

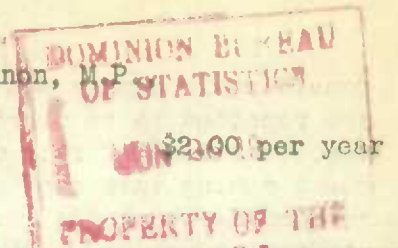
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by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce

MINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 25, 1946, 3 p.m. - The sixth of a series of fifteen telegraphic reports covering 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. The weather data included in this release are furnished by the Meteorological Service of Canada.

SUMMARY

Based upon conditions at the present time and barring the development of adverse weather and moisture conditions during the critical period between now and the end of July, there are fair prospects of an average crop in western Canada this year. Rainfall since April 1 has been generally below normal but many areas received better-than-average precipitation last fall and as a result the total moisture supply has not been as inadequate as would appear from consideration of growing-season precipitation alone. Pest infestations have not been overly severe to-date, although the extent of sawfly damage remains to be determined.

Scattered rains over the week-end have improved Manitoba's crop prospects but further rainfall is needed to maintain present conditions. Many eastern districts and some areas in the south-west have already suffered to such an extent from drought that complete recovery will not take place even with additional rainfall. Prospects on the Portage Plains are now fairly good and reports from the north-western portion of the province remain generally optimistic.

Crop conditions in Saskatchewan have also been fairly well maintained with the help of welcome rains in many areas of the southern portion of the province. Moisture reserves in general throughout the province are below normal, and timely rains will be required to carry the crops through to maturity. Recent good rains have greatly improved prospects over wide areas surrounding Indian Head, Swift Current, Scott, Rosetown and other points in the province. The Melfort district appears to be suffering most from drought and indications are that yields will be relatively low in this area regardless of whether additional rainfall is received or not. First crop hay in this district is very poor. Some severe wireworm damage has occurred in the Swift Current and Weyburn areas with light to moderate damage between these areas and in other parts of the south-west.

General rains over most of the province during the week-end with scattered showers during the week maintained and improved the generally favourable crop conditions in Alberta. The wheat stand is particularly promising in central Alberta. Warm weather promoted rapid growth and wheat now averages 8 inches in height with 27 per cent in the shot blade. Serious local hail damage occurred in the south and south-central districts. Pastures and live stock are reported to be in good condition.

Manitoba - Crops in general have been maintained by relatively good moisture reserves left over from last season. Rains over the past week-end have relieved a situation which was becoming acute in some areas. Many late-seeded crops in the eastern section of the province show uneven germination and slow development. Early-seeded crops, especially on summerfallow are now in the shot blade and stands are promising. Flax is generally backward with hay and pastures reported poor in eastern and some south-western districts and about average elsewhere. Sugar beets have benefited by the recent rain with over ten thousand acres now thinned, about twice as much as at the same date last year.

In the Morden area, in Crop District 3, early-seeded wheat and barley are heading, but all crops urgently require rain. Straw is short in this area and relatively low yields appear to be in prospect. Clover hay is light and grass is poor. In the south-western area of the province around Melita a light rainfall over the week-end has somewhat alleviated conditions. However, lack of moisture during the past week caused deterioration of all crops except wheat on well-worked summerfallow.

Considerable damage was caused to gardens by frost on June 17. Pastures and wild hay are reported to be poor with more rain needed immediately. Portage la Prairie reports almost an inch of rain on June 22, and as a result crops here are reviving with early wheat coming into shot blade. It is feared that the yield of early crops will be reduced as the heads were formed before the drought was relieved. Cereal crop prospects at Brandon are now much brighter as a result of 2 inches of rain on June 22. Early grain is heading and much of the remainder is in shot blade. The rain appears to be too late to improve grass hay materially but alfalfa will benefit. Pastures, too, should improve, but gardens remain patchy, due to poor germination and cutworms.

Prospects in Crop District 7 were improved by light week-end rains. Early-sown wheat is in shot blade but flax is making the best showing. More rain is required here. Good rains over the week-end provided welcome relief from drought in the eastern interlake area and most grains should recover well, although heads may remain small on early seeded grains. Pastures have benefited greatly but the hay crop will likely remain light. In the north-western section of the province week-end rains following warm dry weather last week left the wheat crop in excellent condition. Late coarse grain crops were yellowing before the rain and some frost damage has occurred to grains in part of this area. Potato blight is showing up and sweet clover weevil damage appears to be heavy. Mustard growth is being ploughed down.

