

22-002
no. 10
1938
Sept. 6
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Historical File Copy
Published by Authority of the HON. W. D. EULER, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, September 6, 1938, 4 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the last 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 ideal harvest weather over the Prairies permitted good progress with cutting of late crops and threshing and combining operations. Threshing has been completed in southern Manitoba and is nearing completion in the northern parts of the province. Fall ploughing in southern Manitoba has been difficult owing to dry soil conditions. It is now apparent that feed for live stock will have to be shipped into the drought area in north-central Saskatchewan and into some local areas in the southern part of the province. Some very good yields are reported in central Alberta but grades are falling below expectations due to the presence of green kernels. The dry summer experienced in the Peace River district has resulted in an early harvest but disappointing yields.

Manitoba

Threshing has been completed in southern Manitoba and while returns have been extremely variable, on the whole fair yields of wheat and feed grains have been obtained. The progress of fall ploughing is being delayed by very dry soil conditions. Grasshoppers are very active in egg laying. In the northern part of the province, threshing nears completion as a result of ideal weather conditions during the past week. Live stock are in good condition and winter feed supplies are adequate.

Saskatchewan

Threshing and combining operations are well advanced in southern Saskatchewan, and wide ranges in yields are reported. Coarse grain yields are disappointing and in some areas of the southern part of the province some feed will have to be shipped in. Live stock are in fair condition, but pastures are bare and dry. Rust damage is severe on late wheat in the west-central area. Yields of rust-resistant varieties are very good. In the north-eastern portion of the province, threshing is about one-third completed with fair to good yields reported. Feed supplies in north-central Saskatchewan are inadequate and only poor to fair yields of wheat are being obtained.

Alberta

Good harvest weather has continued to prevail in south-eastern Alberta and threshing is general. Early threshing returns in central Alberta are favourable but grades are not as high as expected owing to green and immature kernels. Some excellent yields are being obtained in local areas. Crops are lighter than was expected in the north-eastern district, but fair yields are being obtained. Threshing activities are well advanced in the Peace River district with some yields very disappointing.

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REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Lethbridge, Alberta

Insect damage on current crop about over for the season. Grasshoppers injuring some late grain in restricted localities.

REPORTS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

SOUTH-CENTRE

Morden, Dominion Experimental Station

Threshing completed. Yield fair. Average wheat fifteen, barley twenty-five, oats thirty-five. Sample fair to good. Weather dry. Ground very hard. Ploughing difficult. Fodder corn crop good but grain corn crop will be light. Pastures dry.

SOUTH-WEST

Killarney, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing almost completed. Wheat marketed this season from this point will be two-thirds amount handled last year from similar acreage. Practically all wheat grading Number Two. Grasshoppers' egg-laying activity points to a real fight next spring. Potato crop varies from almost nil to very fair. Rain is needed to soak dry ground which is difficult to plough. Pastures dried up but stubble feeding good. Animals in very fair shape and there is enough feed for winter. Soil moisture reserve at a minimum.

WEST-CENTRE

Woodnorth, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing completed and wheat is grading One and Two Northern. Average yield Thatcher and Renown about twelve bushels with other wheats about eight bushels. Average for oats and barley about fifteen bushels. Weather continues warm and dry with an over-abundance of grasshoppers. Dugouts completed last season are proving a boon to many farmers.

NORTH-CENTRE

Teulon, Agricultural Representative

Weather ideal for threshing during past week. Threshing 80 per cent completed. Will finish this week if weather good. Good progress with corn harvesting. Seed alfalfa will be cut September 10. Below average crop. Pastures drying but live stock will go into winter in good condition. Good winter feed supply.

NORTH-WEST

Kelwood, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing finished. Plenty of winter feed. Live stock doing well. Splendid potatoes and gardens. Fall work on land should be all done up in good shape and in good time.

