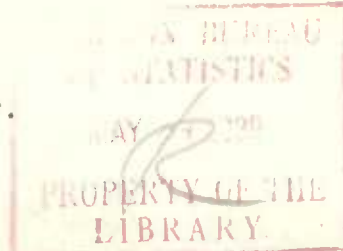


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



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#### TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, May 30, 1939, 3 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

Grain crops over most of the Prairie Provinces got away to a rather promising start this spring. With the exception of southern Manitoba, south-eastern and parts of central Saskatchewan, and south-eastern Alberta, spring moisture conditions were quite favourable. Seeding proceeded rapidly during the last week of April and first ten days of May and spring operations were completed early. In the drier districts of the Prairies, farmers delayed seeding somewhat, waiting for more favourable soil moisture conditions. High winds caused considerable soil drifting in the second week of May and while damage to crops was not widespread some localities experienced moderate losses. Rains, commencing May 19 and continuing into last week, promoted recovery of the drought and wind-damaged grain. Some reseeded has been necessary but this has not been general. Damage from cutworms and wireworms has occurred in some localities, but no extensive losses from insect damage have been reported. During the warmer and drier weather in the early part of May, grasshoppers became quite active, but were checked by the wet and cool weather in the latter part of the month. The threat of a general outbreak continues, however, and warm dry weather would greatly increase the danger of damage from this source. Preparations have been made to combat outbreaks and poisoning has already been undertaken in some areas. With all seeding practically completed and much of the crop showing, rain is needed to maintain present favourable prospects and to aid crops in the dry areas of southern Manitoba, south-eastern and central Saskatchewan, and south-eastern Alberta.

#### Manitoba

Seeding of wheat and coarse grains in Manitoba was completed earlier than last year. Seed went into the ground under quite favourable conditions in the north-central and north-western parts of the province, but the south-central and south-western districts have been very dry. Crop prospects in the latter areas are generally poor and good rains are urgently needed. In the central areas of the province conditions are variable, with generally satisfactory progress of the crop being reported. Frost caused some injury on May 11, but good rains would repair most of the damage. Favourable crop prospects prevail in the north-central and north-western districts but rain is needed to maintain this outlook. Some slight damage occurred as the result of soil drifting. Forage crops came through the winter in excellent conditions.

#### Saskatchewan

Wheat seeding in Saskatchewan is almost completed with the exception of the south-western districts where some farmers delayed operations awaiting more favourable moisture conditions. About 80 per cent of the wheat crop is showing green and growth in most parts of the province has been fairly satisfactory. Dry and windy weather was experienced in the first part of May but commencing on the 19th of the month and continuing last week, good rains fell over a large portion of the wheat-growing areas. However, in the south-eastern portion of the province, the Regina-Weyburn area, and the north-central and north-western portions, precipitation was

Saskatchewan (Concluded)

lighter and further moisture is required in these districts. The damage caused by soil drifting has been largely repaired by recent rains although many fields in local areas show signs of permanent damage. Cutworms are active and reports of wireworm damage have been received. Grasshoppers were held in check by the recent cool wet weather but with the higher temperatures of the past few days they are becoming active. Coarse grain seeding is about 85 per cent completed and about 50 per cent of the coarse grains have emerged. Pastures are improving under the stimulus of the more recent favourable moisture conditions.

Alberta

Crop conditions in Alberta have been generally favourable this spring, with the exception of the south-eastern part of the province. Good rains in the week of May 22 in this district have greatly improved the outlook. The crop has germinated well in the central districts and has made very good growth, but to carry this, adequate moisture supplies will be required. In northern Alberta, crop prospects are reported as favourable, particularly as a result of timely rains in May. Conditions in the Peace River area were improved by rains and scattered showers which promoted crop recovery and checked activity of cutworms. Little damage has been reported from cutworms and grasshoppers. Soil drifting during the second week of May caused some damage in the central and southern districts, but recent rains have provided favourable conditions for crop recovery.



Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces						
Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending May 29	
		8 a.m. May 29	since April 1	since April 1	Actual	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.08	1.61	3.07	59	55
	Waskada	.02	1.91	1.57	60	N.R.
2	Boissevain	.32	2.57	3.17	57	53
	Ninette	N.R.	1.38*	3.30	N.R.	55
	Pilot Mound	.58	2.17	3.14	55	55
3	Emerson	.74	4.21	2.42	56	56
	Morden	.95	2.37	3.01	55	55
	Graysville	.80	1.90*	2.78	53	54
	Morris	.54	3.07	2.72	54	56
	Portage la Prairie	.25	1.34	2.89	58	56
4	Winnipeg	.55	2.20	3.27	55	56
6	Sprague	.22	1.22	3.20	54	54
	Pinawa	.28	.88	2.09	54	54
7	Virden	.06	1.57	2.11	60	54
	Hamiota	Nil	1.00	1.28*	58	N.R.
8	Rivers	.11	1.57	1.73*	57	N.R.
	Brandon	.18	2.02	2.72	59	55
	Cypress River	.29	1.06	2.79	57	55
9	Minnedosa	.28	1.42	2.73	56	55
10	Dropmore	.54	1.32	1.43*	52	N.R.
	Russell	Nil	1.42	2.39	57	53
	Birtle	.01	.91	2.32	57	53
11	Dauphin	Trace	1.98	2.05	57	53
13	Swan River	Trace	1.59	2.10	56	52
	The Pas	.11	1.99	1.89	55	53
Manitoba Average		.29	1.79	2.49	56	54
Saskatchewan						
1A	Carlyle	.14	1.94	2.97	56	53
	Estevan	.17	1.20	2.70	59	54
1B	Broadview	Trace	1.13	2.60	57	54
	Moosomin	.05	1.52	2.30	57	53
2A	Yellow Grass	Trace	.76	2.57	60	54
	Midale	.32	1.40	3.09	60	53
2B	Moose Jaw	.54	1.88	2.48	59	56
	Regina	.07	.97	2.28	59	54
	Qu'Appelle	.08	1.88	3.01	56	54
	Indian Head	.10	1.37	2.61	58	54
	Francis	.02	1.00	1.04*	58	N.R.
3AN	Chaplin	.88	1.50*	2.38*	56	55
3AS	Assiniboia	.80	3.44	1.96	56	54
	Ceylon	.36	1.22*	1.35*	N.R.	N.R.
	Gravelbourg	.82	2.59	1.26*	56	N.R.
	Rockglen	.86	.96	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
3EN	Swift Current	.83	3.53	2.49	54	56
	Hughton	.56	2.20	2.92	55	53
	Pennant	.58	4.04	2.68	56	54
3BS	Aneroid	1.10	3.80	2.37	60	53
	Cadillac	.96	3.68	2.28*	56	N.R.
	Val Marie	.60	4.02	2.41	58	52
	Shaunavon	.92	5.27	2.12	55	52
4A	Maple Creek	1.10	4.82	2.46	54	54
	Consul	N.R.	1.00	2.47	N.R.	52
4B	Roadene	N.R.	5.23	2.93	N.R.	53
5A	Yorkton	.04	1.90	2.43	57	53
	Hubbard	.32	2.06	2.20	54	52
5B	Kamsack	Nil	2.34	1.79	55	52
	Foam Lake	.25	1.85	1.45*	56	N.R.
	Lintlaw	.16	1.93	2.71	54	50
6A	Davidson	.40	2.04	2.21	56	53
	Nokomis	.10	1.45	1.08*	58	N.R.
	Semans	Trace	1.47	1.09*	56	N.R.
	Strasbourg	.06	1.86	2.48	56	53
	Dilke	.96	2.88	1.51*	N.R.	N.R.
6B	Rosthern	1.18	4.52	2.32	57	53
	Saskatoon	.22	.72	1.99	57	54
	Dundurn	.26	.80	2.18	56	53
	Tugaske	.38	2.04	1.65*	56	N.R.
	Elbow	.34	1.99	2.25	58	55
	Outlook	.36	1.60	1.85	60	54
	Harris	.62	1.10	1.01*	54	N.R.

\* Incomplete.

N.R. = No Report.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces\* (Concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending May 29	
		8 a.m. May 29	since April 1	since April 1	Actual	Normal
Saskatchewan (Concluded)						
7A	Alsask	.62	3.12	3.23	N.R.	51
	Kindersley	.56	2.64	2.04	56	51
7B	Macklin	.18	1.62	3.20	54	51
	Scott	.50	1.56	2.17	56	53
	Biggar	.26	1.14	2.04	56	53
8A	Nipawin	.14	1.47	1.42*	52	N.R.
	Naicam	.14	1.58	1.89	56	53
8B	Melfort	.16	1.60	2.39	57	54
	Dana	N.R.	N.R.	1.34*	N.R.	52
	Humboldt	.16	.94	2.00	57	53
9A	Rabbit Lake	.56	2.06	1.90	53	53
	Prince Albert	.08	1.87	2.18	56	54
9B	Battleford	.35	1.06	1.93	56	56
Saskatchewan Average		.40	2.10	2.18	56	53
Alberta						
1	Medicine Hat	.79	1.98	2.17	57	58
	Foremost	.76	1.68	3.84	60	53
	Manyberries	.38	1.08	2.61	56	52
2	Macleod	1.38	5.11	2.40	56	53
	Cowley	.95	1.72	1.19*	N.R.	N.R.
	Lethbridge	1.14	2.19	2.74	57	55
	Cardston	.98	2.22	4.53	57	51
3	Brooks	.58	.92	2.40	55	55
	Empress	.46	2.05	2.34	58	54
	Vauxhall	.60	1.40	2.28	56	56
	Vulcan	.74	1.80	1.54*	N.R.	N.R.
4	High River	N.R.	.84*	3.50	N.R.	52
5	Drumheller	.18	1.30	2.46	59	50
	Hanna	.26	2.88	2.88	51	50
	Naco	.18	3.40	3.05	54	51
6	Olds	.28	3.52	3.10	N.R.	52
	Three Hills	.24	1.11	2.11	54	51
	Strathmore	.32	1.64	2.57	N.R.	50
	Gleichen	.50	1.50	2.45	54	53
	Calgary	.43	2.34	2.86	54	53
	Banff	N.R.	.30*	1.26*	N.R.	N.R.
7	Coronation	.14	2.88	2.33	54	51
	Hughenden	.10	2.24*	2.39	55	51
	Hardisty	Nil	1.74	1.18*	N.R.	N.R.
	Sedgewick	.02	2.66	1.84	54	52
	Viking	.10	2.56	2.66	54	52
	Camrose	.60	4.73	1.81*	54	N.R.
8	Wetaskiwin	.04	4.80	2.18	53	52
	Lacombe	.04	2.71	2.55	54	52
	Alix	.24	3.75*	2.56	52	53
	Springdale	.10	3.35	2.02*	50	N.R.
	Red Deer	.04	2.07	3.27	52	52
	Stettler	.10	3.20	3.10	53	52
10	Vegreville	.04	2.44	2.80	56	52
	Vermilion	Nil	2.84	2.41	54	51
	Lloydminster	Nil	1.12	1.95	56	51
11	Edmonton	.02	5.13	2.41	55	54
	Calmar	.18	4.28	3.13	57	53
12	Edson	Nil	1.84	2.36	51	52
	Jasper	.24	1.86	1.63	53	52
13	Glendon	.02	3.32	2.12	51	51
14	Athabaska	.04	4.97	2.47	52	52
	Campsie	.01	2.29	2.33	53	52
15	High Prairie	.12	1.73*	1.98	54	51
	Kinuso	.98	2.23	2.29	54	51
16	Fairview	.24	2.58	1.54	52	54
	Beaverlodge	.33	2.34	2.06	53	51
17	Keg River	.06	2.70*	1.35*	54	51
	Fort Vermilion	.02	3.15	1.61	57	52
	Fort McMurray	.11	2.67	1.96	57	52
	Fort Smith	.26	1.91	1.08	59	49
Alberta Average		.31	2.49	2.35	55	52

+ Source; Meteorological Service of Canada.

