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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

Dominion Statistician:	Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.
Chief, Agricultural Branch:	J. B. Rutherford,
Grain Statistician:	W. D. Porter.

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 16, 1946, 3 p.m. - The eighth 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

Heavy rains have been well distributed over the Prairie Provinces during the past two weeks and warm weather has promoted rapid growth. Crop conditions in Alberta and Saskatchewan have been well maintained with marked improvements occurring over the greater part of Manitoba. No serious insect infestations have been reported but hail damage has been light to severe in many districts, particularly in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Heavy rains over Manitoba, coupled with fine growing weather, have materially improved prospects in this province. Much better crops are now anticipated than was thought possible two weeks ago. Grass and hay crops will, however, be light in many areas particularly in south-central districts and in the northern portions of Crop District 3. In many parts of the Brandon area over two inches of rain have fallen since the last report and summerfallow crops appear to be in good condition. Higher temperatures have stimulated rapid growth of corn, and gardens are greatly improved.

As in Manitoba, average rainfall since April 1 is rapidly approaching normal in Saskatchewan, but drought early in the season particularly in south-western portions of the province will doubtless result in relatively light yields in the affected areas. Stubble fields are beginning to burn in some sections of the south-west. Correspondents in south-eastern, east-central, west-central and north-western areas of the province continue to report optimistically regarding crop prospects. Recent rains have improved conditions in the north-east where drought had begun to cause rapid deterioration in many districts.

Crop prospects in Alberta continue to be excellent, except in the Peace River district where timely rains will be needed to prevent deterioration. Showers were general during the past two weeks and moisture conditions are very favourable in all but the north-western district. Warm weather promoted rapid growth of all crops and wheat is now averaging 18 inches in height with 25 per cent headed over the province as a whole. Coarse grains are up 15 inches. Wheat stem sawfly infestation shows considerable variation but grasshopper infestations are negligible. No serious insect injury has been suffered by garden crops or sugar beets. Severe hailstorms occurred in central, south-central and north-eastern Alberta over the past two weeks causing serious local damage.

Manitoba - Crops have made excellent progress during the past two weeks with ample to excess rainfall in some parts. Wheat appears to be especially promising having improved remarkably since late in June. The corn and hay stands likewise show material improvement, with alfalfa having come along particularly well. Recent weather has been ideal for filling and for the development of late-seeded crops. Haying is under way and fallows are being generally well worked.

Prospects in south-central districts have improved materially since the last report, fairly heavy rains having fallen in most localities of this section of the province. All crops are making favourable progress. Some wheat is filled and



early-seeded fields of barley are turning. Grass and hay crops appear to be light while clovers are only fair. Row crops have improved and while flax is short it is filling well. Pastures in this area are now good, but the weed growth on crop land is heavy. Our Melita correspondent reports the situation in the south-eastern portion of the province to be considerably improved, with wheat on summerfallow good, other sown wheat fair to poor, oats fair, barley fair to poor and flax good. Summerfallowing is practically completed and gardens show a marked improvement. Live stock are all in good shape. Rains fell over the Portage Plains during the past week and while precipitation varied in different districts, all points reported decided improvement. Wheat is averaging from 12 to 24 inches in height and is about 70 per cent headed. Oats and barley averaged about 14 inches in height. Traces of leaf and stem rust are showing up on susceptible varieties in the Brandon area.

Crop conditions in Crop District 7 also show great improvement. All grains are exceptionally free of leaf rust and our crop correspondent reports that a good average crop is expected. Most summerfallows are in good condition. Further rain would help the crops in the northern portion of Crop District 3, and will be required soon, since the weather has been hot and windy, and moisture reserves are nearly exhausted. Barley heads appear to be of fair size but oats are heading out small. Some crops are very patchy and the hay crop is light with a shortage of hay being anticipated in this area. Heavy rains fell in the Arborg and Fish Branch districts last week partially flooding fields and washing out bridges and grades in places. Some crop damage will result. Haying has started but the hay crop is very late. Most grains are headed out or in shot blade with some very uneven stands, especially of flax.

Crop District 11, in the north-western part of the province, reports 80 per cent of the wheat in head with the condition of all coarse grains being improved by frequent recent rains and good growing weather. Many coarse grain fields, however, appear patchy. A good hay crop is anticipated with haying becoming general by July 15. Garden growth has been excellent and 80 per cent of the summer-fallow has been worked. Flax is in flower and pastures are excellent with the stock looking well. Our Swan River correspondent reports that wheat has been fully headed for a week, with barley and oats just headed. Rye is just starting to turn. All grains here are above-average and no set-backs have occurred. The hay crops may be lighter than last year but gardens are very good.

No insect damage to grain crops is reported but there is a severe infestation of potato beetles in the Portage la Prairie and Winnipeg areas. Light hail has occurred in several districts with light to heavy storms around Oakville. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 14 per cent below normal as compared with 33 per cent below normal two weeks ago. The mean temperature for the week ending July 15 was 2 degrees above normal.

Saskatchewan - The weather has been warm with heavy local rains having been reported during the past week in most districts. Growth has generally been good over the province, although prospects are for a light yield in the south-western area. From Shell Brook through to North Battleford the early drought has retarded growth. Over 50 per cent of the wheat is headed out and is averaging 20 inches in height. Stubble crops in some south-western districts are beginning to burn. Eighty-five per cent of the summerfallowing has been completed. Pastures vary from good to fair with live stock generally in good condition.

Yellow Grass reports wheat 90 per cent headed, oats 60 per cent headed and barley 85 per cent headed. Flax is about 6 inches high. It is expected that mustard will cut down yields in most stubble crops. Pastures and hay crops have been greatly improved by recent heavy rains. In the Indian Head area copious rains during the past week have greatly improved all grain crops but the precipitation was too late for alfalfa and hay crops. Pastures, however, are very much improved.

More rain has fallen in the Swift Current district since the date of the last report and warm weather has produced rapid growth. Weed growth, however, in most fields will prevent much increase in yields. Fall rye is ripening rapidly with



light stands but heads are well filled and yields should average from 10 to 12 bushels per acre. In the Riverhurst district good rains during the first week of July materially improved crop prospects but many stands of grain are patchy. Flax is light but the stand is quite uniform. East-central districts of the province report wheat 90 per cent headed with coarse grains about 30 per cent headed. All crops are in excellent condition with moisture supplies plentiful.

Warm weather during the past week has promoted good growth in all grain crops in west-central Saskatchewan. Eighty-five per cent of the wheat and 50 per cent of the oats and barley are headed. The wheat crop is heavy and well advanced on heavy clay areas with sufficient moisture reserves to last for another week or two. Rains in the Melfort area have improved prospects, particularly for late-seeded grains, but most crops are badly infested with weeds. At Prince in the north-western part of the province moisture conditions to-date have been good and heavy rains during the past week have made above-average yields probable for all crops. Haying has been slow due to wet weather but pastures are excellent.

No further insect infestations have been reported from Saskatchewan, although considerable cutworm damage was done earlier in the season in the western part of the province. Considerable local hail damage has been reported from various sections of the province from storms on July 5, 7, 8 and 9. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 12 per cent below normal as compared with 26 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 15 was 2 degrees above normal.

Alberta - The generally excellent prospects for all crops in Alberta were maintained during the past two weeks as a result of general showers with some good rains. Moisture supplies are now adequate, except in the Peace River district. Favourable moisture conditions, together with warmer weather, have promoted rapid plant growth throughout the province.

In the south-east, where timely rains alone have checked deterioration during the growing season, moisture conditions are now more encouraging. Almost two inches of rain during the past week in the Manyberries area improved the crop outlook and better-than-average crops appear to be assured. Elsewhere in this section of the province good rains would be very beneficial. Range grasses are growing well and live stock are in excellent condition. Haying has been held up by the recent rains.

Satisfactory prospects are reported in the south-western districts where good yields are anticipated. The first cutting of alfalfa on irrigated land is nearing completion with average yields, and the harvesting of the canning pea crop has started. Fifty per cent of the spring grain is reported in head in the Cardston area, while fall wheat and rye are headed out.

With ideal growing weather crop conditions in central Alberta are very good. Earlier blown fields in the vicinity of Hanna are making a good comeback and all crops are reported promising. Heavy growth is indicated in the west-central districts with wheat and early-seeded grains heading out. Pastures are in good condition.

In the north-eastern and north-central districts the crop outlook is excellent. Crop growth has been rapid and spring grains are heading out. Pastures are reported as very good. Conditions in the Peace River district are variable with some areas urgently in need of rain. Other areas in this district received heavy showers during the week. Crop conditions over the district as a whole are fair to average.

Severe hailstorms occurred during the week in the areas around Enchant, Travers, Lomond, Carmangay, Parkland, Nanton, Elnora, Fenn, Big Valley and Castor. Lighter storms were experienced in the vicinity of Cluny, Rosebud, Wayne, Stettler, Red Deer, Eckville, Bentley, Bashaw, Doreenlee and Bawlf. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 is now fractionally above normal as compared with 3 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 15 was one degree above normal.



## PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURES IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week Ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 15/46	
		8 a.m. July 15/46	Since April 1	Since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.98	5.46	6.85	68	66
	Waskada	1.04	4.56	7.77	65	67
2	Boissevain	1.38	5.10	6.88	66	66
	Ninette	1.74	7.46	7.50	66	67
	Pilot Mound	N.R.	4.06 2/	8.05	N.R.	67
3	Portage la Prairie	1.81	5.12	7.19	69	65
	Graysville	1.44	6.18	7.86	70	66
	Morden	.92	4.99	7.57	67	67
	Morris	.24	5.34	7.19	68	67
	Emerson	trace	5.90	6.74	69	67
4	Winnipeg	.53	4.66	8.05	69	67
6	Sprague	N.R.	6.82 2/	7.94	N.R.	65
	Pinawa	.78	3.52	5.78	67	65
7	Virden	2.22	7.02	6.36	68	64
	Rivers	1.32	5.72	7.19	68	65
8	Brandon	1.30	6.85	7.22	67	65
	Cypress River	1.72	4.73	7.09	68	66
9	Minnedosa	1.22	6.08	7.12	66	65
	Neepawa	.91	5.39 2/	7.12	69	65
10	Russell	3.74	9.06	6.83	67	63
	Birtle	4.58	10.26	7.05	62	63
11	Dauphin	1.92	9.79	6.04	67	64
12	Gimli	1.43	4.50	7.74	68	66
13	Swan River	1.38	6.09	7.09	64	63
	The Pas	1.85	5.99	5.35	61	65
Manitoba Average		1.50	6.11	7.10	67	65
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	1.20	6.43	6.91	70	66
	Carlyle	1.96	5.02	7.36	64	64
1B	Broadview	2.32	6.08	6.41	65	64
	Moosomin	5.56	9.65	6.21	66	65
2A	Yellow Grass	4.06	10.03	6.79	N.R.	65
	Midale	N.R.	5.18 2/	7.42	N.R.	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.89	6.13	6.86	67	67
	Regina	1.67	8.15	6.83	66	64
	Francis	2.34	7.73	5.83	66	64
	Qu'Appelle	1.96	7.85	8.04	66	65
	Indian Head	2.20	7.18	7.85	66	64
3AN	Chaplin	.90	5.63	7.17	67	65
	Gravelbourg	1.34	5.16	6.10	69	65
3AS	Assiniboia	.56	6.70	5.90	68	65
	Ceylon	.66	7.90	8.42	72	66
3BN	Pennant	.38	3.70	7.30	70	65
	Swift Current	1.26	5.32	6.87	68	66
	Hughton	.64	4.70	6.24	67	64
3BS	Instow	1.52	4.79	6.02	68	65
	Shaunavon	1.06	4.70	5.86	70	64
	Cadillac	.88	3.68	8.14	69	64
	Val Marie	.78	4.36	6.47	69	66
	Aneroid	1.08	4.01	6.96	69	64
4A	Maple Creek	1.00	4.46	6.63	70	64
	Consul	1.02	3.98	5.65	N.R.	62
4B	Roadene	.58	4.14	6.25	70	64
5A	Leross	.16	8.28	6.93	63	63
	Hubbard	N.R.	5.52 2/	6.48	N.R.	62
	Yorkton	1.99	7.54	6.60	66	62
5B	Dafos	.06	5.57	6.06	65	63
	Foam Lake	.08	5.89	6.50	65	62
	Lintlaw	.14	4.32	6.62	61	62
	Kamsack	.01	3.42	5.89	62	63
6A	Davidson	.30	4.94	5.61	65	65
	Dilke	N.R.	2.78 2/	6.10	62	N.R.
	Nokomis	trace	3.17	5.11	65	63
	Semans	.02	4.88	4.46	68	63
	Strasbourg	.10	6.52	6.41	63	63
6B	Harris	N.R.	5.01 2/	6.19	N.R.	64
	Outlook	.38	6.49	4.40	66	63
	Saskatoon	.22	3.92	5.87	65	63
	Elbow	.67	4.78	5.71	66	64
	Dundurn	.02	3.22	6.88	66	64
	Tugaske	.50	5.87	5.68	66	64
7A	Kindersley	.88	4.68	5.31	66	63
7B	Macklin	.34	5.78	6.44	64	60
	Scott	nil	3.80	5.73	60	62
	Ruthilda	.06	5.24 2/	6.37	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.02	4.70	6.42	64	63

## PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURES IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week Ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 15/46	Normal
		8 a.m. July 15/46	Since April 1	Since April 1	Mean	
Saskatchewan (con.)						
8A	Nipawin	1.10	6.40	6.78	62	62
	Hudson Bay Junction	.88	5.88	6.50	62	64
8B	Humboldt	.24	7.45	5.44	N.R.	63
	Melfort	trace	4.34	6.08	61	63
9A	North Battleford	.33	6.05	6.19	65	65
	Rabbit Lake	.18	6.10	6.27	60	62
	Prince Albert	.44	6.05	6.24	62	64
9B	Waseca	.28	5.22	6.19	64	61
	Loon Lake	.10	7.11	7.21	64	62
	Island Falls	.69	5.22 2/	6.23	59	65
Saskatchewan Average		.87	5.66	6.40	66	64
Alberta						
1	Foremost	1.08	6.13	7.76	69	68
	Medicine Hat	.37	5.02	5.75	71	68
	Manyberries	1.90	7.03	5.88	70	68
2	Cowley	.98	9.50	7.38	62	61
	Macleod	1.30	9.85	6.47	66	66
	Cardston	.01	5.31	9.84	66	65
	Lethbridge	.79	7.23	6.70	67	65
3	Vauxhall	.76	4.74 2/	5.32	68	67
	Brooks	.42	5.07	5.45	70	69
	Empress	.22	3.38	6.18	71	69
4	High River	.98	10.95	7.99	60	61
	Vulcan	.01	6.34	6.94	68	N.R.
5	Drumheller	1.26	5.67	6.95	67	68
	Hanna	.18	6.15	7.57	66	65
6	Olds	.82	8.03	7.08	62	60
	Calgary	.77	8.51	7.56	63	62
	Three Hills	.58	6.24	6.43	64	61
	Strathmore	.74	5.20	6.73	62	62
	Gleichen	2.42	6.08 2/	6.13	64	62
7	Viking	N.R.	8.02 2/	5.86	N.R.	60
	Sedgewick	.24	7.46	6.26	64	60
	Hardisty	N.R.	6.49 2/	6.39	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.76	6.96	5.57	64	63
	Hughenden	.50	6.47	6.12	66	66
8	Red Deer	.88	9.07	8.77	62	59
	Lacombe	1.52	9.45	7.53	64	60
	Wetaskiwin	.02	8.12	6.98	62	61
	Camrose	1.02	8.06	6.75	64	62
	Stettler	.34	9.12	7.69	61	60
9	Jasper	.37	4.39	3.60	58	59
	Rocky Mountain House	.29	11.65	7.79	61	60
	Springdale	.22	7.66	8.66	62	59
10	Vegreville	1.16	8.56	7.74	65	60
	Vermilion	1.00	7.25	7.26	63	61
	Lloydminster	.41	5.17	5.69	63	61
11	Calmar	.44	10.55	7.71	63	61
	Edmonton	.84	7.71	7.21	64	62
	Whitecourt	.69	6.43	7.21	60	60
12	Edson	.82	10.44	6.80	58	58
13	Glendon	.32	6.25	6.25	59	61
14	Campsie	2.00	8.01	7.19	62	60
	Athabaska	1.24	7.64	6.37	62	61
	Lac La Biche	.25	5.38	6.44	63	61
15	High Prairie	.98	3.46	6.23	61	61
	Kinuso	N.R.	.34 2/	6.21	N.R.	61
	Wagner	.81	3.60	6.59	60	62
16	Beaverlodge	.50	3.75	5.24	62	60
	Grand Prairie	.43	3.50	6.25	62	60
	Fairview	.20	2.59	4.64	59	60
17	Keg River	.17	3.63	5.93	57	61
	Fort Vermilion	.16	2.10	4.52	60	61
	Fort McMurray	2.60	6.15	5.47	59	63
	Embarras	.05	2.68	3.83	61	66
	Fort Smith	.03	3.71	3.74	58	60
	Fort St. John	1.35	4.77	6.24	60	62
Alberta Average		.73	6.55	6.52	63	62

N.R. No Report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete; figures not included in average.





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