Hail causing 5 to 45 per cent damage is reported from Alexander, Rapid City, Moline, Cardale, Oak River, McConnell, Hamiota, Decker, Isabella and Birtle. The Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports extensive field damage to flax and wheat by cutworms in the Souris district with some slight damage in other areas. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 46 per cent below normal as compared with 47 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 24 was 3 degrees below normal.

Saskatchewan - Welcome rains in most areas of the southern parts of the province over the week-end have temporarily relieved the dry conditions which have prevailed due to the warm weather of the past week. Moisture reserves throughout the province are below normal and prospects for a satisfactory crop depend on the receipt of timely rains to carry the crops to maturity. Growth and stands of wheat and coarse grains have been fair to good but are uneven and spotty in some areas due to slow germination. About 25 per cent of the wheat is in the shot blade stage. Damage by cutworms and wireworms has generally been slight in most regions but severe at many points in the west-central district. Good progress has been made with summerfallow operations with 65 per cent reported completed. The weather generally has been warm and dry. Live stock and pastures are in fair to good condition.

The extreme south-east of the province reports good growing weather with early wheat in shot blade. Pastures are good. In the area around Yellow Grass 75 per cent of the wheat is reported in shot blade with early oats and barley coming into shot blade. More moisture is needed for all crops. The Dominion Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that high temperatures for the period June 19 to 22 forced the grain crop along very rapidly with good rains greatly improving crop prospects over a fairly wide area. Pastures have been greatly improved and live stock are in good condition. The Supervisor of Illustration Stations at Swift Current advises that grain in the Tugaskie district is making favourable growth with wheat stands about 12 inches high. Barley is close to heading with flax showing uniform stand. The first work on summerfallow is completed and pastures are good.

In the east-central area of the province crops appear to be in good condition with some wheat in shot blade. A good rain occurred on June 23. Our Rosetown correspondent reports good crop prospects with an inch of rainfall over the week-end and no damage of any kind indicated. The Dominion Experimental Station at Scott reports that crops have shown steady improvement during the past week-end in west-central Saskatchewan, with moderate to heavy rains received during the past few days. These rains were received in the very productive heavy clay areas and with reasonably good conditions during July better-than average yields are assured. Moisture conditions in Crop District 7 around Sunny Glen are good and yield prospects are excellent. The Dominion Experimental Station at Melfort reports only .06 of an inch of rain since last report and indicates that, regardless of future rains, yields of grain cannot be high and the first crop hay is hardly worth cutting.

No hail losses have been reported from Saskatchewan since last week but surveys indicate severe wireworm damage to crops in Swift Current and Weyburn districts with light to moderate damage between these areas and elsewhere in the south-west.

No damage by cutworm was found in the Saskatoon-Melfort and Glaslyn areas, although grasshoppers are numerous enough to require poison bait along slough margins and on summerfallow in several districts of the south-west. On the whole, crop damage is generally negligible.

The average precipitation for the province since April 1 remains at 28 per cent below normal, the same figure as a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 24 was 3 degrees below normal.

Alberta - With the exception of the Peace River district, moisture conditions are good throughout the province, the favourable situation of the past two weeks being maintained, and in some districts improved by generous rains during the past week. In the south-east where earlier moisture conditions were poor, rainfall of one inch or more was recorded at all stations reporting, and moisture supplies are now sufficient to carry crops into July. Range grasses are growing well in this area, but the rains were too late to improve the hay crop. Winter wheat is headed out.

Crop prospects in south-western Alberta are good, although crops east of Burdett are still patchy owing to previous moisture scarcity. Sugar beets are reported from Lethbridge to be 80 per cent thinned, the earlier setbacks from frost and drought being largely counteracted by the later favourable weather. Warmer weather is required in some areas to speed growth of spring grains.

In central Alberta the wheat crop is particularly promising and coarse grains are improving rapidly with recent rains. All crops show a very rank growth in the Stettler area where pastures are much improved and a fair hay crop is anticipated. From Calgary crops are reported well stood with wheat averaging ten inches in height and oats and barley up eight inches.

The wheat crop is starting into the shot blade in the north-central district and late-sown crops are doing well. Frost damaged gardens in the Athabasca area Friday night but grain crops were unaffected.

