No insects such as cutworm or flea beetle detected yet. Area seeded to wheat was increased.

Dominion Experimental Station, Cap Rouge.

Seeding delayed by rainy weather. Fields sown doing well. Pastures improving rapidly with last rain. Clover very scarce through winter-killing. Garden crop all but cutworms plentiful. Strawberry weevil also active. Orchards in full bloom and prospect of a good crop if weather conditions favourable for pollination.

ONTARIO

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Strathroy.

Crop prospects good. Recent rains improved outlook. Cutworm injury likely to be serious in some localities. Some injury to spring grains by sod web worms. There is a heavy June beetle flight.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Vineland.

Fruit crop conditions in Niagara District very favourable. Grape leaf hoppers present in outbreak form. Cutworms unusually abundant.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Chatham.

Crops in general in excellent condition. Cutworms and wireworms more active than usual with considerable damage in certain localities. Sod redworms abundant in pastures; doing considerable damage.

Dominion Experimental Station, Harrow.

Although the season has been somewhat backward recent heavy precipitation is resulting in excellent growth of most crops and present outlook very bright. More than three-quarters of total tobacco crop planted. Old alfalfa, small grains and pastures making rapid growth. Wheat heading nicely. Starting to market early vegetable crops.

Dominion Experimental Station, Kapuskasing.

Seeding later than usual. First work on land May twentieth but soil worked up in splendid shape and seeding was completed in record time. Dry cool weather made it easy on horses. Growth very backward and need heat. Sufficient moisture and spring grain germinating evenly. Grass is backward and stock still in barn.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Northern Quebec and Northern Ontario.

Cochrane, Val Gagne and Ramore Districts - seedings started one week later than last year. Weather favourable for seeding; consequently completed earlier than usual. Verner District - seeding started about same time as usual; completed little earlier. More moisture needed in all districts. Pastures good.

MANITOBA

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Heavy frosts during week. Corn and vegetables frozen; cereals apparently undamaged. Crops and grass continue to make good growth. Moisture conditions fair. Crop prospects continue promising. Grasshoppers working in local areas south and east of Morden toward United States border.

Agricultural Representative, Carman.

Ideal growing weather. No frost damage reported in grain crops. Tender plants in unprotected gardens frozen. Hoppers hatching and while bait available little spread on account of cool weather. Rank growth of all vegetation. Summer-fallowing started.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Melita.

Weather last week cool and showery. Slight frost but no damage done. Grain crops all in healthy condition; growing fast. Fall rye heading. Live stock doing well. Plenty of grass.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Weather continues cool with growth of grain crops satisfactory. More than usual acreage late-seeded grain crop. Frost over quite a wide area damaged early planted corn and potatoes but did little, if any, injury to grain crops.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin.

Weather continued cool past week with good shower Friday night. Frost two nights did very little damage to grain but nipped tender vegetables in gardens. Weather was excellent for grain that was flooded and damage on this account was negligible. No insect pest bothering.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Weather somewhat warmer with scattered showers and some heavy rains. About ninety per cent coarse grains sown. Growth generally fairly good. Moisture conditions are satisfactory in the north and eastern half of province. Rain would be welcome in many parts of western Saskatchewan, although on the whole little suffering yet. Grasshoppers are reported in several districts and situation being closely watched. Damage from soil-drifting on the whole slight. Many fields being benefited by scattered showers.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Early sown wheat making good growth. Later sown grains require more heat. Rye heading. Hay and pasture fields the best for years. Heavy weed growth on fallows. Grasshoppers commencing to hatch. Rainfall during week 0.69 inches.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Early wheat in three leaf stage; later crop progressing satisfactorily. Some green feed crops and flax being sown. Summer fallow work started. Upland grass areas need rain. Moisture conditions for grain crop satisfactory but more rain now would improve crop. No further soil-drifting. No insect damage.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Five degrees frost on June fourth damaged gardens severely and froze most grains and though little of grain killed crops will be later than normal as a result. Two beneficial rains totalling 0.55 inches fell since First but more moisture needed badly. Pastures continuing to make good growth. No grasshopper or other insect damage reported.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Scott.

Precipitation at this station April first to date one inch less than same period last year. Grain crops backward. Warm weather and moisture needed, particularly on fields damaged by wind and frost first week of June. Hay and pasture suffering from drought. Grasshoppers commencing to hatch. Some wireworm damage reported.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Warm weather recently producing rapid growth of crops and pastures. Moisture reserves fair to good. No grasshopper damage. Wheat seeding practically completed with some coarse grains yet to be sown. Outlook very favourable.

Dominion Experimental Station and Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Lethbridge.

All crops making good growth throughout entire district but rain will be needed soon, especially at Lethbridge and west where prairie pastures are starting to dry up. Water is being used freely on irrigated farms. Reports of cutworm damage in some wheat and sugar beet fields.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Cardston.

About one-half inch rainfall since last report. Rain needed for surface moisture; subsurface moisture still good. All grains growing rapidly. Grasshoppers hatching but no damage reported. Pastures and hay land needing rain.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

With half inch rain in June, rain is not yet urgently needed. Warm weather is needed to bring crops along. Pasture conditions unusually good, with grass over one foot high. Crop prospects excellent.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Stettler.

Warm weather with light showers the past week has given the crop a good start. Early sown wheat covering the ground. Seeding complete and most of the grain up. Pastures extra good. No damage from grasshoppers. General crop conditions good.

ALBERTA - Concluded.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Camrose.

Weather cloudy and cool with scattered showers. Growth generally good. Wheat up 2 to 5 inches. Early sown oats showing above ground. Season 3 weeks later than 1934. No crop damage.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

Past week has been cool and dry except for few small scattered showers. Crops on good land not failing but stubbled-in crops need rain badly. All growth is slow.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Seeding completed. Wheat now showing up well above ground. Good growth during past week. Pastures show good growth. Weather cloudy but fairly warm. General conditions very good.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca.

Warmer weather for past week will help all growth. Seeding now mainly for green feed. Rainfall 0.30 inches. Ample moisture. Grain above ground showing average growth. No insect damage of any kind reported.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Though seeded three or four weeks late with some fields skimpily prepared crops coming well. Wheat practically all sown but acreage somewhat reduced. Coarse grains mostly sown save in certain flat and bushy districts. Acreage these crops maintained or increased but total crop acreage reduced. Germination good though land now working cloddy. Only one out of ten points called mentions worm injury. Light frost many points Wednesday morning and harder one quite general Saturday affected garden stuff. Hilltop temperature 29 and slough temperature 26.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Seeding and planting of all crops now practically completed. Season about two weeks behind what may be considered average conditions. In last two weeks of May, weather was very variable with alternating hot and cold spells and no rains of any benefit to the crops. First week of June very dry and hot. Showers were general over the province on June eighth and ninth which will benefit small fruits and shallow-rooted crops to some extent but good rains are badly needed. Fall-sown grains look fine. Hay and alfalfa crops very backward and light at present. Spring-sown grains look fair but are in need of rains to get them away to a good start.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Victoria.

Drought conditions serious for small fruits, hay and field crops. Showers on ninth too late to be of benefit. Flea beetles destructive to cruciferous crops which may have survived drought. Cutworms numerous in places.

Dominion Experimental Station, Sidney.

Vancouver Island as a whole and especially the southern end is exceedingly dry, unlike anything seen here at this season. Hay being cut less than one-half crop. Strawberries have been on market for several days. Strawberries promising in early season are going back every day; probably less than half a crop.

Dominion Experimental Station, Summerland.

Temperatures and rainfall below average. Soil moisture conditions favourable. Heavy set of apples and pears. Moderate set cherries and apricots. Light crop of peaches, canteloupes and tomatoes. Making slow growth. Hay crops good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Windermere.

Season two weeks late. Spring-sown grains uneven in germination and growth. Fall wheat promises well. Alfalfa and clover first cuttings late with reduced yields. Pastures fair. Garden and fruit season late with some frost damage to fruit buds and plants.



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