SASKATCHEWAN

SOUTH-EAST

Indian Head, Dominion Experimental Farm

Threshing operations well advanced. Wheat yields vary from four to twenty-eight bushels per acre. Coarse grains disappointing. Feed will be required in southern areas. Pastures bare and dry. Live stock in fair condition. Precipitation nil.

SOUTH-WEST

Swift Current, Supervisor of Illustration Stations

Tugaske district, weather hot and dry. Threshing and combining underway. About two-thirds threshing done. Wheat yields running about six to twelve bushels mostly Numbers One and Two grades. Oats and barley about fifteen to twenty bushels. Most of oats cut early on account of grasshopper damage. Pastures short.

SASKATCHEWAN (Concluded)

WEST-CENTRE

Rosetown, Telegraphic Correspondent

Grain cutting nearly completed. Threshing returns show great variation with rust damage severe on later-sown wheat. Thatcher yields over thirty bushels; Marquis around seventeen bushels average with good percentage of higher grades though there is some low grade wheat.

Scott, Dominion Experimental Station

Ideal harvest weather prevailed in west-central Saskatchewan during past week where early threshing returns show wide variations in yields and generally slightly lower than expected. Where wheat not damaged by rust, grain has good colour and high weight per bushel. Generally speaking yields less proceeding northward.

NORTH-EAST

Melfort, Dominion Experimental Station

Excellent threshing weather throughout week. Cutting complete. Thirty per cent wheat threshed. Yields vary greatly. Thatcher yielding fifteen to thirty bushels. Marquis yielding five to fifteen; oats and barley should average fifty and thirty bushels respectively. Moisture reserve on summerfallow good.

NORTH-CENTRE

Rosthern, Dominion Experimental Station

Weather clear and warm. Threshing forty per cent completed. Yields poor to fair. Wheat sample good but oats and barley poor. Feed in district inadequate. Pastures poor but pickings on stubble fair. Soil moisture good. Potatoes good.

ALBERTA

SOUTH-EAST

Manyberries, Dominion Range Experiment Station

Weather has continued dry and very warm. Harvesting and haying practically complete. Threshing is general. In some localities some combining to be done. In several districts yield varies from ten to thirty bushels. Some grass-fed cattle have been shipped during past week.

CENTRE

Sedgewick, Telegraphic Correspondent

Wheat nearly all cut. Threshing general. Early returns favourable as to yield and up to our estimate but grades not as good as expected and it now looks as though there will be a lot of Three and Four Northern wheat on account of green immature kernels.

WEST-CENTRE

Calgary, Telegraphic Correspondent

Weather warm and dry. Harvesting about completed. Threshing started and will be general this week. Some very heavy yields reported. Think this area excluding hailed districts will be better than average.

Lacombe, Dominion Experimental Station

With bright sunshine and temperatures 80 to 90 degrees crops ripened rapidly during week. Cutting 80 per cent done. Threshing just starting but with dry weather will be general this week. With heavy damage from drought and hail and some from frost, rust and grasshoppers, yields and grades very difficult to estimate.

ALBERTA (Concluded)

WEST CENTRE

Edmonton, Telegraphic Correspondent

Ideal harvest weather during past week and threshing becoming fairly general. Good yields and grading mostly Three Northern on account of bronze-green kernels.

NORTH-EAST

Vermilion, Telegraphic Correspondent

The weather is hot and dry and the threshing has well begun. Crops are lighter than expected but should average fourteen bushels for wheat our principal crop, and it seems that Three will be the average grade. Considerable cutting of oats has to be done.

NORTH

Athabasca, Telegraphic Correspondent

Threshing started. Weather clear and very warm. Ideal for ripening late grains. If weather holds good, yield of coarse grains will be increased considerably.

NORTH-WEST

Beaverlodge, Dominion Experimental Sub-Station

A week of very favourable weather has resulted in threshing activities being well advanced. Some points report cutting fifty per cent complete while in others cutting is completed and threshing is more than half done, with some yields disappointingly low.



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