N.R. No Report.

\* Incomplete.



REPORTS OF DOMINION ENTOMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

Brandon, Manitoba

Warm dry weather speeding up grasshopper hatch in western Manitoba. Considerable bait has been spread. Only slight damage to date. Grasshopper hatch in Red River Valley delayed by rains.

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Widespread severe crop damage by wireworms is indicated by reports already received. Reports of damage by cutworms also beginning to come in. Grasshopper damage slight as yet but eggpods have wintered well and hatching well advanced except in northern parts of infested area. Extensive baiting for grasshoppers beginning in some districts.

Lethbridge, Alberta

Grasshoppers in first stages have caused some crop losses in southern Alberta, but recent rains have helped to temporarily check their movements. No serious cutworm losses reported as yet.

HAIL DAMAGE

ALBERTA (The Alberta Hail Insurance Board, Calgary)

No hail reported throughout Alberta up to the present time.

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS

MANITOBA

SOUTH-CENTRE

Carman, Agricultural Representative

Occasional showers have provided moisture for a good start. No surplus moisture. Crops weedy. Heavy volunteer growth. No permanent frost or wind damage. Grasshoppers hatching in small areas. Ready to poison if needed. Live stock and gardens doing fine.

SOUTH-WEST

Killarney, Telegraphic Correspondent

Again regret to report drought threat but crop needs rain soon. Less than one inch this season. Soil very dry. A soaking rain would materially alter prospects. Pastures burning up and little growth on hay lands. Frost eleventh set back oats, barley and Renown wheat, and good recovery not yet evident.

Melita, Telegraphic Correspondent

Seeding completed. All early grain rooted well and got away to a good start. Rain badly needed. Grasshoppers, cutworms and wireworms doing damage in some districts. Fall rye in shot blade, poor crop. Pastures and gardens at a standstill for want of moisture. Stock wintered well.

EAST-CENTRE

Whitemouth, Telegraphic Correspondent

Crops coming along nicely so far. Had some rain; require more soon or crops will suffer. No insect or wind damage. Light frosts slightly injured early seeded grains.

MANITOBA (Concluded)

WEST-CENTRE

Brandon, Dominion Experimental Farm

Frost may eleventh accompanied by dust storms injured some early wheat fields. Recent light showers and cool weather favourable and crop growth now satisfactory but no moisture reserve. Soaking rain badly needed. Some wireworm damage. Sweet clover thin. Injury from weevil prevalent.

Woodnorth, Telegraphic Correspondent

Crop conditions until now have been considered favourable. Seeding was early and germination of all grains was good. However at present we are needing rain badly. Grasshoppers are also very numerous. Some report damage but poison bait is being used with good effect.

NORTH-CENTRE

Teulon, Agricultural Representative

Farm work about normal. Conditions generally fair. Surface moisture fair. Subsoil poor. Cereal grains all sown early. Wheat 2 to 4 inches. Corn and potatoes 75 per cent sown. Hay, clover and pasture land dry. Rain also needed to prevent patchy germination in late-sown cereals. Slight damage from soil drifting.

NORTH-WEST

Minnedosa, Telegraphic Correspondent

Seeding finished. More wheat sown than usual. Ground dry. Will need a lot of rain in June. No wind or insect damage. Little frost damage. Pasture fair. Stock in average condition.

Kelwood, Telegraphic Correspondent

Spring early, dry, very windy. Much wheat very badly blown. Hard frosts May 10 to 13. Excellent rain May 20 and 21. Crop showing evidence of improving. Lots of wheat did not sprout till after rain. Peeping through ground now. Some fields looking excellent.

Dauphin, Agricultural Representative

Crop prospects satisfactory. Germination good and crops all looking well. Rain needed but not urgently. Soil drifted one day but damage slight. No frost harm to crop. Forage crops came through winter in excellent shape. Grass making good growth. No serious insect damage as yet.

SASKATCHEWAN

Regina, Provincial Department of Agriculture

Wheat seeding is practically completed in all parts of the province with the exception of the south-western districts where some farmers delayed operations awaiting more favourable moisture conditions. With the improved outlook now prevailing, seeding in this area will be completed rapidly. About 85 per cent of the coarse grain acreage has been sown. Although some variation is reported, growth in most parts of the province has been fairly satisfactory on the whole and about 80 per cent of the wheat and 50 per cent of the coarse grains are showing green. Following a period of dry windy weather, good rains fell over a large portion of the wheatgrowing areas of the province, commencing on May 19 and continuing last week. Precipitation, however, was lighter in the south-eastern portion of the province, the Regina-Weyburn area, and the north-central and north-western portions, and in these districts further moisture is required, particularly in the lighter land where in some cases the need is becoming urgent. Recent rains have largely repaired the damage caused by soil drifting in western districts and taking the province as a whole the total injury from this source is not great. However, many fields in the Fillmore and Montmartre areas which suffered early injury have failed to show signs of recovery and a considerable amount of permanent damage is apparent. Good soaking rains are needed in this area. Cutworms are active at widely scattered points in the province and some reports of wireworms have been received. Grasshoppers have been held in check by the recent cool wet weather.



SASKATCHEWAN (Concluded)

Regina, Provincial Department of Agriculture (Concluded)

With the higher temperatures of the past few days they are again becoming more noticeable, but active control measures are being undertaken where conditions warrant. Live stock on the whole are in fair to good condition and pastures are improving under the more favourable moisture conditions.

SOUTH-EAST

Indian Head, Dominion Experimental Farm

High winds and lack of moisture caused serious damage to early sown crops. Rain on twentieth and twenty-first greatly improved cereal and hay crops. Farmers spreading poisoned bait for grasshopper control. Rain urgently required to carry crop. Total precipitation for April and May one point three six inches.

SOUTH-WEST

Swift Current, Dominion Experimental Station

Eighty per cent all grain crops emerged. Early sown wheat four inches above ground. All crops responding to recent heavy rains and prevailing warm temperatures. Many farmers seeding additional feed crops. Some flax being sown. Grasshoppers numerous in places but efforts being made to control them. Wireworm damage severe in places. Native and cultivated pastures rapidly improving. Live stock satisfactory.

Val Marie, Telegraphic Correspondent

Seeding time about normal. Ninety per cent seeding completed. Moisture good. Three and one-half inches of precipitation this spring. Acreage about same as last year. Pastures are good.

WEST-CENTRE

Prince Albert, District Experiment Sub-station Supervisor (Scott)

Hafford crops ten days later than average. Germination uneven because of drought. Grasshoppers hatching. Parkside germination fair. Crops in second leaf stage. Hay crops good. Paddockwood fair germination but crops late. Rain needed in all districts to assure decent crops of hay and continued cereal growth.

Senlac, Telegraphic Correspondent

Wheat seeding completed. Oats 50 per cent. Moisture conditions favourable with one and one-quarter inches to date. Hoppers are thick in places and much depends on weather conditions as to hopper damage. Growth is good with normal acreage sown.

NORTH-EAST

Melfort, Dominion Experimental Station

Weather cool and cloudy throughout May until twenty-eighth. Total rainfall in May one point one inches occurring on eight occasions. Seeding nearly completed throughout district. No frost or insect damage reported. Soil drifting in local areas May twentieth. Crop conditions generally satisfactory.

NORTH-CENTRE

Rosthern, Dominion Experimental Station

Weather generally dull, cool, windy, with light showers. Seeding completed in district. Crops showing green and making vigorous growth. Large acreage of corn seeded due to probable grasshopper outbreak. Grasshoppers hatching rapidly and are numerous. Strict control measures required or damage will be severe.

NORTH-WEST

Prince, Telegraphic Correspondent

Wheat 100 per cent seeded, about three inches high. Oats and barley 25 per cent seeded. Cutworms and grasshoppers slight. No damage so far. Topsoil getting quite dry, should have rain in one week's time.

