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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, May 31, 1938, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the first of a series of 15 weekly telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. Sixty-two 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

Wheat seeding in the Prairie Provinces is practically completed. The 1938 crop went into the ground under generally more favourable conditions than prevailed in the spring of 1937, but a continuance of adequate precipitation in the 1937 drought areas is essential if present stands are to be maintained. Heavy infestations of wireworms have damaged crops in Saskatchewan. Some wireworm damage was reported in Alberta. Hatching of grasshoppers has been delayed in Manitoba, but in south-eastern and north-western Saskatchewan, hatchings have been heavy. Soil drifting has been reported in south-central and northern Saskatchewan and in northern Alberta. Coarse grain seeding has progressed well in Manitoba and in southern and central Alberta, and will be completed this week. Pastures and hay crops in Manitoba and southern Alberta are in good condition, and are improving in Saskatchewan. Rain is badly needed in northern Alberta where lack of moisture has retarded growth and delayed seeding operations.

Manitoba

Wheat seeding has been completed and coarse grain seeding is practically finished. In southern Manitoba weather conditions have been favourable and the crop is making good growth. Durum wheat has been replaced to a considerable extent by Thatcher. Clovers and grasses came through the winter in good condition. Live stock wintered well and pastures are reported as good. In northern Manitoba additional rain is needed for the hay crop. A light frost was reported on the night of May 23-24 with some damage on low-lying ground in the northeastern part of the province.

Saskatchewan

Wheat seeding is almost completed in Saskatchewan with the exception of south-central and south-west Saskatchewan where between five and ten per cent remains to be done. About 30 per cent of the coarse grain acreage remains to be seeded. Some damage from soil drifting has been reported in the southern and northern parts of the province. Grasshoppers are hatching, and in the south-eastern part of the province fairly heavy infestations are reported. There has been considerable damage from wireworms and infestations are much heavier than in past years. Rain is needed in west-central and northern Saskatchewan. The reserve moisture is none too plentiful and ample June precipitation is essential. The condition of pastures is improving and live stock are showing gains.

Alberta

Wheat seeding is completed in southern Alberta although delayed somewhat by wet weather. Subsoil moisture conditions are better than a year ago. It is expected that seeding of coarse grains in the southern part of the province will be completed this week. The growth of grass on the ranges has been very good and live stock are in good condition. In central Alberta, wheat seeding is completed and seeding of coarse grains will be finished this week. Moisture conditions and growing weather have been excellent. Around Edmonton lack of rain has affected the stooling of wheat. Only fair growth has been shown by grass and pastures. In northern Alberta, dry weather has prevailed and soil drifting has made some reseedling necessary. Rain is badly needed. Wireworms and cutworms have caused some slight damage.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending May 30	
		8 a.m. May 30.	since April 1.	since April 1.	Actual	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.38	2.57	3.13	55	55
2	Boissevain	.24	2.51	3.23	55	53
	Ninette	.14	2.68	3.44	54	55
	Pilot Mound	.04	1.98	3.24	56	55
3	Emerson	.02	2.67	2.50	55	56
	Morden	nil	2.67	3.08	55	55
	Graysville	.02	2.80	2.97	56	54
	Morris	.16	2.38	2.78	56	56
	Portage la Prairie	nil	1.71	2.95	58	56
4	Winnipeg	.14	2.69	3.35	55	56
6	Sprague	.08	5.07	3.28	55	54
	Pinawa	.16	1.38	2.15	52	54
7	Virden	.18	1.43	2.27	56	54
8	Brandon	.32	2.08	2.77	54	55
	Cypress River	.04	1.69	2.91	56	55
9	Minnedosa	.01	1.37	2.79	53	55
10	Russell	.18	2.58	2.45	55	53
	Birtle	.72	2.35	2.48	54	53
11	Dauphin	.38	2.32	2.22	58	53
13	Swan River	.78	4.20	2.15	56	52
	The Pas	1.18	2.08	1.94	55	53
Manitoba Average		.27	2.44	2.77	55	54
Saskatchewan						
1	Broadview	trace	1.34	2.67	62	54
	Moosomin	.45	1.95	2.37	57	53
	Carlyle	.38	2.11	3.03	54	53
	Estevan	.38	2.34	2.77	58	54
2	Moose Jaw	.34	3.01	2.56	59	56
	Regina	.72	2.53	2.35	55	54
	Qu'Appelle	.58	2.96	3.08	55	54
	Indian Head	.42	2.00	2.68	56	54
	Yellow Grass	.12	2.73	2.63	55	54
	Midale	.04	1.64	3.12	57	53
3	Assiniboia	.41	3.71	2.01	60	54
	Chaplin	.46	2.42	2.95	59	55
	Swift Current	.16	2.38	2.56	61	56
	Aneroid	.26	3.18	2.43	62	53
	Hughton	.12	2.21	2.98	60	53
	Pennant	.04	1.93	2.74	62	54
	Val Marie	.40	1.80	2.48	61	52
	Shaunavon	.24	2.75	2.17	60	52
4	Maple Creek	.46	3.57	2.52	61	54
	Roadene	.24	3.49	2.99	61	53
	Consul	.60	3.16	2.53	60	52
5	Kamsack	.16	2.37	1.83	58	52
	Yorkton	.18	2.21	2.51	57	53
	Hubbard	.44	2.39	2.26	59	52
	Lintlaw	1.00	3.31	2.79	54	50
6	Rosthern	.08	1.90	2.38	59	53
	Saskatoon	.36	2.21	2.04	58	54
	Davidson	.66	3.78	2.28	57	53
	Dundurn	.18	1.38	2.23	59	53
	Strasbourg	.24	1.79	2.57	57	53
	Elbow	.36	2.01	2.14	58	55
7	Outlook	.20	1.72	1.90	59	54
	Macklin	.10	3.05	3.05	59	51
	Alsask	nil	2.09	3.30	59	51
	Scott	.50	3.04	2.21	57	53
	Biggar	.62	3.38	2.11	59	53
	Kindersley	.05	1.68	2.07	61	51

