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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 8, 1937, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the third of a series of 15 weekly telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the three Prairie Provinces. Fifty-four 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 a number of selected private observers and grain men also cooperate in this service. The Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto, supplies official weather data.

SUMMARY

Dry conditions accompanied by wind storms over large areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan have brought about a general decline in crop prospects during the past week. Manitoba continues to be an outstanding exception to the general situation. In that province, rainfall during the past week has in many cases been in excess of the total precipitation during the 1936 growing season and throughout the province prospects for all crops are good. The situation in southwestern Alberta continues favourable and in northern and northeastern Saskatchewan crops are holding up well although rain would be most welcome. Serious and widespread wind damage has occurred in central Alberta and throughout much of the southern half of Saskatchewan. Further serious deterioration of crops can only be averted by the timely arrival of effective rains over the majority of the two western provinces.

Manitoba

Generous and widespread rainfall over most of the province has provided an abundance of soil moisture during the past week. Heaviest precipitation occurred in central areas and on low lands around Portage la Prairie, much of the crop is under water. Temperatures have been rather low but no frost damage has been reported as yet. All crops are making strong growth. Wheat is deeply rooted and top growth is six to eight inches high. Late seeded coarse grains are doing well. Recent rains have ensured a good stand of hay and pastures are good with live stock doing well. In the Dauphin area, browning of the wheat crop to the extent of about 25 per cent and ascribed to root rot or the results of cool weather, is causing some anxiety. Weeds continue to be a problem but insect pests have done no serious damage. Warmer weather is now needed over the whole province.

Saskatchewan

Except for a few scattered points, mostly along the Manitoba boundary, rainfall during the past week was of little or no significance. Cool weather has retarded crop deterioration but good rains are needed over the whole province and in the southern areas the situation will soon be beyond repair if moisture is long withheld. Soil drifting has been fairly widespread with the heaviest damage reported from southern points. In northern, central and east-central districts, crops have continued to make fairly satisfactory growth but further progress will be dependent on early rainfall. Pastures in these areas are fairly good although new seedings of grasses are poor. Southern Saskatchewan is threatened with an acute feed shortage with pastures bare and hay fields very unpromising. Damage in varying amounts has been caused by grasshoppers and wireworms but wind damage and lack of moisture are the most serious factors in the present situation.

Alberta

Effective rainfall during the past week was confined almost entirely to the southern part of the province with the heaviest precipitation centred between Calgary and Cardston. In these areas, crop growth is satisfactory. North and east of these points, rain is badly needed and a violent wind storm in central Alberta caused serious damage to all crops, 30 per cent of the cereal crops being cut back to the ground and the hay crop reported as ruined. With little reserve moisture in the soil, the outlook is unfavourable in eastern Alberta unless rains come soon. Good rainfall would however bring about a decided improvement and repair much of the wind damage. Some frost injury occurred to vegetables but field crops have not suffered. Cutworms are active in southwestern areas and grasshoppers have caused some loss in east-central sections. Peace River points report an urgent need for rain.



REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge.

Pale western cutworm has already caused serious losses to wheat at Lethbridge, Wilson, New Dayton, Warner, Barons, Carmangay, Champion, Vulcan, Turin, with minor damage at Wrentham and Foremost. Grasshoppers causing some losses in Hanna-Consort, and Barons-Claresholm districts but being held in check with poisoned bait.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Brandon.

Heavy rains delaying grasshopper hatch. A recent survey shows very little damage by wire worms.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The following precipitation in inches was reported by the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, for the week ending June 7 at 7 a.m.