ALBERTA

SOUTH-EAST

Manyberries, Dominion Range Experiment Station

Rains which varied in the district from one-third to one inch were received early last week and brightened crop prospects considerably. However, drying winds are rapidly making the need for more rain acute. Range pastures are in fair condition. Rainfall for May to date is far below normal.

SOUTH-WEST

Lethbridge, Dominion Experimental Station and Illustration Stations

Precipitation throughout district last week varied from one-half inch in some parts to over four inches in others. Anxiety over seed not germinating is now relieved. Seeding of wheat 97 per cent completed. Oats and barley 90 per cent. Damage from soil drifting occurred in only few cases where soil was improperly handled.

Cardston, Telegraphic Correspondent

Crops were in very critical condition up to May twenty-second when we had point ninety-eight inch rainfall which has greatly improved the situation both for crops and pastures. The wild hay crop will be poor as the rain came too late. Spring wheat standing from three to eight inches high and stooling well.

Vulcan, Telegraphic Correspondent

Total rainfall since April first one point fifty-three inches. Subsoil moisture deficient. Grasshoppers bad north and west but infestation lighter east. Being kept in check with poison. High winds yesterday and today have caused some fields to drift and cut crops off. Average height five inches. Rain needed.

Claresholm, Telegraphic Correspondent

Seeding completed. Good growth. Subsoil moisture lacking. One point two inches rain last week. Some slight damage from grasshoppers. No coarse grains for market here.

CENTRE

Stettler, Telegraphic Correspondent

Three and one-half inches rain since April first. Seeding about completed. Soil in good shape. Germination and growth satisfactory. Ten per cent increase in wheat. Ten per cent decrease in oats. General conditions fair. Pastures poor.

WEST-CENTRE

Calgary, Telegraphic Correspondent

General rains during past week, somewhat lighter eastern part. Sufficient moisture for present but southern and eastern portions of this territory will need more moisture shortly. Good growth. Grasshoppers numerous but checked by rains and poison.

Olds, Telegraphic Correspondent

Seeding completed. Decrease in wheat acreage possibly about five per cent. Coarse grains same as last season. Moisture conditions good. Strong wind blowing today. No damage to report.

Lacombe, Dominion Experimental Station

With only seven point eight inches precipitation in over nine months since August 20, 1938 no moisture reserves. Two point four inches warm May rains have started good growth all crops but heavy rains needed at early date to maintain this growth. All seeded except late barley for cleaning crop and oats for green feed. Very little change in acreage.



ALBERTA (CONCLUDED)

NORTH-EAST

Vermilion, Telegraphic Correspondent

All crops are doing well but rain will soon be needed. Small showers have helped scattered points but to date there has been no general rain.

NORTH

Athabasca, Telegraphic Correspondent

Wheat seeding completed. Coarse grains practically finished. Wheat acreage same as last season, coarse grains increased about five per cent. Rainfall for May three and one-quarter inches. Moisture supply plentiful at present. Soil worked up in nice shape. Crop seeded under very favourable conditions. Prospects at present very favourable.

NORTH-WEST

Beaverlodge, Dominion Experimental Sub-station

Good rains especially on Friday 19, when one and one-half inches fell at Berwyn, about two inches at Grande Prairie and point six four inches at Beaverlodge, since followed by scattered showers have greatly improved crop prospects, checking red-backed cutworms which were threatening disaster in some districts, promoting crop recovery, and resulting in final complete germination on dry knolls.

Fort Vermilion, Dominion Experimental Sub-station

No loss of perennial meadow crops occurred during the past winter. All making excellent development. Seeding of field cereal crops commenced May eighth. All nicely above ground and doing well. Cropping conditions ideal. Precipitation for May two point twenty-two inches. Temperatures normal.

LATE REPORT

SASKATCHEWAN - SOUTH-EAST

Service, Telegraphic Correspondent

Wheat and coarse grain prospects good. About two per cent wind damage to wheat. Most wheat four inches high. No hopper damage reported. North of Manor will need rain in a week to maintain present outlook. Pastures good.



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