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces* (Concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending May 30	
		8 a.m. May 30	since April 1.	since April 1.	Actual	Normal
Saskatchewan (Concluded)						
8	Melfort	.16	1.97	2.47	57	54
	Dana	.28	1.51	3.13	57	52
	Humboldt	.28	1.89	2.06	53	53
	Naicam	.62	3.49	1.95	55	53
9	Rabbit Lake	.08	1.81	1.94	54	53
	Waseca	.32	2.18	2.22	58	52
	Battleford	.30	1.53	2.08	59	56
	Prince Albert	.21	1.29	2.23	57	54
Saskatchewan Average		.33	2.38	2.47	58	53
Alberta						
1	Medicine Hat	.11	2.76	2.23	64	58
	Foremost	.02	3.00	3.92	61	53
	Manyberries	.28	2.02	2.77	61	52
2	Macleod	.18	3.97	2.47	57	53
	Lethbridge	trace	3.95	2.80	60	55
	Cardston	.22	5.52	4.65	59	51
3	Brooks	.04	2.65	2.45	62	55
	Empress	trace	.88	2.40	63	54
	Vauxhall	no report	2.55	2.33	no report	56
4	High River	.20	4.65	3.57	57	52
5	Drumheller	.24	3.95	2.52	62	50
	Hanna	.02	3.35	2.86	no report	50
	Naco	.04	2.19	3.12	58	51
6	Olds	.01	3.71	3.17	58	52
	Three Hills	.26	3.78	2.18	59	51
	Strathmore	.06	4.98	2.64	62	50
	Gleichen	.06	2.59	2.51	59	53
	Calgary	.62	4.06	2.93	59	53
7	Coronation	.02	2.67	2.37	58	51
	Hughenden	.82	3.22	2.44	61	51
	Sedgewick	.62	3.59	1.86	59	52
	Viking	.66	3.36	2.72	56	52
8	Wetaskiwin	.16	2.44	2.24	58	52
	Lacombe	.50	3.20	2.62	59	52
	Alix	.46	5.02	2.63	61	53
	Red Deer	.98	5.28	3.36	59	52
10	Stettler	.36	3.90	3.54	59	52
	Vegreville	.34	2.94	2.89	60	52
	Vermilion	.62	3.67	2.47	58	51
11	Lloydminster	.44	2.47	2.01	58	51
	Edmonton	.04	1.82	2.47	59	54
12	Calmar	.06	1.43	3.21	57	53
	Edson	.48	2.37	2.22	54	52
13	Jasper	.01	1.00	1.67	56	52
	Glendon	.52	1.26	2.17	54	51
14	Athabasca	.14	.55	2.54	55	52
	Campsie	.20	.88	2.40	56	52
15	High Prairie	.06	.80	2.04	55	51
	Kinuso	.14	.55	2.36	55	51
16	Fairview	nil	.70	1.58	55	54
	Beaverlodge	nil	.60	2.12	57	51
17	Keg River	.06	.60	-	53	51
	Fort Vermilion	.12	.41	1.65	53	52
	Fort McMurray	.22	1.90	2.01	55	52
	Fort Smith	.27	.84	1.12	49	49
Alberta Average		.27	2.62	2.55	58	52

* Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

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REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Brandon, Manitoba

Cool weather has delayed grasshopper hatch. No economic infestation yet.

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Unusually heavy crop damage by wireworms is indicated by several reports already received. Investigations show that wireworm infestations are much higher than a few years ago especially in areas that have been affected by prolonged drought. Reports of damage by cutworms also beginning to come in from scattered localities. Grasshopper eggpods have wintered well and hatching now becoming general.

Lethbridge, Alberta

Abundant rainfall has curtailed cutworm damage and delayed grasshoppers hatching. Some damage being done by wireworms but wheat generally recovering.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board

Hail Damage

No damage from hail in Alberta to date. Crop not far enough advanced.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg.

Wheat sowing was early in south but normal to later in north. In south wheat six inches high and looking very well. Slight soil drifting. No general rain but fair showers. Hay and pasture prospects fair. Rain needed especially for late sown crops.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Melita

Seeding completed. General crop conditions good. Twenty per cent more wheat acreage than last year due to Thatcher wheat. Weather cool. Sufficient moisture. Fall rye in shot blade, some heading. Practically no damage by wind or frost. Pastures excellent. Stock wintered well.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Killarney

Seeding completed ten days ago. Crop doing well. Early sown wheat seven inches high. Wheat acreage as last year. Durum still main crop though acreage somewhat reduced being replaced partly by Thatcher. Moisture presently sufficient. Clover and rye wintered well. Pastures and stock in good shape. No frost prospects encouraging.

Dominion Experimental Station, Morden

Weather has been moderately cool. Seeding completed. Crop making splendid growth and stand heavy. Pastures well advanced. Very little soil drifting. Surface moisture fair but subsoil moisture sparse.

Agricultural Representative, Teulon.

Farm work just about normal. Coarse grains practically all sown. Early wheat 2 to 4 inches. Crop looking good. Top soil drying. Subsoil good. No frost damage. Fall rye wintered very well. Sweet clover grasses and alfalfa came through the winter in splendid condition. Pasture very good.

Agricultural Representative, Portage La Prairie

Growing conditions ideal. Small acreage barley and sixty day oats still to be seeded. Weed growth excessive. Pastures and stock fair to good.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Whitemouth

Crop all in. Moisture good. Good growing weather. No hoppers. Wheat 5 1/2 inches high. No drifting. Light frost 23rd with some damage on mucky soil.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Woodnorth

Crop conditions during seeding have been excellent. Sufficient moisture for germination. Early sown grain eight to ten inches. No frost damage. Fall rye and sweet clover have wintered well. Pastures good but additional rains needed for the hay crop.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Hamiota

Crops looking well. Rye wintered well. Seeding completed. Scattered showers and cool weather. Wheat 4 inches. Growing well. Live stock picking up. Plenty pasture.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon

Crop conditions very satisfactory. Seeding practically completed. Early crop well advanced. Six degrees frost May 23rd but damage negligible. Some soil drifting. Damage confined to small percentage of total crop. May rainfall below average but weather cool. Sub-soil moisture good. Pastures better than usual.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Minnedosa

Seeding practically finished. Wheat four inches high. Crop looks good. Moisture fair. Need rain. Oats and barley frozen May 24th. Not much damage. No drifting. Sweet clover wintered well but growing slowly. Grass slow. Pasture poor.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Kelwood.

