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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

B. HANSON, K.C., M.P.,
Commerce

JUNE 1935

PROPRET OF THE

Dominion Statistician:

Chief, Agricultural Branch:

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 25, 1935, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues to-day the fifth of a series of 15 weekly telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the three Prairie Provinces. Forty 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. The Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto, supplies official weather data.

SUMMARY

During the past week, light showers were received in many parts of Western Canada while heavy rains were concentrated in a relatively few districts. In general it may be stated that the outlook continues favourable in Manitoba and Saskatchewan while prospects in Alberta are not quite as favourable as a week ago. Rain is needed in parts of south-western Saskatchewan and is needed urgently in south-eastern Alberta and in local areas in southern Alberta. Definite crop damage due to drought is reported from south-eastern Alberta. In Northern Alberta where crops are decidedly late further rains were received last week. Warm weather is urgently needed to stimulate growth. In the Peace River area crops are late and some parts need rain. Grasshoppers are hatching in all three provinces and control measures are being put into effect. The grasshopper situation has not resulted in material damage to date but remains a potential menace in some areas. Pastures are in a satisfactory condition, especially Manitoba, and live stock are benefiting. Hail storms were reported last week in Saskatchewan and Alberta but damage was light.

Manitoba. -

Showers were received over Manitoba last week with rains of one inch of more reported at Dauphin and Swan River. Only light showers were received in the southwestern part of the province. Grain crops are growing rapidly and have reached the shot blade stage in some areas. Grasshoppers are now hatching in numbers in certain areas out little actual damage has been done as yet. Where necessary farmers are spreading bait. With crops showing a healthy stand and with adequate moisture for the time being, warmer weather is needed to promote growth. Pastures are excellent and live stock are making good gains in weight.

Saskatchewan. -

During the past week only light showers were received over the greater part of Saskatchewan. Good rains were received in the Swift Current and Shaunavon districts. Weather was cool during the first few days of the week but has been warmer during the past few days. Moisture conditions are satisfactory at the moment over the greater part of the province and crops are making progress. Rain is needed immediately in several districts in south-western Saskatchewan. Grasshoppers have hatched in several districts in southern and central portions of the province necessitating control measures. In areas where crops are particularly late, warm weather is needed. In general very little damage has occurred. A few hail losses are reported. Pastures are improving with benefit to live stock.

Alberta.-

Crop reports from Alberta are variable. The south-eastern districts of the province need rain badly and unless moisture is received very soon crop damage will result. In the central areas of the province, crops are developing favourably but are late. Some districts need rain. In the Edmonton district crops are about ten days late and further rains last week did not improve the outlook. Farm weather is badly needed in northern Alberta where cool, wet weather delayed both seeding and crop development. In the Peace River area crops are backward and rain is needed at some points. Grasshoppers have not caused much damage so far but remain a menace in some areas.

Reports of Dominion Entomological Laboratories, Prairie Provinces.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Brandon, Manitoba.

Grasshoppers continuing to hatch slowly and only doing a small amount of damage. About seventy per cent hatched. They are easily being held in check by poisoning. Still a grave potential danger if weather turns hot and dry but the farmers are well organized to combat them.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Light damage by grasshoppers becoming evident in several scattered localities and poisoning necessary in several new municipalities. Wireworm damage still increasing. New points reporting serious cutworm damage, Bengough, Frenchville, Bounty, Donavon, Hoosier, Marsden, St. Walburg, Paradise Hill.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta.

Pale western cutworm damage increasing in drier areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Extensive losses extend west from Cabri and Hazlet, Sask., to Schuler and Bindloss, Alberta. Occasional fields have been severely damaged at Jenner, Bassano, Barons, Burdett, Milk River, Warner, Lethbridge, Welling, Pincher. Grasshoppers abundant near Vulcan, Milo, Glenwood, Castor, Alberta, but no extensive losses reported.

Hail Damage.

Saskatchewan .-

As a result of storm of June nineteenth we received some scattered claims in the vicinity of Gull Lake, Roadene, Pennant and Climax. Do not anticipate the damage will be extensive.

Alberta . -

Hail claims received from a storm of June nineteenth from six different points in the province. The damage not extensive nor excessive.

Meteorological Report - Prairie Provinces.

The following report from the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, gives the rainfall (in inches) during the week ending Monday, June 24 at 7 a.m.:

Manitoba		Saskatchewan		Alberta	
Virden -	0.1	Estevan	Trace	Brooks	Trace
Pierson -	0.1	Outlook	Trace	Lethbridge	- 0.1
Boissevain -	0.1	Prince Albert	- 0.1	Macleod	- 0.1
Emerson -	0.1	Saskatoon	- 0.1	Empress	0.2
Russell	0.2	Regina	- 0.1	Cardston	0.2
Portage la Prairie	0.3	Lloydminster	- 0.1	Edmonton	0.3
Cypress River	0.4	Indian Head	- 0.1	Vegreville	0.3
Brandon	0.5	Yellow Grass	- 0.1	Medicine Hat	0.7
Minnedosa	0.7	Qu'Appelle	- 0.1	Stettler	0.7
Morden	0.7	Battleford	0.1	Foremost	0.7
Dauphin	1.0	Moose Jaw	0.1	Fairview	1.0
Swan River	1.3	Elbow	0.1	xBeaverlodge	1.2
		Melfort	0.1	Calgary	1.2
		Kindersley	0.2	Coronation	1.5
		Yorkton	0.2	Drumheller	1.6
		Macklin	0.3	Red Deer	3.7
		Broadview	0.3		
		Moosomin	0.3		
		Humboldt	0.4		
		Consul	0.4	xIncomplete	
		Assiniboia	0.5		
		Kamsack	0.7		
		Winnipeg	1.0		
		Swift Current	1.2		
		Shaunavon	1.4		

Note. - The minus signs denote less precipitation than the amount indicated. Except locally, the week was 2 degrees cooler than a normal week in June.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Grain crop continues to grow rapidly. Hay bountiful. Grasshoppers hatching freely in some areas but little damage done as yet and farmers spreading bait where necessary. Weather continues showery.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Crop continues to make rapid growth. Weather has been moderately cool. Pastures showing splendid growth. Prospects continue to be very promising. Grass-hoppers hatching in goodly numbers in certain areas. Continued rains necessary to carry heavy growth.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Melita.

Weather conditions continue favourable. No rain last week. Some fields of wheat, oats and barley in shot blade. Fall rye exceptionally good. All in head and over five feet in height owing to heavy and rapid growth. Rain will be needed soon.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Cool with beneficial rains during first half of week, latter much warmer. Crop growth excellent. Corn and potatoes recovering from early June frosts. Summer-fallowing well under way and a few have commenced cutting sweet clover. Live stock making remarkable gains in weight on pasture.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Minnedosa.

Had warm weather since last Wednesday. Raining again to-night. Plenty of surface moisture. Subsoil still dry. Grain and pasture growing well. Crops about two weeks later than average. No grasshoppers. No frost damage lately. No hail. Need more warm weather to bring along quickly.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin.

Weather has been generally cool during past week with odd hot days. Cereal crops are making good progress but are late. Hay crops should be splendid. Precipitation of six and one-half inches for June has raised creeks and rivers. No insect pests bothering.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Swaw River.

Conditions much the same as last report. Plenty rainfall and all grain crops and hay growing fast. No grasshoppers or cutworms. Weather is clear again and getting warmer. Some low land too much moisture.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regine.

Some light showers have occurred during the past week and a good rain fell in the Swift Current and Shaunavon Districts. The weather was cool the first part of the week but has been considerably warmer during the last few days. Moisture conditions over the greater part of the province are good and crops for the most part are making good growth. Rain, however, is needed immediately at several points in the south-west portion. Grasshoppers have hatched at several places in the southern and central areas and are quite numerous at some points on light land in central Saskatchewan. Poisoning is under way where necessary. Very little serious damage has occurred.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Weather dull and cool with very little sunshine. Grain crops fully two weeks late. Hay crop excellent. Pastures in good condition. Work on fallows delayed due to recent heavy rains. Live stock generally improved in condition.

SASKATCHEWAN - Concluded.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current:

Tugaske District - grain crops making satisfactory progress but lack sufficient moisture so far. Some grasshoppers hatched, damage in spots. Pastures fair. Piapot District - crop growth fair. Early grain foot high but late. No good rain recently. More moisture needed. Not much damage from soil drifting. No grasshopper damage. Fall rye in head, fair to good stand. Pastures fair. Fox Valley District - June rainfall only .87. Light rain past week. More moisture needed. Cutworm damage serious. Estimated forty per cent crop taken over large area to grasshopper damage. Not much damage from soil drifting. Pastures getting dry.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Crops and pastures responding quickly to recent heavy and timely rain. Sufficient moisture now for two weeks. Early wheat nine inches high. All crops stooling well. Fall rye well headed out. No insect damage. Crop donditions generally very promising. Live stock much improved.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Weather fair for growing. Crops making good progress although about two weeks late. Wheat averaging thirteen inches in height. Total of point seventy-seven inches rain fell during the week. Pastures fair. Fall rye excellent crop. Grasshoppers reported south and west of Hague.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Scott.

Light to heavy showers have occurred at scattered points during past week but warmer weather is immediate outstanding need for backward grain crop in most sections of west-central Saskatchewan. Little damage from grasshoppers reported. Wireworms have done more damage than for several years but loss not alarming.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Light scattered showers have temporarily helped some districts but general rains are badly needed. Crops and pastures are beginning to burn. No serious grasshopper damage. Pasture grasses are fair height and the stand is fair. Early sown wheat is coming into the shot blade.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary.

Scattered showers during week. Conditions continue satisfactory.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Olds.

Crop conditions continue fairly good. Raining again to-day. Weather cloudy and cool. Warmer weather needed. No damage reported. Wheat four to eight high, growth slow.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

With ten and quarter inches rain since April first moisture has penetrated soil to an average over three feet with daily temperature not much over sixty. Growth is still about two weeks late. Pastures and prospects for hay crop excellent but more heat needed for cereals and hoe crops.

Telegraphio Correspondent, Stettler.

About three-quarters of an inch rain the past week. Grain growing very fast. Ten per cent wheat in shot blade. No damage from grasshoppers but considerable lamage by cutworms and wireworms. Would say crop about ninety per cent normal.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

Lack of warm weather and rain is keeping crops back. Crops are not deteriorating much but they cannot be heavy without immediate heat and rain. Cutworm is the only damage reported, mostly in gardens. Pastures are green but short.

ALBERTA - Concluded.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Crop conditions this district only fair. Too much wet and cloudy weather. Growth uneven and slow. Pastures good and no damage reported. Crops generally late. Require clear, warm weather to hasten more rapid growth. Moisture conditions the best.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca.

No change in weather conditions from last week mostly dull with rainfall one decimal point five. Crops not making much head way. Weeds plentiful. Less rain and more sunshine wanted,

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge.

Cool weather with scattered heavy showers and some hail has retarded growth, particularly Grande Prairie through to Dawson Creek. Conditions unfavourably dry at Falher. Other districts crop progressing nicely. At points north of the Peace growth plantid though rain needed soon some localities. Slight wireworm damage many districts.

LATE REPORT

Agricultural Representative, Teulon, Manitoba.

Few days warm weather has brought crop along fast. Pastures good. Grain crops good but late. Some frost damage to gardens and corn but they are mostly very good. Animals improving in condition. Grasshoppers hatching but no damage as yet. Bait-mixing stations started.

