

22-002
no. 10
1943
Aug. 10
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C.R. No. 16
1943

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 10, 1943, 3 p.m.- The sixth of a series of 8 telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the twelfth of a series of 18 weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. One hundred and four correspondents, most of them agriculturists of the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, but including selected private observers and grain men, supply the information on which these reports are based. The Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto supplies official weather data.

SUMMARY

Good rains in the Prairie Provinces during the past week were of benefit to late crops and pastures, but wet weather delayed harvesting of the hay crop in the Maritime provinces. Early-seeded grain and root crops are making satisfactory progress in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and potatoes are an especially promising crop in the latter province. The cereal grain situation in Quebec is still considered serious, the worst area being around Montreal where only about a 50 per cent crop is expected. The winter wheat harvest is well advanced in Ontario but the yield and quality are disappointing, while the hay harvest is dragging out in many sections.

Harvesting of oats and barley is under way in all three of the Prairie Provinces and some wheat has been cut in Manitoba but the harvest will not be general in the west until late August or early September. The heavy rains of last week end brought about improvement in pastures and will greatly assist in the filling of late crops, but the dry sections of south-eastern Alberta got the least rainfall and the prematurely ripened crops in that area will give a light yield. The situation in Manitoba continues very promising although the Red River Valley is spotty due to flood and other conditions, while in Saskatchewan the outlook is little changed from a week ago. Some areas of Saskatchewan improved with the more suitable weather conditions of the past seven days but in other sections, especially the extreme south-eastern districts, there was some deterioration.

Some early fields of oats and barley have been cut in British Columbia but harvesting will not be general for another week or two. Harvesting of early hay is about over and cutting of the second alfalfa crop has commenced.

Maritime Provinces

In Nova Scotia haying has been delayed about three weeks because of unsettled weather and not more than one-quarter of the crop is as yet under cover. Uncut hay is now matured and the quality is depreciating. Early-seeded grains and roots are making satisfactory growth but late seedings are backward. In New Brunswick haying is progressing slowly. All crops are growing rapidly with potatoes and roots especially promising.

Quebec

The situation with regard to cereal crops is still serious and reductions in yield of 20 to 25 per cent are generally reported. The reductions are most drastic in the Montreal area and surrounding districts where precipitation varying from 4.41 to 9.38 inches during the month of June reduced yields by 50 per cent. The crops in these flood-damaged areas will not have overcome this handicap by the end of the season.

Quebec (concluded)

Haying was practically completed by the end of July under favourable harvesting conditions. Yields were of record proportions, except in the Gaspé, Bonaventure and Lake St. John areas, where production was below normal. Pasture growth is luxuriant and milk deliveries to dairy factories are being maintained at high levels.

Prospects for potatoes are unchanged and the condition of the crop is still 10 to 15 per cent below the long-time average. This crop suffered from excess moisture in the low-lying lands at the beginning of the season and later from drought.

Silage corn is very late and uneven. The tobacco crop will also be late in maturing and while the flue-cured crop has made remarkable progress there are very few good fields of cigar leaf tobacco.

The situation with regard to insect pests has been relatively favourable this season. The Mexican flea beetle has made its appearance and apple scab has been troublesome.

Ontario

Harvesting of the winter wheat crop is well advanced and both the yield and sample are disappointing in most sections. Correspondents in the central area of the province report yields from 20 to 25 bushels per acre but at a number of points the yield is less than 20 bushels and the quality poor.

Early-sown spring grains are cut and yields have been fair in most cases, but the quality is disappointing. Later-sown grains are badly rusted and yields will be far from satisfactory. Haying still drags on in many sections, and much of the remaining acreage except in northern Ontario and parts of eastern Ontario will not now be cut. Pastures are for the most part better than normal but milk production is falling off as usual during the summer months owing to the heat and flies.

Potatoes and most root crops are doing well. There has been considerable improvement in the corn crop of southern Ontario and prospects are good for a well developed crop of ensilage and husking corn. Beets and early beans on the high, dry lands are doing well. Prospects for late tomatoes are improved. Harvesting of flue-cured tobacco has commenced with yields fair and quality good.

Manitoba

Heavy rains at the week end in Manitoba were timely for late crops and will assist filling. Harvesting is making rapid progress in the Red River Valley but elsewhere cutting will not be general until the end of this week. Considerable quantities of early-sown oats and barley have been cut in southern areas and wheat has been cut at a number of points.

Conditions in the Red River Valley appear to be spotty but the stands of grain in western and northern sections of the province are generally good and the outlook is promising. Cereal crops in the Morden area are expected to yield well above average while corn and sunflower crops in that area are making good growth.

Rust conditions in Manitoba as reported by the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory appear to be the most severe on late susceptible oats. These are badly infected by stem rust while crown rust of oats is reported to be moderate to severe. Stem rust is virtually absent on resistance wheats but is light to moderate on barley. Flax shows only light to moderate infection of rust.