Seeding finished. Some early sown fields being plowed and reseeded because of wild oats. The season while appearing backward and unusually cold has been the most progressive and best outlook for some years. All grains making splendid growth. Soil drifting not serious. No frost damage. Moisture good. Pastures good.

Agricultural Representative, Dauphin

Seeding completed wheat acreage slightly reduced and barley increased. Due to season, slightly late. Crop looking well. Surface moisture good. June rains needed as sub-soil is dry. Some soil drifting small local areas. Forage crops wintered well. Pastures good after slow start. No insect pests reported.

SASKATCHEWAN

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Regina

Wheat seeding completed in most parts of province with exception of south-central and south-western Saskatchewan where between five and ten per cent remains to be seeded. About 70 per cent coarse grain acreage seeded. Wheat growth good during past week and germination and growth coarse grains for most part good. About 80 per cent wheat and about 35 per cent seeded coarse grains showing green. Weather has been warmer with several good showers particularly in southern districts. Moisture situation generally good in most parts of province. Recent precipitation has been lighter in northern and west-central Saskatchewan and winds and accelerated growth have drawn on moisture supply and good rains would be of material benefit. Some points in this area report moisture poor and rain badly needed. Some severe damage from soil drifting on light land at points in south-eastern district and considerable injury by cutting off young plants reported at points in west-central Saskatchewan near the Alberta boundary. Grasshoppers hatching at several points chiefly in south-eastern and north-western areas and preparations are under way where necessary for spreading bait. Live stock and pastures improving.

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Telegraphic Correspondent, Service.

Wheat three inches average. Eight per cent wind damage to coarse grains. South section being seeded now. North mostly up. Five per cent wheat 25 per cent coarse grain reduction in seeded acreage. Fair moisture. Heavy rain and hail north on twenty-eighth some damage. Heavy hopper infestation all sections.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Yellowgrass

Wheat seeding completed. Coarse grains eighty per cent seeded. Eighty per cent of wheat field green. Pastures nice and green. Live stock poor. No soil drifting so far. Lots of moisture for ten days. Some grasshoppers hatching in gardens.

Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head.

Seeding practically completed. Early crops well advanced. Drifting reported on lighter soils in southern areas. Grasshoppers reported hatching in some districts. Meantime moisture conditions adequate. Hay and pasture fields making good progress. Precipitation for May one decimal four five.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Val Marie

Seeding is late. Seventy-five per cent seeding completed. Crop coming well. Some worms have been noticed but damage light. Moisture good. About two and one-half inch precipitation this spring. Damage by soil drifting about five per cent. Pastures good.

Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current

Wheat ninety per cent sown and fifty per cent showing above ground. Coarse grain fifty per cent sown and ten per cent showing above ground. Germination good and moisture conditions satisfactory but rains in June essential to maintain crop prospects. Wireworm damage severe in places. Cutworm damage reported. No grasshoppers yet. Pastures green.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Swift Current

Fox Valley district seeding of wheat practically completed. Coarse grain 90 per cent seeded. Season later than usual. Grain making fair growth. Surface moisture conditions fair but little subsoil moisture. Rainfall to date 2.10 inches. More moisture needed soon. Fall rye stand uneven. Some damage from soil drifting May 12 and 13 but most of crop recovering. Herbert rainfall to date 1.33 inches. Seeding wheat practically completed. Other grains 90 per cent seeded. Crop making favourable growth but more moisture needed soon. Fall rye fairly good. Stand slight. Damage from soil drifting but crop recovering. Parkbeg rainfall to date 2.86. Seeding wheat practically completed. Coarse grain 90 per cent seeded. Crop making favourable growth. Most of fall rye good stand. No material damage from soil drifting.

Dominion Experimental Station, Rosthern

Windy dry weather has prevailed the past two weeks. Crops showing green and making strong growth generally. Little damage by winds to date. Seeding completed and summerfallowing well under way. Moisture conditions fair but rain welcome. Pastures and fall rye very good. Grasshoppers hatching.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Rosetown

Seeding completed about eight days later than usual. Moisture conditions close to long-time average. Germination good and not much damage from soil drifting. All summerfallow land seeded and odd stubble field. Estimate reduction 5 to 10 per cent in acreage seeded to wheat. Conditions are average though week late.

Supervisor of Illustration Stations, Scott

Crop conditions in Biggar, Conquest and Rosetown districts good. Germination of spring sown grain good. Stands of fall sown crested wheat grass excellent. A few hoppers appearing in places but are being watched. Local showers today.

Dominion Experimental Station, Scott

Wheat has good stand with normal growth but late sown fields not yet emerged. Coarse grains eighty per cent sown with sufficient moisture for good germination. Scattered soil drifting with serious damage in some fields. Hay and pasture better than average for this date due to effective rains.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Senlac

Wheat seeding complete and half coarse grains with twenty per cent decrease from normal acreage. Moisture conditions good with total to date of 2.78 inches rain from April first. Hoppers evident but in too early stage to state damage. Point forty rain today.

Dominion Experimental Station, Melfort

Wheat seeding complete and coarse grains ninety per cent seeded. Growth has been slow due to cold weather. Moisture supply good but not much reserve except on summerfallow. One inch rain during May. Very high winds resulting in considerable soil drifting in some areas.

ALBERTA

Dominion Experimental Station and Illustration Stations, Lethbridge

Seeding practically completed south of Calgary with about the same acreage in wheat as last year. Seeding has been delayed by rainy weather during May, especially in extreme south-west where some seeding is still to be done. Subsoil moisture reserves generally are more satisfactory than last year and are good along the foothills, south of Lethbridge and west of Milk River. East and north of this area moisture reserves are decidedly lower but much better than last year. Grass growth on ranges is excellent.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Cardston

Six inches rainfall since April first making sufficient moisture for the present. Ninety per cent grain seeded. About fifty per cent above ground. Pastures excellent and stock in good condition.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Claresholm

Seeding just completed. Early wheat well up. Four inches rain since April first. Subsoil moisture good. No damage to date but grasshoppers appearing last few days. About five per cent increase wheat acreage. No coarse grains for market here.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Calgary

Seeding completed. Conditions excellent. Good scattered showers being received. Moisture ideal. No damage any kind reported.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Olds

Wheat seeding completed. Coarse grains will be all in by end of week. Early sown grains are showing up well above ground and moisture conditions are good. Believe there will be above 10 per cent decrease in wheat acreage and slight increase in coarse grains.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Sedgewick

Seeding is all finished except a few oats for green feed. General conditions very good. Plenty of moisture and only slight wind damage. Pastures good and stock in good condition.

Dominion Experimental Station, Stettler

Four and one half inches rain since April first. Seeding about complete. Land in good shape and germination and growth very rapid. Acreage about same as last year. Pastures good. General conditions best for years.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Lacombe

Two inches rainfall with showery weather has resulted in almost ideal growth conditions. Pastures are unusually good. Hay prospects are excellent and all grain crops look promising. Sufficient moisture available for two weeks. On stubble crops crop prospects particularly good.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Vermilion

Seeding is almost completed with about three inches rain. There is great growth. Early sown wheat very weedy.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Edmonton

Wheat seeding completed around the 24th. Will complete sowing late oats and barley this week. Surface becoming dry but fair growth. Shows poor stooling account dryness. No rain for over a week. Should have a good rain very shortly for satisfactory growth. Grass and pastures show fair growth.

Telegraphic Correspondent, Athabasca

Wheat all in and showing above ground. Last of the coarse grain seeding delayed for lack of moisture. Total rainfall since April first decimal twenty-two, and five inches snow. Summerfallow and breaking fair. Spring plowing dry. Weather warm. Moisture needed very soon.

Dominion Experimental Sub-station, Beaverlodge

Beaverlodge precipitation point four three inch April and point three four inch May. Fair moisture storage in fallow but little in second crop land while meadows very dry. Soil drifting May twelfth to fourteenth compelled a little reseeding. A little further drifting last week. Otherwise grain started fairly well and looks healthy but wireworms and cutworms doing considerable damage. Rain badly needed especially on blown out fields and meadows. Gardens backward.



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