

22-002

Publ no. 10

1944

May 30

C.R. No. 2

1944

c. 2

Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.,

Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA

AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

\$2.00 per year

Dominion Statistician - - - - -	S. A. Cudmore, M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C.
Chief, Agricultural Branch - - - - -	Ian McArthur, M.Sc.
Grain Statistician - - - - -	J. McAnsh.

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, May 30, 1944, 3 p.m.- The first of a series of 16 weekly telegraphic reports dealing with crop conditions in the three Prairie Provinces is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, private crop observers and grain men, supply the information on which these reports are based. All weather data are furnished by the Dominion Meteorological Service of Canada.

SUMMARY

Timely rains during the last week of May greatly improved the crop outlook over most of western Canada. The province of Saskatchewan received fairly general precipitation and, except for scattered areas, now reports good sub-soil moisture. The rains were fairly general in Manitoba also and no area there of any considerable size is suffering. Alberta was less fortunate, and although good showers fell in a number of districts, there are large areas in the province still in immediate need of rain, especially in the southern districts.

Wheat seeding is practically completed in all three provinces, and the planting of coarse grain and other crops, except flaxseed, well advanced. Increases in wheat acreage are reported from most areas, with a corresponding drop in the acreage seeded to flaxseed, but no very material change in the oats and barley area is indicated by the reports received. Some reduction in sunflower seeding is indicated but a small increase in rapeseed acreage may occur. The acreage planted to dry peas may also increase in the north-western areas of Manitoba.

Germination of all crops appears to have been fairly satisfactory and growth quite rapid, but the dry areas will need rains immediately if the present condition of crops is to be maintained. Weed growth is heavy in some areas with wild oats abundant. Some re-seeding has been necessary on this account. Clover and alfalfa crops are fair to good but weevil damage in sweet clover has been quite extensive in some areas.

Grasshoppers are hatching in the foothills area of Alberta and damage from cutworms, wireworms and other pests is extensive in local areas. Live stock and pastures are in generally good condition but the lack of feed and moisture on the ranges in southern Alberta are causing some concern.

Manitoba

With the exception of late feed crops and flaxseed, the seeding of the 1944 crops in Manitoba is practically completed. Recent rains have greatly improved the moisture situation and in no district are crops suffering from lack of moisture. Germination is spotty in parts of the Red River Valley as the result of the dry spring but the rains are expected to bring about improvement. Elsewhere, germination appears to have been excellent and growth quite rapid.

Most sections of the province report an increase in wheat acreage and a decrease in flaxseed sowings but no very material change is indicated for oats or

barley. Special crops such as sunflower, rapeseed, soybean, as well as corn for grain, have all been planted and are showing considerably above ground. Some dry peas have been planted in the Dauphin area and 250 acres in that neighbourhood are under contract.

Weeds appear to be plentiful in some sections of the province and some re-seeding has been necessary. Wild oat growth appears to be above normal in the north-western areas. Pastures are good and live stock have wintered well. Clover and Alfalfa crops are about average but some damage has been done by weevil. The Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports considerable loss to yearling sweet clover due to feeding by sweet clover weevil last fall.

Saskatchewan

Practically all of the wheat acreage is seeded in Saskatchewan and about three-quarters of the planted acreage is showing green. The seeding of oats and barley is 85 per cent completed but little more than half the flaxseed acreage had been planted at the end of May. Early sown wheat is making good progress, showing three to four inches above ground and very uniform.

Good rains during the last week in May completely changed the moisture situation in many parts of the province and sub-soil moisture is now good except in Crop District 4, the south half of Crop Districts 1 and 3, the east half of Crop District 5, and the west part of Crop District 7. The heaviest rains of the season occurred during the 24 hours ending 8 a.m. May 23, but showers have fallen since and surface moisture is good except on very light land.

Weed growth is heavy and has made necessary some re-seeding of crops. Grasshoppers are plentiful in some localities and cutworms have already severely damaged some coarse grain crops including wheat in the Parkside area of the province. Wheat on summerfallow has been severely damaged by wireworms in the south-east corner of Crop District 1A. Several hundred acres in the Saskatoon area are reported to be completely destroyed.

Live stock and pastures are in good condition except in the south-western sections of the province, notably the north part of Crop District 4 and to a lesser extent Crop District 7.

Alberta

Wheat seeding is about over in Alberta and 80 per cent of the coarse grain acreage has been planted. The crops show good growth where moisture conditions are satisfactory, but there is need of more rain over a considerable part of the province. Recent rainfall greatly improved the general situation with respect to moisture, but a serious situation still prevails southern districts, and rains are needed also quite urgently in parts of the Peace River District.

Most crops appear to have germinated quite well but unless rains come to the dry areas soon there will be grief not only for crops but for live stock. The shortage of feed and lack of moisture on the ranges is a problem at the moment. Reports from Manyberries, Lethbridge, Cardston and Claresholm all stress the need of rain immediately.

Conditions in the Edmonton area appear to be very satisfactory. Moisture is ample and the general condition of crops excellent. Growth has been rapid in this section of the province during recent war days. Beaverlodge reports some good showers and excellent rains around Grande Prairie but elsewhere there is need of more moisture. Meadows in this part of the province are backward.

Grasshoppers are hatching in the foothills area and some cutworm damage is also reported.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. May 29	
		8 a.m. May 29	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.16	1.63	3.06	63	54
	Waskada	.46	1.78	2.45	65	55
2	Boissevain	1.54	2.89	3.16	64	54
	Ninette	3.22	4.15	3.36	63	54
	Pilot Mount	3.22	4.26	3.15	65	54
3	Portage la Prairie	2.16	3.13	2.88	67	55
	Graysville	2.40	3.05	2.88	66	54
	Morden	.90	2.18	3.01	67	54
	Morris	.92	1.65	2.70	67	55
	Emerson	.86	1.04	2.41	67	55
4	Winnipeg	1.04	2.02	3.26	66	56
6	Sprague	.74	3.25	3.20	64	53
	Pinawa	.84	1.77	2.09	64	53
7	Virden	.40	1.96	2.19	64	54
	Souris	1.53	3.00	2.76	64	56
	Rivers	.60	1.73	2.72	64	54
8	Brandon	2.76	4.23	2.70	63	54
	Carberry	1.95	3.24	2.78	65	54
	Cypress River	2.44	3.28	2.83	65	54
9	Minnedosa	2.13	3.77	2.72	62	54
10	Russell	.98	2.36	2.37	62	52
	Birtle	1.22	2.49	2.40	62	53
11	Dauphin	1.68	3.27	2.15	65	52
13	Swan River	.04	2.80	2.07	62	51
	The Pas	1.14	2.94	1.88	62	53
Manitoba Average		1.41	2.71	2.69	64	54
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.24	2.34	2.69	62	53
	Carlyle	.12	1.72	2.96	59	52
1B	Broadview	.32	2.78	2.60	60	53
	Moosomin	.44	2.34	2.29	62	53
2A	Yellow Grass	1.32	3.77	2.55	62	53
	Weyburn	1.06	3.48	2.80	61	53
	Midale	.56	2.36	3.04	60	52
2B	Moose Jaw	1.30	3.91	2.47	63	56
	Regina	1.79	3.99	2.27	61	55
	Francis	.64	3.66	1.71	59	53
	Qu'Appelle	.80	3.71	3.00	63	53
	Indian Head	.92	3.76	2.59	62	53
3AN	Chaplin	.50	3.80	2.85	59	54
	Gravelbourg	.26	3.32	1.98	57	53
3AS	Assiniboia	.38	2.85	1.94	59	54
	Ceylon	1.16	3.17	3.45	64	53
3BN	Pennant	.26	4.11	2.67	60	54
	Swift Current	.18	3.68	2.48	58	53
	Hughton	.32	1.61	2.90	60	53
3BS	Instow	.20	1.67	2.15	58	53
	Shaunavon	.24	1.12	2.11	57	51
	Cadillac	.08	2.26	3.41	60	51
	Val Marie	.04	1.24	2.40	56	52
	Aneroid	.20	1.89	2.35	58	52
4A	Maple Creek	trace	.56	2.45	59	54
	Consul	nil	1.53	2.47	55	52
4B	Roadene	.10	2.17	2.92	59	53
5A	Leross	.50	3.24	2.34	60	51
	Hubbard	.54	3.28	2.20	59	52
	Yorkton	.22	3.34	2.43	63	52
5B	Foam Lake	.44	2.07	2.34	62	51
	Lintlaw	.30	1.70	2.71	60	49
	Kamsack	.16	1.10	1.77	63	51
6A	Davidson	1.62	3.80	2.21	58	52
	Dilke	.68	2.74 2/	2.41	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	.42	2.31 2/	1.78	62	51
	Semans	.36	2.06	1.76	65	51
	Strasbourg	1.06	2.56	2.49	64	52
6B	Harris	1.66	2.32 2/	1.67	60	52
	Outlook	1.86	3.47	1.84	61	53



1010525810

- 4 -

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. May 29	
		8 a.m. May 29	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
	Saskatoon	1.63	3.69	1.98	61	53
	Elbow	1.80	3.83	2.07	59	54
	Dundurn	N.R.	2.04 2/	2.16	N.R.	53
	Tugaske	1.66	4.42	2.05	60	53
7A	Kindersley	.30	1.27	2.01	58	50
7B	Macklin	.48	1.83	2.99	57	50
	Scott	2.04	2.90	2.27	57	53
	Ruthilda	.76	1.53 2/	2.23	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	1.32	2.26	2.03	60	52
8A	Nipawin	.04	3.52	2.31	63	51
8B	Humboldt	.18	2.01	2.00	58	53
	Melfort	.22	2.92	2.40	60	53
9A	Rabbit Lake	.76	2.31	1.88	54	52
	Prince Albert	.15	3.06	2.17	60	53
9B	Waseca	2.80	4.93 2/	2.17	58	52
	North Battleford	2.14	3.69	2.01	60	56
	Loon Lake	1.80	4.56	2.37	56	50
Saskatchewan Average		.77	2.76	2.36	60	52
Alberta						
1	Foremost	nil	1.86	3.84	57	56
	Medicine Hat	trace	2.41	2.16	58	56
	Manyberries	N.R.	1.52 2/	2.70	N.R.	56
2	Cowley	nil	2.04	3.21	53	51
	Macleod	.18	1.98	2.39	N.R.	54
	Cardston	nil	2.02	4.53	55	51
	Lethbridge	.01	1.59	2.72	57	54
3	Vauxhall	.06	1.50	2.27	57	55
	Brooks	trace	.69	2.39	58	55
	Empress	.20	.26	2.34	57	55
4	High River	.10	2.38	3.48	52	52
	Vulcan	N.R.	3.32 2/	2.57	N.R.	53
5	Drumheller	.04	.96	2.45	56	55
	Hanna	.28	.94	2.80	54	53
6	Olds	.30	1.91	3.10	52	51
	Calgary	.05	3.26	2.84	53	52
	Three Hills	.14	1.28	2.10	52	51
	Strathmore	.10	2.58	N.R.	55	N.R.
	Gleichen	.16	2.31	2.44	57	52
7	Viking	.62	1.69	2.66	55	51
	Sedgewick	.34	.77	1.84	57	52
	Hardisty	.32	.81	1.89	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.23	1.38	2.32	56	50
	Hughenden	.60	1.94	2.38	57	50
8	Red Deer	.14	2.18	3.26	52	51
	Lacombe	.46	3.42	2.53	53	51
	Wetaskiwin	.24	1.96	2.17	54	52
	Alix	N.R.	N.R.	2.56	N.R.	52
	Camrose	.28	1.18	2.84	56	50
	Stettler	.30	.84	3.46	N.R.	51
9	Jasper	1.67	2.98	1.63	49	52
	Springdale	.58	2.43	3.19	50	50
10	Vegreville	1.50	2.74	2.81	56	51
	Lloydminster	2.82	3.98	1.99	58	50
11	Calmar	.56	3.08	3.11	55	52
	Edmonton	.70	2.67	2.40	56	54
12	Edson	2.84	6.05	2.15	49	52
13	Glendon	1.34	2.08	2.10	55	50
14	Campsie	2.24	4.80	2.33	56	52
	Athabaska	1.36	2.63	2.46	57	52
15	High Prairie	.50	1.14	1.97	54	54
	Kinuso	N.R.	N.R.	2.29	N.R.	53
16	Beaverlodge	.31	1.45	2.06	54	51
	Grande Prairie	.70	1.19	2.28	56	51
	Fairview	.13	1.58	1.52	55	53
17	Kég River	.42	2.01	2.49	56	51
	Fort Vermilion	.06	.52	1.61	59	52
	Fort McMurray	nil	1.61	1.95	61	52
	Fort Smith	.66	.66 2/	1.08	56	48
Alberta Average		.52	2.01	2.47	55	51

N.R. No Report.

1/Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete.