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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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c. 2

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 23, 1938, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the thirteenth 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

Another week of unsettled showery weather in the Prairie Provinces caused further delay in harvesting, which could only be carried on intermittently in many districts. A few weeks of clear, warm weather are needed throughout the west to provide suitable conditions for the completion of harvesting. Light frosts were recorded over the week-end in west-central Saskatchewan, southern and northern Alberta. Damage from frost was reported as very slight. Practically all of the wheat crop has been cut in Manitoba. In Saskatchewan the bulk of the crop has been cut, except in the central, west-central and extreme north-western districts. Very little harvesting was done in Alberta during the past week because of unfavourable weather. Considerable variations in wheat yields in Manitoba are indicated by threshing returns, with yields on the whole hardly reaching expectations, and below those of last year. Early marketings from Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan are grading mainly Nos. One and Two Northern, where rust-resistant wheats proved their value. Wide variations in Saskatchewan wheat yields are indicated, due to the occurrence of rust, drought and grasshopper damage. The quality of the Saskatchewan crop on the whole will be lower than in Manitoba and Alberta as a result of rust and drought. Yield prospects in Alberta continue promising, provided that the crop can be harvested without wet weather or frost.

Manitoba

The cutting of grain is practically completed in nearly all parts of the province and threshing is well under way. Operations have been held up generally, however, by scattered showers which in some cases have lowered the grade. The yields of wheat vary considerably with the best results being obtained from well-cared-for summerfallow. Rust on Reward and Marquis wheat, oats and barley is reducing the yields and quality in most sections. Pastures are reported good, for the most part, there being plenty of fodder for the live stock. The gardens are generally good except in the Russell area where hail damage has been extensive to crops generally.

Saskatchewan

While the weather during the past week was cool and showery, the cutting of wheat has continued and is nearing completion in southern and eastern Saskatchewan. Much wheat remains to be cut in the central and extreme north-western districts, with harvesting operations least advanced in the west-central area. In the later districts, the cooler, rainy weather has retarded ripening and there is still some possibility of further rust damage. Grasshoppers are still active in some areas. Early threshing returns are showing wide variations in wheat yields. Around Indian Head yields are reported from four to twenty-five bushels per acre. In the Swift Current area, where yields were affected by late drought and heat, yields are ranging from five to eighteen bushels. In the west-central area where harvesting is just beginning, yields are more uniformly good. In the north-centre yields are poor, due to drought, grasshoppers and, in some cases, rust. Cutting of coarse grains for feed in order to prevent further destruction from grasshoppers is continuing in many places throughout the province.

Alberta

Further showers and rains during the past week have delayed harvesting in the earlier districts and ripening in the later areas. Temperatures have been low, and over the week-end in the south-eastern, central and northern districts light frosts were reported. Damage from frost was very slight, affecting mostly the late grains. A period of warm, dry weather is badly needed in the whole of the province to permit ripening and harvesting. Favourable weather conditions from now on would facilitate the harvesting of a wheat crop which promises to be the best in yield of the past few years, and of good quality, barring a wet harvest or frost damage.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces

Crop Districts	Stations	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. August 22	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending August 22 Actual	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.02	8.29	9.55	65	61
2	Boissevain	.23	8.42	9.52	65	63
	Ninette	nil	7.28	10.03	66	63
	Pilot Mound	.06	6.76	10.74	68	62
3	Emerson	.30	8.30	9.47	69	63
	Morden	1.06	10.11	10.00	69	63
	Graysville	.10	8.98	10.10	67	62
	Morris	.14	6.97	9.93	69	62
	Portage la Prairie	.08	7.20	9.78	70	61
4	Winnipeg	.28	9.31	11.28	69	63
6	Sprague	.18	10.63	10.46	65	61
	Pinawa	.01	5.49	8.47	66	59
7	Virden	.30	8.03	8.59	65	60
8	Brandon	.06	7.13	10.16	65	61
	Cypress River	.02	10.82	10.02	65	61
9	Minnedosa	.13	5.95	9.88	65	61
10	Russell	.60	12.46	9.42	61	59
	Birtle	.80	8.82	10.05	64	59
11	Dauphin	.27	9.20	8.74	66	60
13	Swan River	.86	14.11	10.10	No report	57
	The Pas	.17	8.29	8.07	61	59
Manitoba Average		.27	8.69	9.73	63	61
Saskatchewan						
1	Broadview	.56	9.74	9.04	62	60
	Moosomin	.04	8.30	8.91	67	57
	Carlyle	nil	9.14	9.98	64	59
	Estevan	trace	8.41	9.33	63	61
2	Moose Jaw	.10	7.79	9.07	62	62
	Regina	.11	6.99	9.17	61	61
	Qu'Appelle	.12	7.74	10.78	61	62
	Indian Head	.23	5.72	10.33	63	60
	Yellow Grass	.28	8.92	8.72	62	62
	Midale	.20	7.46	9.55	60	62
3	Assiniboia	trace	10.72	7.37	No report	61
	Chaplin	No report	5.68	9.56	No report	59
	Swift Current	.26	6.74	9.35	60	63
	Aneroid	.04	8.72	9.13	60	60
	Hughton	.10	6.64	8.21	60	60
	Pennant	.20	5.85	8.88	62	62
	Val Marie	.14	7.46	8.29	60	61
	Shaunavon	.24	6.42	7.65	60	59
4	Maple Creek	.10	8.35	8.50	60	62
	Roadene	.36	8.21	8.22	60	60
	Consul	.06	7.38	7.14	58	60
5	Kamsack	2.88	14.41	8.71	60	58
	Yorkton	.26	12.95	9.48	63	59
	Hubbard	.48	10.67	9.21	58	58
	Lintlaw	.26	10.95	9.04	58	56
6	Rosthern	.98	6.81	8.67	58	59
	Saskatoon	.25	6.67	8.70	58	59
	Davidson	.22	11.89	7.48	62	59
	Dundurn	.24	6.30	8.83	62	60
	Strasbourg	.40	6.55	8.37	61	59
	Elbow	.20	6.31	7.43	60	61
	Outlook	.10	6.18	6.81	61	59
7	Macklin	.30	8.32	8.89	58	58
	Alsask	.48	7.93	8.08	56	59
	Scott	.26	7.82	8.30	56	58
	Biggar	.06	9.04	9.01	57	60
	Kindersley	.17	9.18	7.86	59	59

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces* (Concluded)

Crop Districts	Stations	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending August 22	
		8 a.m. August 22	since April 1	since April 1	Actual	Normal
Saskatchewan (Concluded)						
8	Melfort	.28	10.14	9.15	59	59
	Dana	.34	5.29	11.01	60	59
	Humboldt	.28	7.78	7.54	60	58
	Naicam	.32	10.22	9.77	58	58
9	Rabbit Lake	.50	7.25	9.05	52	58
	Waseca	.62	6.30	8.47	53	57
	Battleford	.28	5.91	8.64	57	61
	Prince Albert	1.20	7.11	8.93	58	59
Saskatchewan Average		.33	8.10	8.77	60	60
Alberta						
1	Medicine Hat	.33	7.72	7.63	61	65
	Foremost	.22	8.09	10.25	61	60
	Manyberries	.06	6.59	7.71	62	60
2	Macleod	.20	12.38	8.54	61	61
	Lethbridge	.33	8.06	8.46	59	62
	Cardston	.14	10.90	12.34	59	59
3	Brooks	.38	7.82	7.36	59	60
	Empress	.98	4.62	7.83	61	60
	Vauxhall	.08	7.68	7.41	58	62
4	High River	.48	8.55	10.58	53	57
5	Drumheller	.82	10.64	9.35	58	58
	Hanna	.28	9.91	10.02	No report	56
	Naco	.90	9.81	8.70	56	56
6	Olds	.86	13.39	10.36	54	55
	Three Hills	2.08	12.37	8.88	56	57
	Strathmore	.44	11.22	9.24	56	56
	Gleichen	.20	4.52	8.62	58	58
	Calgary	.36	11.57	10.52	65	58
7	Coronation	.26	9.02	7.54	54	56
	Hughenden	.80	10.32	8.48	56	56
	Sedgewick	1.52	11.71	9.19	54	57
	Viking	.96	9.89	8.57	54	57
8	Wetaskiwin	1.38	9.25	9.99	55	57
	Lacombe	.84	11.97	10.49	54	56
	Alix	.66	12.02	9.62	59	58
	Red Deer	2.08	20.25	12.28	54	55
	Stettler	1.16	12.11	10.50	56	57
10	Vegreville	.92	9.63	11.20	No report	56
	Vermilion	2.28	12.81	10.99	53	56
	Lloydminster	1.12	8.37	8.07	54	56
11	Edmonton	.66	13.41	10.72	54	59
	Calmar	.96	9.15	11.28	56	57
12	Edson	1.74	15.23	10.63	52	55
	Jasper	1.30	8.95	5.24	54	52
13	Glendon	.84	6.78	8.86	52	55
14	Athabasca	.24	4.25	9.80	50	56
	Campsie	.40	8.26	10.76	53	57
15	High Prairie	.86	5.44	8.93	55	56
	Kinuso	.52	3.14	8.63	53	56
16	Fairview	.32	4.16	6.72	53	58
	Beaverlodge	.54	4.85	7.45	53	55
17	Keg River	.92	7.85	-	53	57
	Fort Vermilion	.80	5.29	6.93	56	56
	Fort McMurray	.42	7.60	8.64	54	57
	Fort Smith	.93	6.54	5.81	51	55
Alberta Average		.77	9.20	9.12	56	57

* Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Brandon, Manitoba

Favourable weather for grasshopper egg-laying continues.

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Damage by wheat stem sawfly decidedly heavier than last year, although still well below average annual total of years prior to 1934, in spite of greater extent of infestation in Park Belt.

Lethbridge, Alberta

Damage by sawfly continuing in central and southern Alberta. Says grain bug injury over for season. Grasshopper numbers showing some increase, compared with last year.

HAIL DAMAGE

SASKATCHEWAN, The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association, Regina

Light hail Clanwilliam, Minnedosa, Franklin, Birtle, Elkhorn, McConnell, Cardale and Bruxelles.

ALBERTA, The Alberta Hail Insurance Board, Calgary

Widespread storms on August seventeenth affecting Red Deer, Carstairs, Calgary, Beiseker, Three Hills, Morrin, Delia, Youngstown districts. Storm August eighteenth Skiff and Etzikom districts.

REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

Winnipeg, Provincial Department of Agriculture

Crop probably ninety per cent cut. Threshing well under way but interrupted considerably by showers. Some grain has been threshed rather damp. Threshing outturns perhaps hardly reaching expectations.

SOUTH-CENTRE

Morden, Dominion Experimental Station

Threshing well advanced. Wheat yields variable up to thirty-five bushels and as low as ten bushels. Oats average thirty-five bushels, barley twenty-five bushels per acre. Corn crop heavy. Late rain revived pastures. Stock looking well. Abundance of rough feed for winter feeding. Weather cool.

SOUTH-WEST

Melita, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing in full swing, yield varies considerably. Durum wheat averages eight to fifteen bushels, Hard wheat fourteen to twenty. Oats should average twenty-five bushels. Barley very poor, millet and fodder crops fair.

WEST-CENTRE

Brandon, Dominion Experimental Farm

Cutting completed and at least twenty-five per cent wheat threshed. Numerous local showers are delaying operations and causing bleaching particularly to Thatcher wheat. Barley damaged by rust and not expected to average better than twenty to thirty bushels per acre. Oats only fair, adversely affected by rust and heat.

Woodnorth, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing delayed somewhat owing to showery weather. Good yields are being secured from well-worked summerfallow, but the greater part of the crop is extremely light. Pastures are good and sufficient fodder can be secured for live stock.

MANITOBA - Concluded

NORTH-WEST

Minnedosa, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing general today, wheat grading No. 2. Average about twenty-five bushels per acre, barley twenty-five bushels, oats thirty-five bushels. Rains have held up harvest and lowered quality. Summerfallows in good shape. Pastures very poor. Stock doing poorly.

Kelwood, Telegraphic Correspondent

Cutting practically finished. Threshing well under way. Weather has cleared up. My own summerfallow Thatcher was a nice looking stand. Stooked up fairly well and threshed out thirty bushels per acre as compared with thirty-eight bushels last year. Quite evident yields will be down.

Dauphin, Agricultural Representative

Good progress in harvesting operations. Cutting eighty per cent completed. Threshing well started. Wheat yielding thirty to forty bushels on good fields. Very heavy straw crop to handle. Need three weeks good weather.

Russell, Telegraphic Correspondent

Broken showery weather has delayed harvesting and there is considerable grain still to be cut. A few are starting to thresh today and if the weather holds fine it will be general by the end of the week. More damage was done by hail than was at first expected. Practically all gardens in the path of the storms are a total loss except for root crops which may recover if weather is favourable. Pasture holds good. Sickness amongst horses still continues to be reported.

Swan River, Telegraphic Correspondent

Cutting well advanced. Some threshing started. Recent rains delayed operations. Rust quite prevalent on Reward and Marquis and heavy on oats. Will reduce yield twenty-five per cent and cut grade. Pastures good. Gardens splendid. Stock doing well. Ground well saturated with moisture.

SASKATCHEWAN

Regina, Provincial Department of Agriculture

Weather during the past week has been cooler with many scattered showers which interrupted harvesting operations. Nevertheless good progress was made with cutting, and at many points in southern and eastern Saskatchewan wheat cutting is nearing completion. Considerable wheat remains standing at some points in central and extreme north-western Saskatchewan. Crops are later on the heavy land in west-central Saskatchewan and harvesting operations are least advanced in this area. Not sufficient threshing has been done to indicate yields but wide variations are expected. At some points where the crop is later, cooler weather with rain has retarded maturity, and in these areas rust damage is still uncertain. Grasshoppers have caused further injury by head clipping in some areas. Cutting of coarse grains for feed to prevent further destruction is continuing in many places, and the yield of threshed grain per seeded acre will be lowered considerably as a result. Fewer new cases of encephalomyelitis are being reported and it is hoped the disease is checked.

SOUTH-EAST

Indian Head, Dominion Experimental Farm

Threshing nicely under way. Returns very disappointing. Yields vary from four to twenty-five bushels per acre.

SOUTH-WEST

Swift Current, Dominion Experimental Station

Numerous light showers totalling point four three inch with cool, dull weather, delayed harvesting and threshing during past week. Yields of wheat reported varying from five to eighteen bushels per acre grading No. 1 and No. 2. About thirty-five per cent of wheat cut and five per cent threshed.

SASKATCHEWAN (Concluded)

SOUTH-WEST

Swift Current, Supervisor of Illustration Stations

Shaunavon, August rainfall point nine eight inch. Harvesting will soon be completed, except where combining is being done. Yield of all grain has been reduced by late drought and heat. Some rust in wheat on low land. Grasshopper infestation moderate. Pastures short. Canuck, August rainfall point five four inch. Harvesting well advanced. Will be completed in about a week, except for some combining. Yield and grade reduced by late drought and heat. Yield estimated at about five to eight bushels. Hopper infestation moderate, not much damage. Pastures short.

EAST-CENTRE

Saskatoon, Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology

Rust development covered by previous reports from Dominion Rust Laboratory where our Saskatchewan notes are summarized. Stem rust will cause damage in susceptible wheat, especially late crops, over most of this province. Some rust damage to barley but little in oats. Some cases where wheat delayed by root rot, rust injury severe. No major damage by other cereal diseases observed.

WEST-CENTRE

Rosetown, Telegraphic Correspondent

Early threshing returns are giving good quality grain with yield around twenty bushels per acre. Dull cloudy weather is retarding combining. Sawfly and grasshoppers are doing considerable damage to standing grain. Threshing will be general by the end of the week if weather clears.

Scott, Dominion Experimental Station

Cutting is now well advanced but has been delayed by frequent showers, with heavy rains in north sections. Dull weather has served to increase rust damage on late and susceptible wheat. Practically no threshing will be done in north-western Saskatchewan until weather improves.

Senlac, Telegraphic Correspondent

Twenty per cent wheat cut, and balance ripening very unevenly due to damp, cool weather and some red rust. Have had no frost damage to date, but close to frost last two nights. Expect from fifteen to seventeen bushels wheat per acre.

NORTH-EAST

Melfort, Dominion Experimental Station

Harvesting delayed by cool, showery, weather. Over half wheat crop cut. Oats will be late and there is much lodging where growth is heavy. Early wheat not damaged by rust but later susceptible varieties will be almost worthless. Point six six inch rainfall during week.

NORTH-CENTRE

Rosthern, Dominion Experimental Station

Weather cloudy, cool with few showers. Point nine eight inch rainfall delaying harvesting operations. Harvesting seventy per cent completed and some threshing done. Yields ranging two to ten bushels on summerfallow. Quality and grade of grain good. Feed shortage probable. Grasshoppers still numerous.

NORTH-WEST

Prince, Telegraphic Correspondent

Wheat cutting ninety per cent completed. Cutting of early-sown coarse grains has commenced. Late coarse grains improving greatly. Fodder crops and pastures benefited most by late rains. Threshing date uncertain. Some light showers last few days. Plenty feed in district.

ALBERTA

SOUTH-EAST

Manyberries, Dominion Range Experiment Station

Weather has been cool with light local showers. Harvesting held up in most districts due to damp weather. Frost has damaged some late grain crops as well as corn and garden vines. Yield of grain will vary greatly within small areas. Range conditions continue good.

SOUTH-WEST

Lethbridge, Dominion Experimental Station and Illustration Stations

There have been some showers during the week so that harvesting in this part of the province has been more or less interrupted. Hail during week occurred in the Foremost district. Light frost was reported from the Nanton-High River district Monday morning.

Vulcan, Telegraphic Correspondent

Showery weather since last report. About forty per cent grain cut. When weather clears combining and picking up swaths will be general. Not enough done yet to determine yields. Late fields east side of district still too green to cut. Weather cool and close to frost some nights.

Claresholm, Telegraphic Correspondent

Past week has been showery. Harvest somewhat delayed. No wheat marketed yet. No frost damage, but some crops still very green.

CENTRE

Stettler, Telegraphic Correspondent

Weather for past week cloudy and cool with one and a half inches rain. Cutting only just started and grain ripening slowly. Light damage by sawfly and some rust reported. Prospects good, but need good weather to get crop off.

WEST-CENTRE

Calgary, Telegraphic Correspondent

Scattered showers and cool, cloudy weather continue to delay harvesting. More reports of sawfly damage being received. While temperatures low, no frost reported so far.

Lacombe, Dominion Experimental Station

Cloudy, cool weather with rain on four days totalling point nine two inch delayed ripening and cutting, with rain on twelve days totalling four point six inches. August is one of two wettest in thirty-one years. Second growth starting in many fields will increase cost of harvesting, and lower grades. Light frost August 21. Dry, warm weather needed.

Edmonton, Telegraphic Correspondent

Past week continued wet and cloudy. Very little harvesting done. Cleared up overnight and a very slight frost reported this morning. Damage will be very light, if any. Badly in need of clear, dry weather to get on with wheat cutting. Late grains still quite green.

NORTH

Athabasca, Telegraphic Correspondent

Harvest delayed past week on account of rainfall of point nine four inch. Weather appears cleared and settled. Frost registered night of August twenty-first, four degrees. Some damage to low spots and late grain. Sixty per cent of wheat cut. Threshing will start about September first.



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