In the Peace River district crops are growing rapidly, but with only scattered showers during the week some places are becoming critically dry. The sawfly flight has passed its peak in southern Alberta with infestation general. Grasshopper infestation, however, has been greatly reduced by climatic conditions. Serious locust damage has occurred from hailstorms moving from Cochrane to Strathmore, Carstairs to Olds, Cremona to Airdrie, Nanton through Stavely, Burdett to Whitla, and at scattered points throughout the southern and central districts.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 6 per cent below normal as compared with 8 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 24 has been one degree below normal.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 24, 1946	
		8 a.m. June 24, 1946	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.28	2.41	5.27	58	61
	Waskada	N.R.	1.74 2/	5.60	N.R.	63
2	Boissevain	.24	2.04	5.31	56	62
	Ninette	.52	3.26	5.83	56	62
	Pilot Mound	.28	2.64	5.97	58	63
3	Portage la Prairie	.96	2.15	5.27	N.R.	63
	Graysville	.46	2.94	5.81	58	62
	Morden	.20	1.69	5.63	N.R.	63
	Morris	.36	1.83	5.29	57	63
	Emerson	.18	2.82	4.85	62	63
4	Winnipeg	.39	2.51	5.91	60	63
6	Sprague	1.28	4.80	5.85	60	61
	Pinawa	.48	1.12	4.13	60	61
7	Virden	.46	2.70	4.65	59	61
	Rivers	.31	3.10	5.28	58	62
8	Brandon	N.R.	2.30 2/	5.30	N.R.	62
	Cypress River	.28	2.45	5.24	N.R.	62
9	Minnedosa	.35	3.61	5.25	56	61
	Neepawa	.38	3.52 2/	5.25	60	61
10	Russell	.28	2.82	4.98	58	59
	Birtle	.20	4.04	4.99	56	60
11	Dauphin	.26	3.65	4.29	60	61
12	Gimli	.32	2.00	5.96	59	61
13	Swan River	.04	4.21	4.95	60	59
	The Pas	nil	2.72	3.73	61	60
Manitoba Average		.30	2.81	5.22	59	62
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.85	4.24	5.29	60	61
	Carlyle	.32	2.02	5.48	59	59
1B	Broadview	.26	3.08	4.60	57	60
	Moosomin	.40	3.54	4.72	58	61
2A	Yellow Grass	.29	2.34	5.09	59	61
	Midale	.48	3.44	5.53	59	61
2B	Moose Jaw	.60	3.51	5.09	60	62
	Regina	.71	4.42	4.93	57	60
	Francis	.42	3.27	4.19	46	60
	Qu'Appelle	.60	4.59	5.93	57	60
	Indian Head	.68	3.34	5.73	58	60
3AN	Chaplin	.34	2.43	5.48	59	62
	Gravelbourg	.08	2.98	4.68	60	61
3AS	Assiniboia	.62	4.18	4.35	59	62
	Ceylon	.76	5.34	6.47	N.R.	61
3BN	Pennant	.14	2.46	5.60	60	60
	Swift Current	.49	2.92	5.03	60	62
	Hughton	.80	3.42 2/	4.84	60	60
3BS	Instow	.48	2.35 2/	4.47	60	60
	Shaunavon	.32	3.26	4.22	60	60
	Cadillac	.28	2.58	6.61	60	60
	Val Marie	.30	2.92	4.76	58	61
	Aneroid	.22	2.57	5.27	59	60
4A	Maple Creek	.48	3.06	4.89	61	61
	Consul	.32	2.54	4.39	60	57
4B	Roadene	.58	2.88	4.86	60	60
5A	Leross	.64	4.84	5.13	57	58
	Hubbard	.40	3.96	4.57	55	58
	Yorkton	.35	2.86	4.74	59	60
5B	Dafoe	.27	3.63	4.50	58	58
	Foam Lake	.24	3.41	4.77	58	58
	Lintlaw	.02	2.28	4.76	54	58
	Kamsack	.32	2.61	3.94	57	58
6A	Davidson	.98	3.58	4.21	58	60
	Dilke	.68	2.02 2/	4.66	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	.56	2.12 2/	3.68	57	58
	Semans	.50	3.72	3.26	60	59
	Strasbourg	.74	4.50	4.80	56	60
6B	Harris	N.R.	2.88 2/	4.19	N.R.	60
	Outlook	1.04	3.80	3.25	61	60
	Saskatoon	.17	2.07	4.07	60	60
	Elbow	1.82	3.79	4.24	62	60
	Dundurn	.52	2.04	4.99	58	60
	Tugaske	.90	3.71	4.25	57	60
7A	Kindersley	.38	2.71	3.74	61	57
7B	Macklin	.74	4.36	4.86	57	57
	Scott	.42	3.32	4.06	56	59
	Ruthilda	.48	3.72 2/	4.59	N.R.	N.R.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
	Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 24, 1946	
	8 a.m. June 24, 1946	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (cont'd)					
7B Biggar	.50	2.52	4.50	62	59
8A Nipawin	nil	3.76	4.89	60	58
Hudson Bay Junction	trace	3.07	4.58	58	60
8B Humboldt	.06	3.26	3.94	62	59
Melfort	.06	2.05	4.19	59	60
9A North Battleford	.11	4.31	4.45	60	62
Rabbit Lake	.06	4.34	4.31	57	60
Prince Albert	.05	3.03	4.49	58	60
9B Waseca	.20	3.90	4.49	60	58
Loon Lake	.01	5.29	5.12	56	57
Island Falls	nil	2.94 2/	4.30	57	59
Saskatchewan Average	.43	3.36	4.70	58	61
Alberta					
1 Foremost	1.18	4.87	6.25	61	65
Medicine Hat	1.69	4.18	4.28	64	62
Manyberries	1.22	5.13	4.55	64	63
2 Cowley	.95	8.21	5.93	55	57
Macleod	.70	8.45	4.82	60	63
Cardston	.86	4.80	7.86	59	61
Lethbridge	.87	6.31	5.13	59	61
3 Vauxhall	.06	3.06 2/	4.00	61	62
Brooks	.84	3.33	4.12	63	63
Empress	.52	2.28	4.57	64	64
4 High River	1.08	8.80 2/	6.41	56	57
Vulcan	.76	4.97 2/	5.10	N.R.	N.R.
5 Drumheller	1.30	3.55	5.15	61	62
Hanna	1.10	4.74	5.52	60	62
6 Olds	1.14	6.29	5.44	57	56
Calgary	1.10	4.85	5.59	57	58
Three Hills	2.04	4.86	4.85	58	56
Strathmore	.76	3.00 2/	5.21	60	57
Gleichen	N.R.	2.04 2/	4.51	N.R.	58
7 Viking	.94	7.01 2/	4.49	58	57
Sedgewick	.76	4.72	4.32	58	57
Hardisty	1.00	5.31	4.10	N.R.	N.R.
Coronation	.63	5.21	4.15	56	59
Hughenden	1.28	5.06	4.44	58	62
8 Red Deer	1.49	7.04	6.50	56	57
Lacombe	N.R.	4.54 2/	5.46	N.R.	58
Wetaskiwin	1.04	5.59	4.95	57	58
Camrose	.88	5.34	4.88	58	58
Stettler	1.40	6.66	5.80	55	57
9 Jasper	.21	2.64	2.69	57	55
Rocky Mountain House	1.34	9.66	5.91	55	55
Springdale	N.R.	3.66 2/	6.16	N.R.	56
10 Vegreville	.34	5.48	5.51	60	58
Vermilion	.11	4.81	4.86	57	58
Lloydminster	.22	3.89	4.01	58	58
11 Calmar	.88	5.84 2/	5.62	56	58
Edmonton	.96	4.21	4.94	59	58
Whitecourt	.41	4.47	5.02	55	58
12 Edson	.62	7.28	4.61	54	56
13 Glendon	N.R.	4.75 2/	4.43	N.R.	57
14 Campsie	.92	4.07	4.96	56	58
Athabaska	.06	3.33	4.49	58	58
Lac La Biche	.09	3.99	4.60	58	58
15 High Prairie	.06	1.18	4.22	56	58
Kinuso	N.R.	.34 2/	4.47	N.R.	58
Wagner	.02	1.96	4.55	56	58
16 Beaverlodge	trace	2.23	3.81	58	57
Grand Prairie	.03	2.25	4.48	60	57
Fairview	nil	1.78	3.41	57	57
17 Keg River	.47	3.43	4.39	57	57
Fort Vermilion	nil	1.80	3.13	59	58
Fort McMurray	.16	2.89	3.58	58	58
Embarras	.30	2.37	2.44	61	58
Fort Smith	.21	2.93	2.59	59	56
Fort St. John	.22	2.75	4.42	59	59
Alberta Average	.70	4.45	4.76	58	59

N.R. No Report. 1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete: figures not included in average.



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