

22-002
no. 10
1949
July 26
c. 1

Historical File Copy

Department of Trade and Commerce
Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Agriculture Division
Ottawa, Canada

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

JUL 27 1949

PROPERTY OF THE

C. R. No. 16, 1949

Price: \$2.00 for series of 26 Crop Reports

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 26, 1949, 3 p.m. - The tenth of a series of thirteen telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the 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 Division, Department of Transport, Toronto.

SUMMARY

Fairly general rains occurred over most of the Prairie Provinces during the past week. Average rainfall since April 1 for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta now stands at 2, 7, and 17 per cent below normal respectively—a marked improvement in all three provinces over a week ago. Preseasonal precipitation, however, was far below normal in the greater part of the west and this factor continues to affect crop development adversely, particularly in the normally low rainfall areas of the prairies. Prospects in Manitoba with few exceptions remain good to excellent. Rains have well maintained the satisfactory condition already established in northern and eastern districts of Saskatchewan, and should now carry the crops to maturity in those areas. Some improvement is noted in central and western districts but relief came too late to most of the drought area in south-central and south-western Saskatchewan where the principal benefit accruing will be to pasture and fodder crops. Crop prospects in Alberta are still, with some exceptions, generally poor to fair although good rains have improved late-sown crops and relieved the feed situation in central and northern parts of the province.

Rain fell over much of Manitoba last week and except for localized dry areas in the southern part of the province prospects for nearly all crops remain good to excellent. Harvesting of early crops has commenced in some areas and should be general by August first. Damage from insect infestations is abating and losses from now on are expected to be at a minimum. Hail storms have been of very limited extent and while leaf rust is quite general no serious losses are anticipated.

Rains received during the past week have provided sufficient moisture to carry the crop through to maturity in most of the northern and eastern districts of Saskatchewan. Crop conditions are somewhat improved in central and western districts but further moisture will be required to ensure proper filling. While it is too late for rain to promote much recovery to crops in the drought area of south-central and south-western Saskatchewan, pasture and fodder growth will alleviate the critical feed shortage to some extent. Grasshoppers are becoming more numerous in areas where earlier control measures were less concentrated and some heavy local damage is reported.

Crop prospects in Alberta continue from poor to fair despite medium to heavy rains over wide areas of the province. Some improvement is expected in late-sown crops in most areas but the greatest benefit will be derived from the improved feed situation in central and northern Alberta. Sawfly infestation causing 35 to 70 per cent damage has been reported in the New Dayton, Warner, Noblesford, Barons, Carmangay and Vulcan areas. Aggregate grasshopper damage is not expected to be over 3 per cent for the province. Some local hail storms have been reported but damage is slight in most areas.

Manitoba - Fairly heavy rains occurred in most areas of Manitoba last week. Crops are coming along rapidly and promise to yield well with summer-fallow crops being in particularly good condition. Most crops are less weedy than in recent years. Harvesting got under way over the week end in the south Red River Valley and in some other districts and should be fairly general by August 1. Damage from insect pests is considered to be about over. Sunflowers suffered less from the caterpillar infestation than was first anticipated and the corn crop is doing well. Only light scattered hail damage has occurred and while leaf rust is very general little injury to the crops is expected. Good progress was made with haying before the rains of the past week and pastures have improved considerably.

In the area immediately around Winnipeg recent localized showers helped to fill the grain crops. Straw is rather short in this area and some weedy fields have been cut for feed. In the south-east of the province dry weather has caused some premature ripening of grain. Harvesting is expected to start this week and haying is about one-third completed here. Farther west at Morden the crop is ripening fast under continued drought conditions. However, about half an inch of rain fell during the past week and this will help late and row crops. Most grain in this immediate area was too advanced to receive much benefit from the rain and yields are expected to be low. Some grain has already been swathed here. In the Pilot Mound area early wheat and coarse grains are filling although some burnt tips are showing. Late barley has been damaged to some extent in this district by heat and aphids. In the south-west corner of the province good weather with nearly two inches of rain during the past week has carried all crops well. Early-sown crops should now have sufficient moisture to bring them to maturity. Fall rye and a few fields of early wheat and oats are being cut this week. The aphid infestation is over in this district.

At Portage la Prairie some barley was swathed on July 19 and the first of the oats and wheat crops will be cut this week. Cool weather and general rains on July 20 have favoured normal filling and ripening of cereals, peas, sugar beets, sunflowers and corn. In the Brandon-Woodnorth area nearly all grains are progressing favourably following the recent rains. Moisture is now sufficient for maturity in the greater part of the area. The general crop conditions are good to excellent in this part of the province.

At Teulon in the north-central section of Manitoba early-seeded crops are beginning to turn and some cutting will probably be done during the coming week. Wheat crops in particular appear to be in very good condition although the outlook for the alfalfa seed crop is poorer than last year. Insect damage has not been serious. At Shoal Lake and Dauphin in the west-central and north-western districts of the province crops are filling satisfactorily and conditions remain generally excellent. Insects have caused little or no damage in these areas and good yields are anticipated from both early and late crops.

The Manitoba Department of Agriculture has made an appraisal of the damage occasioned by the recent aphid infestation in the south-western part of the province. It is estimated that the acreage destroyed amounted to some

100,000 acres, the loss being practically confined to late oats and barley. It is also reliably reported that the damage to the sunflower crop caused by the painted lady caterpillar is less than expected earlier. Some scattered hail storms have occurred in southern and north-western districts of the province but most of the losses have been only light to medium.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 2 per cent below normal as compared with 15 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 25 was 4.3 degrees below normal.

Saskatchewan - Rains in Saskatchewan during the past week maintained or improved crop conditions in most districts. Most northern and eastern districts now have sufficient moisture to carry the crop through to maturity. Elsewhere further moisture is required to ensure proper filling and to improve growth of grass and late fodder to alleviate the critical feed shortage. While rainfall last week was quite general it was light in the drought area which extends into the central district through Davidson and Simpson to Saskatoon. Heavy local damage by grasshoppers is reported in areas where control measures were less concentrated. Aphids caused serious damage to late oats and barley in area east of Churchbridge and Moosomin.

Good rains were received in the south-east where wheat and barley stands indicate prospects of good yields. While oats in this area seem somewhat patchy and short, a good fill is now expected. Pasture conditions are above average and all live stock is in good condition. Crop prospects have improved in the Regina-Weyburn district where good rains last week promoted excellent filling. Wheat is colouring and it is expected that swathing will commence in seven to ten days. Pastures have shown good recovery in this district. Farther north and east conditions are now excellent with hail and frost the only potential crop hazards as there is sufficient moisture to carry the crop through to maturity. Conditions in the central districts vary from poor to good. The drought area penetrates through Davidson, Simpson and Hanley areas to Saskatoon, thence south west towards Matador. Further rains are required to develop pastures and late feed crops and ensure good filling over the area as a whole.

Widespread moderate to heavy rains during the past week greatly improved prospects in west central districts. The Dominion Experimental Station at Scott reports that the small acreage of flax in this area is fair to poor. Grasshoppers are in flight and widely scattered with further moderate to severe local damage expected.

Grain is filling satisfactorily in the Melfort area. No insect damage of any kind has been reported and our correspondent there states that present prospects of crop yields for this area are good. The rapeseed acreage in Saskatchewan is greatly decreased but crop conditions are fair with a prospective yield up to a thousand pounds per acre.

A considerable number of hail storms has occurred but the damage so far has been medium to light and quite local in extent. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 7 per cent below normal as compared with 21 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 25 was 1 degree below normal.

Alberta - Alberta crop conditions continue from poor to fair despite medium to heavy rains over wide areas during the past ten days. Although some later sown crops should benefit from recent rains, little improvement is expected in earlier crops. Pastures and feed supplies have improved considerably

especially in central and northern Alberta. Considerable damage resulted from hail to thirty thousand acres of crop in the Warner, Wrentham, Conrad and Skiff districts. There has been no major increase in grasshoppers and the aggregate damage is not expected to be over three per cent for the province. Sawfly infestations are particularly heavy in some local areas around New Dayton, Warner, Nobleford, Barons and Vulcan and damage is expected to be in the neighbourhood of 35 to 70 per cent.

In south-eastern Alberta crops are all headed and are reported to be in very poor condition. Precipitation during the past week has been of little benefit but some improvement is expected to later-sown crops. Around Claresholm in the south west crops have deteriorated during the last week for lack of moisture. Rain is urgently needed to ensure proper filling. Summer-fallow crops are generally good but those on spring ploughing are reported to be burning in places.

In east-central Alberta, light to good rains were general during the week and conditions are much improved. Coarse grains and late-sown wheat will show greatest benefit. In this area about two-thirds of a normal crop is now possible. In west-central districts around Edmonton good rains have been received but further warm weather is needed to promote more rapid growth. Wheat is fairly well headed and some fields are expected to make an average crop although it is anticipated that the wheat crop generally in the area will be well below normal. Coarse grains will be light. Further south around Lacombe the feed situation has greatly improved. Sufficient moisture reserves are reported to assure excellent filling of early wheat crops. Around Calgary all crops are making good progress. In this area wheat is 95 per cent headed, oats and barley 75 per cent. Wheat is averaging 15 inches in height and oats and barley are ranging from 8 to 15 inches. Pastures have greatly improved and general conditions are fairly good.

In the Athabasca and Peace River districts all crops have made considerable improvement. Wheat and barley are mostly headed out and good filling of grains is assured in most areas.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 17 per cent below normal as compared with 25 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 25 was 2.7 degrees below normal.

1/

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, 1949

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 25	since April 1	since April 1	July 25 Mean	Normal
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Pierson	1.70	8.45	7.54	60	66
	Melita	1.54	8.65	9.59	62	67
	Waskada	2.02	9.88	8.54	61	66
2	Boissevain	.86	7.46	7.54	60	66
	Ninette	.88	5.90	8.12	62	67
3	Portage la Prairie	.90	5.99	7.99	64	65
	Graysville	.48	5.95 2/	8.59	62	67
	Morden	1.22	5.70	8.31	63	67
	Altona	.70	4.12 2/	8.23	64	67
	Morris	1.01	5.16	7.98	64	67
	Emerson	2.00	6.66	7.58	62	67
4	Winnipeg	.96	5.85	9.04	64	67
6	Sprague	1.24	8.52	8.81	62	65
	Pinawa	.34	4.20	6.55	62	65
7	Virden	2.38	11.13	6.94	59	64
	Rivers	2.65	10.12	7.96	60	64
8	Brandon	1.12	8.44	8.02	60	65
	Cypress River	.76	6.48	7.92	61	66
9	Minnedosa	1.76	9.57 2/	7.90	57	64
	Neepawa	1.52	7.55	7.90	60	64
10	Russell	1.60	7.91	7.56	58	63
	Birtle	1.48	8.76	7.97	58	63
11	Dauphin	3.98	12.98	6.87	60	64
12	Gimli	.91	7.31	8.53	62	65
13	Swan River	2.50	8.23	7.95	59	63
	The Pas	.66	7.45	6.10	59	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		1.43	7.77	7.92	61.0	65.3
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Estevan	.63	5.78	7.50	63	65
	Carlyle	1.72	8.70	8.14	60	63
1B	Broadview	2.40	7.77	7.28	57	64
	Moosomin	1.58	10.75	6.78	59	66
2A	Yellow Grass	2.44	6.37	7.37	62	65
	Midale	Nil	3.92	8.22	63	65
2B	Moose Jaw	1.52	4.59	7.50	63	66
	Regina	1.24	6.11	7.54	62	65
	Francis	2.01	4.69	6.30	63	64
	Qu'Appelle	2.14	5.59	8.86	62	65
	Indian Head	1.92	6.62	8.60	60	64
3AS	Assiniboia	.88	4.70	6.38	63	65
	Ceylon	1.68	4.65	9.18	62	66
3AN	Chaplin	.88	3.82	7.83	64	65
	Gravelbourg	1.36	3.23 2/	6.32	65	65
	Coderre	2.66	6.86	6.47	N.R.	N.R.
	Bishopric	.28	4.02 2/	6.68	67	66
3BS	Instow	N.R.	3.01 2/	6.57	N.R.	66
	Shaunavon	.69	3.87	6.50	N.R.	63
	Cadillac	N.R.	4.03 2/	8.49	N.R.	64
	Val Marie	.42	2.64	7.09	64	66
	Aneroid	.72	3.62	7.49	64	64

1/

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, 1949 (continued)

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 25	since April 1	since April 1	July 25 Mean	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
3BN	Pennant	.90	4.90	7.69	65	65
	Swift Current	.52	4.57	7.58	64	65
	Hughton	1.74	6.10 2/	6.78	64	64
4A	Maple Creek	.22	4.25 2/	7.29	66	65
	Consul	.32	3.17	6.08	64	62
4B	Roadene	1.60	5.15	6.81	65	64
5A	Leross	N.R.	7.58 2/	7.59	N.R.	63
	Lipton	1.74	5.42	6.77	59	62
	Yorkton	4.07	11.55	7.48	59	62
5B	Dafoe	2.20	8.76	6.64	60	62
	Foam Lake	.60	8.24	7.28	63	62
	Lintlaw	.37	9.72	7.51	N.R.	61
	Kamsack	3.72	9.57	6.82	59	64
6A	Davidson	.36	4.30	6.15	62	65
	Dilke	N.R.	3.98 2/	6.61	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	.78	4.66	4.94	62	63
	Strasbourg	2.20	9.46	6.97	59	63
6B	Harris	N.R.	2.56 2/	6.76	N.R.	64
	Outlook	1.00	6.71	4.98	63	64
	Saskatoon	1.11	6.05	6.71	62	63
	Elbow	.71	5.51	6.21	62	64
	Dundurn	1.12	6.16	7.43	62	64
7A	Kindersley	.99	6.57	6.06	63	63
	Rosetown	1.78	5.20	7.08	64	63
7B	Macklin	1.38	6.02	7.17	59	60
	Scott	1.12	7.07	6.50	60	62
	Ruthilda	.58	5.66 2/	7.16	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.44	7.20	7.24	63	63
	Hudson Bay	.77	9.09	7.30	57	63
8B	Humboldt	4.42	10.97	6.12	60	63
	Melfort	.82	6.56	7.04	59	63
9A	North Battleford	1.04	7.95	6.87	61	65
	Rabbit Lake	.76	6.79	7.14	58	62
	Prince Albert	1.86	8.85	6.93	61	64
9B	Waseca	.92	5.58	6.85	57	61
	Island Falls	.17	11.37	7.97	58	65
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		1.31	6.55	7.05	61.7	62.7
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Taber	.32	5.77	6.04	64	N.R.
	Foremost	.24	4.73	8.35	67	69
	Winnifred	.46	4.86	5.47	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.47	5.37	6.30	65	69
	Manyberries	.54	4.40	6.36	62	69
2	Cowley	.05	5.76	7.78	58	62
	Macleod	.56	7.34	7.07	64	67
	Cardston	.20	7.08	10.45	62	66
	Lethbridge	.32	8.03	7.20	61	66
3	Vauxhall	.46	5.46	5.90	64	68
	Brooks	.26	5.21	6.04	64	69
	Empress	.64	4.98	6.72	67	70

1/

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, 1949 (concluded)

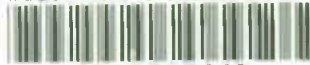
Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 25	since April 1	since April 1	July 25 Mean	Normal
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
4	High River	.06	6.49	8.52	57	62
	Vulcan	.48	6.11	7.49	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.14	6.95	7.59	62	69
	Hanna	.60	4.76 2/	8.38	60	66
	Naco	.78	5.20 2/	7.30	58	65
6	Olds	2.01	8.21	7.80	58	60
	Calgary	.61	3.61	8.37	59	63
	Three Hills	.70	6.97	7.02	61	61
	Strathmore	N.R.	2.28 2/	7.31	N.R.	62
	Gleichen	.36	4.57 2/	6.82	62	63
7	Sedgewick	N.R.	5.16 2/	7.05	N.R.	60
	Hardisty	N.R.	3.60 2/	7.33	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	1.79	7.92	6.16	59	63
	Hughenden	1.10	4.77	6.87	61	67
8	Red Deer	2.17	9.16	9.47	60	60
	Lacombe	.61	3.40 2/	8.31	60	61
	Wetaskiwin	2.24	6.26	7.78	59	62
	Camrose	1.64	5.62	7.56	60	61
	Stettler	4.88	9.61	8.59	62	61
9	Jasper	1.13	5.47	4.02	55	59
	Rocky Mountain House	1.30	5.03	8.44	58	60
	Springdale	3.20	8.91 2/	9.66	55	60
10	Vegreville	.88	3.10 2/	8.75	61	60
	Vermilion	2.65	7.30	8.43	58	61
	Lloydminster	1.74	5.16	6.46	59	62
11	Edmonton	.96	6.27	8.28	60	62
12	Whitecourt	1.79	5.74	8.51	58	61
	Edson	1.36	7.17	7.84	57	58
13	Elk Point	N.R.	3.50 2/	7.03	N.R.	62
14	Campsie	1.64	6.50 2/	8.25	60	61
	Athabaska	.50	6.46 2/	7.35	60	61
	Lac La Biche	.38	5.86	7.43	60	61
15	High Prairie	.40	7.67	7.27	60	61
	Wagner	1.38	6.99	7.66	59	62
16	Beaverlodge	.46	6.31	5.91	58	61
	Grand Prairie	.07	4.63	7.02	60	61
	Fairview	.18	3.72	5.11	59	61
17	Fort St. John	.04	6.50	7.03	59	62
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.97	6.17	7.40	60.3	63.0

N.R. No report

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada

2/ Incomplete: Not included in average.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHEQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010505443