Saskatchewan

Rains brought about some improvement in crop conditions in certain areas in Saskatchewan during the past week but in other sections of the province crops lost ground and the general situation is believed to be about the same as it was a week ago. Late grain and pastures benefited from light to heavy showers but early crops in many districts have ripened prematurely and yields will probably be light.

Some early barley and oats have been cut in the Manor district in south-eastern Saskatchewan and around Indian Head and Swift Current, but the wheat crop is not yet ready for the binder and at Swift Current is not expected to be cut before September 1.

Crop conditions appear to have declined during the past week chiefly in the extreme south-eastern districts of the province and in the Lloydminster area, while further heavy loss from hail storms occurred at points in south-eastern Saskatchewan, along the Regina-Weyburn line, in south-central districts, and at some points in the west-central part of the province.

Rust and weeds are taking a toll of the flaxseed crop, while wheat stem sawfly is beginning to show up in south-central districts. Other crops are not seriously affected by rust or smut, and most plant diseases have been held in check by the dry weather conditions.

The hay crop is being put in good condition and pastures are showing improvement since the rains came.

Alberta

Cutting of barley has commenced in Alberta and wheat harvesting is expected to start in ten days time. Heavy rains were reported during the past week in most districts of the province, but precipitation was lightest in the dry sections of the south-east. Crops in southern districts are ripening rapidly but yields are expected to be light.

Summarizing the province by districts, it appears that crop conditions in the south-eastern area represent 35 to 65 per cent of normal, in south-western areas 70 to 90 per cent, in central districts 90 to 100 per cent. The outlook in north-western areas is good in parts but drought damage is reported from the Peace River district where crops are only fair. Conditions are generally good in north-central Alberta.

Wheat stem sawfly is causing considerable damage in some areas while grasshopper damage is on the increase. Further hail damage occurred at several points during the past week.

Pasture conditions have improved with recent rains but cut hay now lying in the fields is showing signs of spoiling.

British Columbia

With the exception of a few scattered showers the weather during the past two weeks has been fine and warm. The early haying season is about over and second cutting of alfalfa is now under way. The quality of the crop is generally good, but average yields are well below normal. Some early stands of oats and barley have been cut, but harvesting will not be general for one to two weeks. Considerable lodging is reported in some districts. Harvesting and threshing of dried peas is now in full swing, while corn, tobacco and hops have made good growth during the past few weeks. Harvesting of the apricot crop is about over and peaches, plums and early varieties of apples are now moving to the packing plants.

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Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending	8 a.m. August 9
		8 a.m. August 9	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.80	9.16	8.62	63	64
	Waskada	.96	11.86	9.47	66	64
2	Boissevain	1.23	11.38	8.58	63	65
	Ninette	1.08	12.86	9.11	64	65
	Pilot Mound	2.66	13.59	9.91	66	65
3	Portage la Prairie	.62	10.11	9.02	66	64
	Graysville	.64	10.84	9.45	66	65
	Morden	2.50	13.24	9.26	67	65
	Morris	.98	8.87	9.06	64	65
	Emerson	1.42	9.18	8.65	68	65
4	Winnipeg	.76	11.88	10.30	66	65
6	Sprague	2.22	11.23	9.79	64	64
	Pinawa	.22	6.25	7.61	64	63
7	Virden	.62	9.40	7.82	66	62
	Rivers	.70	9.02	9.08	66	63
8	Brandon	.64	9.29	9.19	66	64
	Carberry	.63	11.45	9.04	65	64
	Cypress River	.54	10.65	9.09	66	65
9	Minnedosa	1.32	12.57	8.98	64	63
10	Russell	1.28	9.58	8.59	63	61
	Birtle	1.64	10.12	9.18	64	61
11	Dauphin	2.01	14.16	7.97	66	62
13	Swan River	.54	7.96	9.15	62	60
	The Pas	.13	11.25	7.17	64	63
Manitoba Average		1.09	10.66	8.92	65	64
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	1.12	8.51	8.48	67	64
	Carlyle	.42	5.69 2/	9.16	64	62
1B	Broadview	1.47	10.26	8.37	63	62
	Moosomin	.36	8.27	7.85	65	65
2A	Yellow Grass	.27	6.11	8.12	67	64
	Weyburn	.45	6.80	8.52	67	64
	Midale	.90	6.53	9.04	67	64
2B	Moose Jaw	.78	6.72	8.36	67	65
	Regina	.67	5.83	8.48	66	65
	Francis	.92	6.23	7.03	62	64
	Qu'Appelle	1.74	9.52	9.98	64	63
	Indian Head	1.17	6.80	9.57	65	62
3AN	Chaplin	2.30	7.64	8.76	65	63
	Gravelbourg	.46	5.95	6.88	66	64
3AS	Assiniboia	.62	.82	6.94	66	63
	Ceylon	2.36	7.26	10.24	70	65
3BN	Pennant	.38	4.16	8.33	68	64
	Swift Current	.84	6.70	8.57	66	65
	Hughton	N.R.	5.12 2/	7.57	N.R.	63
3BS	Instow	.30	6.08 2/	7.36	68	64
	Shaunavon	.32	5.22	7.18	67	63
	Cadillac	1.28	7.28	9.20	66	62
	Val Marie	.10	4.79	7.78	66	64
	Aneroid	1.18	7.05	8.37	64	62
4A	Maple Creek	.10	4.07	8.02	67	64
	Consul	.12	6.15	6.66	67	61
4B	Roadene	.22	3.71	7.58	68	63
5A	Leross	.64	4.97 2/	8.51	62	61
	Hubbard	1.48	6.34	8.45	62	61
	Yorkton	1.88	8.38	8.65	64	61
5B	Foam Lake	.66	6.96	8.40	63	61
	Lintlaw	.28	4.32	8.49	62	59
	Kamsack	.72	5.85	8.01	N.R.	61
6A	Davidson	.50	8.41	6.91	63	62
	Dilke	1.78	5.10 2/	7.18	N.R.	-
	Nokomis	1.54	6.84	6.20	62	61
	Semans	1.10	5.76	5.51	64	61
	Strasbourg	2.12	8.17	7.76	62	61
6B	Harris	.20	5.78	7.57	62	63
	Outlook	1.24	6.12	5.94	65	62
	Saskatoon	.06	5.98	7.87	65	62
	Elbow	.54	6.66	6.88	64	63
	Dundurn	.52	4.67	8.19	66	62
	Tugaske	.96	7.09	6.89	65	63
7A	Kindersley	.38	6.03	7.09	64	61

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. August 9	
		8 a.m. August 9	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7B	Macklin	1.82	7.93	8.21	63	59
	Scott	.32	7.23	7.54	62	60
	Ruthilda	.26	7.03 2/	8.22	N.R.	-
	Biggar	.34	7.14	8.29	63	62
8A	Nipawin	.38	5.55	8.00	64	61
8B	Humboldt	nil	4.27	6.98	65	61
	Melfort	.22	5.86	8.29	66	62
9A	Rabbit Lake	.74	9.37	8.27	61	60
	Prince Albert	.28	6.28	7.97	65	62
9B	Waseca	.16	6.11	7.74	62	59
	North Battleford	.96	8.36	7.84	N.R.	63
	Loon Lake	.96	8.14	9.20	60	59
Saskatchewan Average		.78	6.42	7.96	65	62
Alberta						
1	Foremost	.87	4.78	9.34	66	65
	Medicine Hat	.27	2.76	7.03	69	66
	Manyberries	.32	4.64 2/	7.07	68	65
2	Cowley	.41	5.77	8.64	62	59
	Macleod	.66	3.03	7.85	66	63
	Cardston	.24	6.24	11.45	63	61
3	Lethbridge	.79	5.41	7.88	66	63
	Vauxhall	.96	3.35 2/	6.73	64	63
	Brooks	.90	4.20	6.81	68	62
4	Empress	.74	3.43	7.34	69	64
	High River	.68	6.37	9.54	60	60
	Vulcan	1.36	4.53	8.15	N.R.	-
5	Drumheller	.28	4.12	8.52	65	64
	Hanna	.28	4.32	9.37	62	61
6	Olds	1.50	8.96	9.08	59	58
	Calgary	.68	7.40	9.54	62	60
	Three Hills	.74	8.90	7.99	61	59
	Strathmore	.62	6.29	8.33	62	61
	Gleichen	.76	5.84	7.81	62	61
7	Viking	1.14	10.20 2/	7.53	62	58
	Sedgewick	.82	8.82	8.21	62	60
	Hardisty	1.46	8.42	8.43	N.R.	-
	Coronation	.92	7.22	6.94	60	60
	Hughenden	1.60	8.21	7.84	N.R.	60
8	Red Deer	.92	5.65	11.04	60	57
	Lacombe	1.40	8.22 2/	9.46	60	58
	Wetaskiwin	1.06	9.45	8.96	59	59
	Alix	1.52	10.77	8.75	62	60
	Camrose	.42	9.92	8.57	60	60
9	Stettler	1.31	11.07	9.74	-	59
	Jasper	.61	4.75	4.66	58	55
	Springdale	1.82	7.45 2/	11.19	57	57
10	Vegreville	.36	8.74	10.13	61	59
	Lloydminster	1.56	9.11	7.43	59	59
11	Calmar	1.36	9.18	10.15	60	59
	Edmonton	.83	10.79	9.73	62	59
12	Edson	1.62	12.64	9.37	57	57
13	Glendon	2.78	10.37	8.06	59	59
14	Campsie	trace	8.71	9.73	62	59
	Athabaska	.62	7.22	8.72	55	58
15	High Prairie	.14	6.91	8.25	59	58
	Kinuso	.26	6.87 2/	7.95	58	59
16	Beaverlodge	.67	9.82	6.81	58	59
	Fairview	1.05	7.27	5.93	57	59
17	Keg River	.62	6.17	8.18	57	60
	Fort Vermilion	.78	4.91	6.12	61	59
	Fort McMurray	.48	5.83	7.77	62	60
	Fort Smith	.04	6.39	5.09	60	58
Alberta Average		.86	7.11	8.32	61	60

N.R. No Report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete.