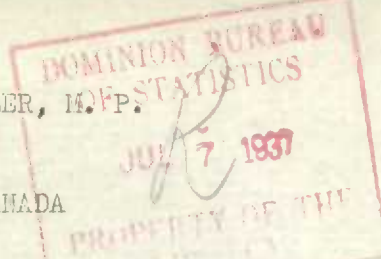


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 6, 1937, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the seventh 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

Another week of scanty rainfall and excessively hot weather has brought about further declines in crop prospects as the drought damaged area has steadily extended. The greater part of Saskatchewan and much of eastern and northern Alberta have been affected by the arid conditions while parts of western Manitoba are also beginning to feel the pinch of inadequate soil moisture supplies. Elsewhere in Manitoba, crop prospects continue good although there is some danger of rust causing damage. Good crops are also to be found in southwestern Alberta. In northern sections of both Alberta and Saskatchewan, declines have been registered during the past week with a fifty per cent crop in the Peace River district now the limit of expectations. Northeastern Saskatchewan still gives promise of fairly good yields but prospects are only fair to poor elsewhere with southern and central districts reporting total failure. Feed supplies will be exceedingly scarce in all of southern Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta as the dry weather has scorched pastures and ruined the prospects for hay crops. Immediate rains in these areas are needed to relieve a critical feed situation.

Manitoba

While the general situation in the province is still good, hot dry weather during the past week has resulted in some crops showing signs of drought damage. This condition is more marked in the western parts of the province. Rainfall during the week was confined to light showers at a few scattered points and this, coupled with the high temperatures prevailing, has reduced prospects appreciably. Early sown grain is holding up well but late crops are deteriorating and a good general rain is needed shortly to keep crops developing well. Wheat is headed out well and if further rains come soon, a good crop should result. Haying is under way in southern districts with a heavy crop in prospect. For the most part, pastures are holding up well but in the Russell district near the Saskatchewan border immediate rain is required to avert a feed shortage. Stem rust is definitely in evidence on wheat and barley at a few points but is not serious as yet. Grasshoppers are becoming more active with the advent of hot weather and control operations are being pushed strenuously in the affected areas, mostly in the southwestern corner.

Saskatchewan

With rainfall over the province either lacking entirely or too light to be of any practical value, the boundaries of the drought ravaged area have extended considerably during the past week. Areas which were reasonably promising a week ago have now passed the point where any commercial crop can be expected. Temperatures far above normal throughout the week have hastened the crop destruction which now appears to be the worst in the history of the province. In all the southern area except the extreme southeast, crops are wiped out and little or no feed is left. Immediate rain could only help the feed situation. Central and west-central districts are also beyond hope of anything but feed and seed and that only if immediate rainfall relieves the present parched condition of the land. In north-eastern districts, conditions are still fair while the east-central area is mostly reported as poor. The drought area has now extended into the northwestern district and yields are expected to be very light in this section. Serious feed shortages are inevitable over much of the province unless generous rains come soon.

Alberta

Excessive heat with strong drying winds over much of the eastern part of the province has caused a further decline in crop prospects during the past week. While good rains were received from Edmonton south to Calgary, other districts which were in greatest need, received little moisture. Good crop prospects still continue in the southwestern corner and north as far as Olds. Recent rains have brought about some temporary improvement around Edmonton but more is needed immediately to continue reasonably good prospects. The Peace River area was again missed by heavy rainfall and although several light showers have fallen during the week, crops, especially those sown early, are beginning to suffer and half a normal yield is the best outturn now looked for. All the eastern part of the province is in serious need of rain. Eight to ten bushel crops may be harvested if ideal conditions prevail from now to harvest but without immediate relief from drought, further rapid declines in crop prospects are inevitable.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The following record shows the precipitation in inches, reported by the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, for the week ending July 5 at 8 a.m. In addition, figures are given showing the total precipitation from April 1 to date this season and the average for the ten year period, 1926-1935, April 1 - July 5.

Station	Week ending July 5	Apr.1- July 5 1937	1926-1935 average Apr. 1- July 5	Station	Week ending	Apr.1- July 5 1937	1926-1935 average Apr. 1- July 5
<u>Manitoba</u>				<u>Saskatchewan(Con.)</u>			
Birtle	*		6.68	Kindersley	tr.	2.82	4.93
Brandon	.05	9.47	8.33	Macklin	nil	2.91	5.52
Cypress River	tr.	8.42	7.32	Scott	*		5.20
Minnedosa	.05	8.46	6.58	Melfort	.1	5.61	5.65
Portage la Prairie	.1	10.47	6.51	Prince Albert	.1	4.85	6.09
Russell	nil	4.48	5.99	Rosthern	*		5.60
Virden	.05	7.09	6.24	Saskatoon	nil	2.25	5.37
Graysville	nil	+	6.03	Moosomin	.05		
Morden	tr.	10.40	7.23	Broadview	nil		
Morris	*		5.86	Estevan	tr.		
Sprague	tr.	9.01	7.55	Elbow	.05		
Winnipeg	.2	7.23	6.75	Naicam	.1		
Dauphin	tr.	6.83	5.81	Rosetown	nil		
Le Pas	.2	4.50	4.70	Val Marie	nil		
Swan River	.2			Lloydminster	nil		
Pierson	tr.			Consul	.1		
Boissevain	.2			<u>Alberta</u>			
Emerson	nil			Coronation	nil	3.30	4.91
Ninette	.05	9.71	8.42	Edmonton	.4	3.22	7.94
<u>Saskatchewan</u>				Wetaskiwin	.8	5.49	6.63
Carlyle	tr.	5.05	6.71	Olds	1.1	5.35	7.67
Davidson	*		5.36	Stettler	.1	4.10	7.01
Humboldt	tr.	5.00	5.91	Brooks	nil	1.72	5.75
Indian Head	nil	2.85	6.37	Calgary	.7	6.56	7.38
Kamsack	.2	3.88	5.57	Cardston	.05	8.19	7.48
Midale	.1	2.70	6.33	Vauxhall	*		5.41
Moose Jaw	.05	1.23	6.01	High River	*		9.43
Qu'Appelle	tr.	2.25	6.54	Lethbridge	.05	5.93	6.75
Regina	.05	2.55	6.03	Macleod	.05	8.56	6.69
Strasbourg	nil	1.16	6.31	Medicine Hat	nil	3.09	5.26
Yellow Grass	.2	1.80	5.84	Edson	*		7.43
Yorkton	.1	2.93	6.41	Beaverlodge	.3	3.18	5.59
Aneroid	nil	1.32	5.27	Foremost	nil		
Assiniboia	tr.	1.43	5.78	Empress	.1		
Chaplin	*		5.53	Drumheller	.1		
Maple Creek	.05	1.97	5.82	Manyberries	.1		
Outlook	nil	2.35	4.56	Fairview	.05		
Shaunavon	.1	1.85	5.72	Kinuso	.1		
Swift Current	.05	1.43	6.19	High Prairie	.05		
Biggar	*		5.08	Red Deer	.5		
				Vegreville	.1		

* No report received. + Information incomplete. tr. Traces of rain.

Temperatures during the week were fifteen degrees above normal mean, temperatures at Empress, Alberta and Kindersley, Rosetown, Saskatoon and Outlook, Saskatchewan. Most of districts 2, 3, 4, 6, in Saskatchewan and 1, 3, 5, 7, together with the eastern portions of 4, 6, 8, 11 in Alberta were thirteen to fifteen degrees above normal. District 2 in Alberta and the northern part of district 7, the southern part of district 5 together with districts 8 and 9 in Saskatchewan were nine to eleven degrees above normal. The remaining districts were mostly three to six degrees above normal except the Red River area in Manitoba which was normal. In the hottest districts, precipitation was either negligible or lacking altogether.

REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES - PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Brandon, Manitoba.

Grasshopper bait mixing station opened at Melita and distributing stations at Lyleton, Cameron, Waskada, Elva and Pierson. Some thinning of fall rye and stubbled in crops. Grasshoppers migrating into crops from drift ridges, reverted land and summerfallows.

Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta.

Grasshoppers becoming more serious as hot weather starts migrations into grain fields and some districts reporting losses in spite of strenuous poisoning campaign.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg,

Soil becoming dry in some western parts of province but moisture in eastern areas. On the whole crop continues to thrive and looks well. Some reports of leaf rust but nothing as yet to cause alarm. Fields heading.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon.

Weather warm with fairly heavy dews. A few scattered pustules of stem rust on wheat, more on barley. Always expect some infection this time of year. Wheat and oats about four days later than last year in heading out. Crops on lighter land would be benefited by rain but holding well.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden.

Weather continues hot and dry. Crop developing well but hot weather beginning to tell on some fields. Haying well under way with heavy cut. Corn making growth. Vegetable gardens looking well. All crops require rain to continue development.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Melita.

All early grain holding its own. Late sown grain deteriorating from heat. Rain is needed this week. No sign of rust. Hay crop and pastures good.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Teulon.

About 75 per cent of the crops in this district are headed out with a good stand of grain. Surface moisture conditions are not as good as they might be and it is the subsoil moisture that is feeding the grain at the present time. So far no pests or rust have been noted.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Killarney.

Rust plainly in evidence on more susceptible varieties of wheat and next three weeks faced with anxiety. Past week hot dry and windy and rain is needed, particularly for late sown grains.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin.

Crop suffered during week on account of extreme heat. Rain urgently needed if better than average prospects are maintained. Fear of rust but none reported as yet. Clover cutting general, yields good. Pastures standing up well. Animals in good condition. Gardens and potatoes looking well.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Woodnorth.

The crop situation has materially changed during the past week. Hot dry winds with no rains since June 17th will lessen crop yield considerably. Early sown wheat headed out. More moisture badly needed.

MANITOBA (Con.)

Telegraphic Correspondent, Russell.

No rain during the past week and excessive heat for the past three days has caused the prospects to recede at least 25 per cent during the week. Pastures and hay must have rain shortly or the supply of feed both for present purposes as well as for the winter will become a problem that farmers will have to face. Situation east of range 27 slightly better, west of range 28 very serious.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Kelwood.

Up to date crop prospects are good. Strong scorching hot wind blowing from south today. A rain would be welcome as it would ensure good filling of heads. No signs of rust. Pastures good. Live stock doing fine. Hay crop good. No damage yet from insects of any kind.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Swan River.

Weather has been very hot. Several nice showers but we need more rain. Grain crops will be shorter than usual, about ten per cent damage by drought. No damage by hail, rust or diseases. Some few fields bad with smut. Gardens and root crops need more rain. About fifty per cent grain headed.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina.

A further extremely serious decline in crop and feed prospects has taken place during the past two weeks. Except for a few scattered showers, drought has continued unbroken and coupled with rising temperatures and some hot winds has reduced many fields which gave prospect of some commercial crop to a bare possibility of seed and feed. With the exception of a small area in the extreme southeast where crops are still reported fair, practically no commercial crop will be harvested in southern districts. Very serious deterioration has also taken place in central and west-central Saskatchewan where with a very few exceptions only feed and possibly some seed can now be expected under the most favourable conditions. Without immediate heavy rains, a critical feed situation will rapidly develop in these districts. The area affected by drought has extended into northwestern Saskatchewan and only very light yields at best are now in prospect over much of the district, with rain urgently needed to check further serious deterioration. Crops over a large portion of east-central Saskatchewan are now described as poor to only fair. Prospects are still fair over the greater portion of northeastern Saskatchewan, although crops have deteriorated at some points. Good rains would materially improve conditions in this portion of the province. Grasshoppers are quite numerous in parts of southern, western and northwestern Saskatchewan. Little commercial damage, however, has resulted although farmers are making efforts to check injury to fields that hold promise of producing feed. Very little summerfallowing has been done during the past two weeks in the drier areas but taking the province as a whole, about 65 per cent has been completed. Pastures are in serious condition in southern, central and west-central Saskatchewan and in many cases stock have been turned into the crops.

Dominion Experimental Station, Melfort.