<u>Manitoba</u>		<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>	
Le Pas	.1	Assiniboia	-.1	Keg River	-.1
Russell	.2	Melfort	-.1	Medicine Hat	-.1
Swan River	.2	Midale	-.1	Naco	-.1
Birtle	.2	Battleford	-.1	High Prairie	-.1
Pinawa	.7	Regina	-.1	Olds	-.1
Minnedosa	.9	Naicam	-.1	Wetaskiwin	-.1
Winnipeg	1.3	Lloydminster	-.1	Jasper	-.1
Morris	1.4	Macklin	-.1	Hughenden	-.1
Emerson	1.5	Estevan	-.1	Manyberries	-.1
Virden	1.7	Carlyle	-.1	Brooks	-.1
Brandon	1.9	Maple Creek	-.1	Kinuso	-.1
Sprague	2.0	Rabbit Lake	-.1	Foremost	.1
Dauphin	2.1	Valmarie	-.1	Edson	.1
Pierson	2.2	Shaunavon	-.1	Fort Vermilion	.1
Cypress River	3.4	Yellow Grass	-.1	Drumheller	.1
Ninette	3.6	Lintlaw	-.1	Vegreville	.1
Poissevain	3.8	Qu'Appelle	.1	Sedgewick	.1
Morden	4.4	Meadow Lake	.1	Red Deer	.1
Graysville	4.4	Indian Head	.1	McMurray	.1
Portage la Prairie	4.9	Moosomin	.1	Edmonton	.1
		Kamsack	.2	Viking	.1
		Yorkton	.2	Vauxhall	.2
				Lethbridge	.3
				Fairview	.5
				Macleod	.5
				Cardston	.7
				Calgary	.8

(Minus signs denote less than the amount of rain indicated).

The following points reported no rain during the week: Beaverlodge, Moose Jaw, Elbow, Humboldt, Strasbourg, Kindersley, Outlook, Aneroid, Biggar, Chaplin, Davidson, Southern.

Traces of rain fell at Prince Albert, Swift Current, Empress, Stettler, Consul, Broadview, Saskatoon, Glendon, Rosetown.

With few exceptions, temperatures during the week were normal or below normal. In Manitoba, the following districts were four degrees below normal: Districts 1, 4, 5, 8, 9; three degrees below normal - districts 2, 3, 10; two degrees below normal - districts 7, 12; one degree below normal - district 13; normal - districts 11, 14.

In Saskatchewan the following districts were two degrees below normal - districts 2, 3, 6; one degree below normal - districts 5, 8; normal districts 1, 4, 9; one degree above normal, district 7.

Alberta - two degrees below normal - districts 3, 13, 17; one degree below normal - district 14; normal - districts 2, 4, 5, 7, 11; one degree above normal - districts 1, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16; two degrees above normal - district 8.



MANITOBA

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Weather cool but timely and substantial rains on four days of the week should insure good yield of wild and tame hay. Considerable acreage sown late to coarse grains now emerging freely. Wheat crop deeply rooted and top growth covering ground. Gardens promising.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Melita.

Ideal crop weather the past week, cool with two and nine-tenths inches of rainfall. Wheat six to eight inches high, rye and hay crop practically assured, clover crop poor, all other crops good. No outbreak of hoppers. Pastures excellent. All stock doing well.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Killarney.

Somewhat extreme heat middle of past week with crops showing effects of same was followed by a splendid break in the weather early on June fourth and rain fell almost without interruption for fifty-six hours. Precipitation of three point three eight brought total to almost seven inches since April thirteenth, the thirsty soil absorbing all with no runoff. For comparison total during growing season last year was three point two nine. The rain brought much lower temperatures and we are hoping weather will clear without frost. As this wire is filed very cloudy and cold and further rains seem likely. Cereal crops making good progress but hay crops will be light. General conditions good.

Agricultural Representative, Carman.

Best soaking rain since 1928 followed by cool weather. Heavy growth of all crops. No serious damage reported from insects or other pests. Summerfallows well in hand to date.

Agricultural Representative, Portage la Prairie.

Five to six inches rain since Friday and still raining. Fortier, Oakville, Highbluff, McDonald, thirty to fifty per cent crop under water, other places about fifteen per cent. Monday noon temperature 44. Situation serious in all flat areas.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Minnedosa.

Seeding finished. Crops doing well. Lots of weeds. Plenty of moisture. Need warmer weather. Pastures good, stock doing well. No frost damage. No grasshoppers. Prospect good.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Kelwood.

Crops continue quite promising. Commencing at noon on the fourth has rained steadily since. The ground has not had such a soaking for a long time.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell.

Intermittent rain since the third with cold north winds. Growth rapid and two weeks in advance of last year. Precipitation sufficient for immediate needs only. No set back yet.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Hamiota.

Seeding completed. Wheat acreage normal. Soil moisture condition good, decimal sixty six inches rainfall over weekend. Growing crops excellent, wheat averaging six inches and fairly heavy growth. No insect damage as yet. Warm weather needed. Late oats and barley doing well. Sweet clover not so good, some plowed under. Wild pasture good.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin.

Weather cool all week with steady good rains two decimal three inches over weekend. Considerable anxiety over browning of wheat, either root rot or due to cool backward weather. Wheat twenty-five per cent affected. Moisture splendid for hay and pastures.



MANITOBA(Con.)

Telegraphic Correspondent, Teulon.

All seeding is finished in this district and nearly all the grain is up. Approximately 3 inches of rain has fallen since 5 a.m. June 4th. Moisture is sinking into the ground and all that is needed now is warm weather to bring the crop along. The hay crop is up about 4 to 5 inches and doing well.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Swan River.

All seeding completed. Grain crops have strong healthy growth. Wheat about seven inches high. No diseases showing, no cut worms. About average acreage of each grain sown. Pastures have splendid growth and all stock doing fine. Timothy, alfalfa and clover making rapid progress. Gardens are doing well. Weeds are quite a problem as growth is so strong.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina.

Reports received by the Statistics Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture over the weekend indicate that the crops in northern, east-central and central Saskatchewan have for the most part made satisfactory progress during the past two weeks. Although moisture reserves are not abundant, with the exception of a few points there is generally sufficient in this area to meet present needs but many correspondents state further rains will be needed in the near future. In many parts of west-central Saskatchewan rains centering on May 28th revived the crops but high winds since that date did serious damage and moisture is needed over this district to prevent further deterioration and revive the blown crops. Extremely unfavourable weather conditions have continued over most of southern Saskatchewan and crops have suffered severely. Except in the extreme east where conditions are still favourable, precipitation has been either lacking or too light in this portion of the province to be of material benefit and high winds reaching the proportion of a gale on June 2nd did considerable damage and in some cases placed the crop beyond recovery. Good soaking rains would however still result in a very material improvement, particularly in the feed and pasture situation which is threatening to become acute. A considerable amount of coarse grains will be sown for green feed before the end of this month if rain comes. Grasshoppers have made their appearance at points throughout southern and west-central Saskatchewan but little damage has resulted so far. Control measures are being taken where necessary. The weather for the most part has been cool with high winds which has resulted in slow growth. Pastures in southern Saskatchewan are bare and need rain badly. In the east-central and northern districts they are generally reported fair.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

General crop conditions backward due to continued cool weather and lack of moisture. Early seeded wheat very short and coming in shot blade. High winds during week caused drifting on many farms. Hay and pasture fields very poor. Feed situation serious. Rainfall during week decimal one two. Warm weather and rain urgently required.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

No precipitation during week. Bright and warm. Terrific wind storm night of June third. Crops in good condition and making vigorous growth but good rain is required. Pastures in good condition but new seedings of grasses poor. Summerfallowing well under way, weeds making rapid growth.

Dominion Experimental Station, Melfort.

Seeding complete. Growing weather excellent but high winds causing some soil drifting. Crops look promising except unfertilized wheat on summerfallow which is getting quite a set back from browning.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current.

Weather continues dry and cool. Germination still incomplete, stands very patchy. Growth of grain almost at standstill. Grasshoppers inactive due to temperature. Some wind damage during week. Considerable wireworm damage in some fields. Pastures barren and live stock suffering.



SASKATCHEWAN (Con.)

District Experiment Sub-Station Supervisor, Scott (Reporting from Hafford).

Rosetown crops uneven and patchy. Dunblane poor growth, uneven germination, rain needed. Some wireworm damage. Guernsey crops excellent with sufficient moisture. Juniata crops fair, moisture needed, considerable wind damage. Hafford crops good six to seven inches, stooling, sufficient moisture for present.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Rosetown.

Germination of all grains good since rains. Some damage from wind on lighter land. Rain would help to repair damage from wind and with plenty of rain in June, could have average crops.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Senlac.

Crops are delayed ten days by recent frosts and sand storm. No rain during last week to revive damaged crops. Estimate twenty-five per cent damage from hoppers, frost and wind. Pasture is good and sufficient moisture for growth.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Yellow Grass.

Seeding of coarse grains at stand still on account of soil drifting and no moisture. Wheat coming in shot blade three inches high. Pastures gone. Live stock getting thin. Rain urgently needed. Rain to date .49 of an inch. Fifty per cent wheat cut off from winds.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Radville.

Average height of all grain 3 inches, very spotted and weedy. 40 per cent damage by soil drifting. Rainfall to date decimal 58 inch. No rain since last report. Rain needed now. A few reports of grasshoppers. Crop prospects compared with last year 35 per cent poorer.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Val Marie.

Crop conditions are poor. Farmers discouraged by drought, and strong wind left forty per cent of their acreage not sown awaiting rain. One inch of rain is recorded this spring. Grain fields are spotty and with twenty per cent damage by wind. Some worms noticed, damage unestimable yet. Pastures poor.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Weather has continued dry during week although it has been fairly cool with showers threatening at times. Crops are not suffering greatly from drought but growth is almost at a stand still. The outlook is very unfavourable unless rain falls soon.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lethbridge.

In southern Alberta south of main line C. P. R., showers past week, too light to be of significant value except along Calgary-MacLeod Railway and south to Cardston. Grain generally improving in appearance especially where soil drifting has caused damage. Copious rains urgently needed immediately except near foothills.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

Temperature of 90 degrees with worst dust storms on record in central Alberta and no rain, took heavy toll of all crops. Hay crop ruined. Pastures very short. Drifting soil has cut 30 per cent cereals back to ground. Large area on light land and summerfallow completely blown out and land permanently injured. Heavy rains urgently needed.

ALBERTA (Con.)

Telegraphic Correspondent, Cardston.

Several good rains since last report making total of 1.19 inches rainfall for June. All crops growing very well. No reports hopper damage. Some light damage from wire worms.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary.

Good scattered rains received during last few days should offset damage from winds. Crops progressing favourably. Damage from cutworms and grasshoppers negligible. Still no reserve moisture.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Hanna.

No rain during past week. All crops need rain, at a stand still. Winds have damaged 25 per cent of all crops. None to be reseeded. Pasture is poor and water holes drying up fast.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Olds.

Some damage to crops from soil drifting last week, possibly five per cent and some of this will recover with the rain we had during last night. Half an inch fell and still getting odd showers. All grain should now make rapid growth with warm weather.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Stettler.

No rain since last report. Crops suffering from lack of moisture. Heavy winds did ten per cent damage. Some of this damage would disappear if we get rain soon. Pastures poor.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Sedgewick.

Need rain. Early sown wheat very weedy. Slight frost damaged vegetables. Ten per cent of crop damaged from soil drifting.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

Crop conditions continue fair. Very little rainfall during past week. Good heavy rain needed soon. Crops are not actually suffering but are retarded by dry soil also some high winds. Very little warm or hot weather. Still continues fairly cool for the month of June.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

One day's wind gave crops a setback. Late sown wheat and oats considerably damaged by winds but with rain all would recover. Crops not showing drought effect but we need immediate rain. Light frosts caused garden damage. Pastures and hay land drying up.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations (Reporting from Vermilion)

Grain crops north and west from Edmonton in Sangudo area slightly late but in healthy condition. Some frost in low places. Rain needed in Thorsby area. Crops east from Edmonton to Vermilion fair to good. Some wind damage with slight cutworm damage in places.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca.

Not much progress made for past week by crops for lack of moisture. Local showers for total decimal ten. District not covered by these showers. Late plowing suffering. Most other fields still good but good general rain urgently required.

Dominion Experimental Sub-Station, Beaverlodge.

High winds attaining a maximum velocity of thirty-nine miles per hour have mutilated crops, wasted moisture and lifted soil from a few fields. Notwithstanding considerable carry-over of moisture and helpful showers in certain districts, the general urgent need is for a good rain. Wireworms thinning some areas.



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