Weather continues dry. Point 08 inches rainfall Friday night. Most of wheat headed. Promise of fair yield. Oats and barley heading very unevenly, making but little growth. More rain needed. Pastures standing up well.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Continued dry weather and high temperature causing serious damage to all crops. Record temperature to date 109 degrees. Rain urgently required.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott.

All western Saskatchewan continues to suffer from continued drought. In east-central Saskatchewan, sixty per cent of crop would appear to be failure and balance would produce some crop and feed with immediate rains. From all points come reports of worst drought yet experienced in history of settlement.

SASKATCHEWAN (Con.)

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern.

Weather extremely hot with high winds 4th. All time high with 102.5. Crops suffering from extreme drought and early seedings in general beyond recovery. Late seedings require rain immediately. Feed situation will be acute unless rain is had immediately. Pastures poor. Summerfallowing almost completed.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current.

Riverhurst district June rainfall only point three six, total for season to date two decimal five seven. Rain urgently needed to save any crop. Grain on stubble land a failure. Stand on fallow patchy but with good rain soon some grain may be produced. Wheat mostly in head. Grasshoppers fairly numerous, some damage being done. Summerfallow work being delayed account dry weather. Pastures very poor. Davidson district June rainfall only decimal seventy-two, season total two decimal three nine. Grain a fair stand on fallow. Wheat mostly in head, short and rather patchy. Most crops on stubble land badly burnt. All crops suffering from heat and lack of moisture. Summerfallowing fairly well advanced. Pastures poor.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Yellow Grass.

Rain to date ninety-six. Wheat and other grains are gone. Pastures are burnt up. Stock are being shipped out to better pastures. No feed left. Temperature for the last week 95 today 112.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Senlac.

Crop conditions are very bad. No rain since last report and total for season two point seventy-six. Early sown crops are burned up and need very heavy immediate rains to ensure seed. Pasturage becoming serious and some stock being turned into fields.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Val Marie.

Crops total failure. Drought continuing. Precipitation one inch and half to date. Pastures very poor. Good rains in near future would help feed situation. Conditions generally worst yet.

ALBERTA

Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries.

Weather has been hot and dry with scattered thunder showers. Crops and pastures showing effect of drought. Crops will be poor or failure unless a good rain is received soon. Yield on first cutting of alfalfa fair to good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Lacombe.

June 29 one hundred degrees with high hot wind burned heads of much early seeded grains beyond recovery. Decimal 94 inch rain July 2nd brought temporary relief to all crops but with first six months driest in thirty years, several inches needed to develop even fair crop.

Dominion Experimental Sub-Station, Beaverlodge.

No general soaking rain since seeding. Precipitation here during past week two-fifths inches occurring in light showers. Total since May first two and two-third inches. Rather more favourable conditions south west also north west British Columbia block but though grain shows fair colour, general situation is poor especially with early crops. Wheat heading short and thin with small heads. Expectations not over fifty per cent normal crops.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Olds.

Since last report about one inch of rain fell and moisture conditions are good. Weather today is cool and cloudy, looks like more rain. All crops are doing well and no damage from insects or hail.

ALBERTA (Con.)

Telegraphic Correspondent, Sedgewick.

No rain past week. Hot dry winds. Need abundant moisture to make six bushel crop. Pastures dried up. Feed situation serious.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton.

General crop conditions are somewhat improved during past week by scattered rains. Districts north west and south received a good rain last night. Crop will be patchy, early sown best fields wheat might make ten bushels to acre, later grains very hard to estimate.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion.

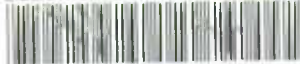
All crops have deteriorated owing to lack of moisture. Many fields have from five to seventy per cent white heads which might be attributed to frost. With ideal conditions till harvest, wheat may be from eight to ten bushels. Oats and green feed could be fair. Pastures and hay lands are dried up.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca.

Weather cooler with rainfall decimal twenty-three, west and south receiving more, the north less. Still prospects for half crop but more rains necessary.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Stettler.

Early wheat in head, heads are small. Later sown wheat would make fair crop if we get more rain. Some fields that were badly blown are being ploughed up. Only one-sixth of an inch rain last week. Hot winds have done considerable damage.



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