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CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS, JUNE 30, 1944

Ottawa, July 7, 1944 (3 p.m.)- The numerical condition of field crops in Canada at the end of June, expressed as a percentage of the long-time average yield per acre, was equal to or higher than the condition at June 30, 1943 for all field crops except spring wheat, hay and clover. In most cases the improvement over last year is very marked, and this is particularly true in the case of grain crops in Ontario.

Spring wheat condition figures for the Prairie Provinces, based on an analysis of weather factors, are slightly under those of the corresponding date a year ago. Little change is noted in the case of Saskatchewan, but Alberta's condition figure is four per cent lower, and Manitoba's nine per cent lower than on the same date in 1943.

Feed grain crops give much better promise than a year ago in every province, while the outlook for peas and beans is good not only in Quebec and Ontario, but in the three Prairie Provinces where a considerable acreage is being devoted to the production of field peas this year. Potatoes show promise in the Maritimes and elsewhere, but some loss has occurred in the Winnipeg area of Manitoba as the result of flood conditions.

Hay and clover crops suffered from the very dry spring and while some recovery took place when the rains came, the moisture arrived too late to be of value to the hay crop in many parts of the country. Pastures suffered likewise from the early dryness but these have shown good recovery except in the areas affected by drought. The alfalfa crop is good in the west but less promising in eastern Canada.

The flaxseed crop, on a reduced acreage compared with 1943, showed a condition at the end of June this year equal to that of June 30, 1943, while corn for grain, which is expected to show an expansion in acreage this year, was much more promising at the end of June this year than at the same date in 1943.

Sugar beets in Alberta show a much higher condition figure than a year ago, but in Manitoba the crop outlook is only slightly above that of June 30, 1943. No condition figure is available for the new acreage in Quebec but the crop is reported to be progressing favourably. Ontario's sugar beet crop prospects are much better than a year ago.

Field work got off to an early start in most parts of the country this year as the result of a relatively light snowfall last winter and dry weather during the first part of the spring. This was in marked contrast to the situation in 1943 when, because of a cold and wet spring, seeding operations were seriously delayed and in many instances the areas intended for field crops were not fully planted.

Weather Since July 1

Weather conditions since July 1 have been favourable on the whole to the development of field crops. Good rains have fallen in the dry areas of southern Alberta and crops in some sections of that territory have benefited substantially from showers and thunderstorms. Manitoba has ample moisture for the time being but good rains are still needed in southern Alberta and south-western Saskatchewan.

Condition of Field Crops, June 30, 1944

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at June 30, 1944 expressed in percentage of the long-time average yields per acre, was reported as follows, with figures for June 30, 1943, within brackets: Fall wheat 97 (82); spring wheat 113 (115); all wheat 112 (114); oats 98 (88); barley 97 (89); fall rye 91 (84); spring rye 93 (91); all rye 92 (86) peas 94 (82); beans 97 (77); buckwheat 93 (90); mixed grains 96 (76); flaxseed 91 (91); corn for husking 94 (76); potatoes 98 (89); turnips, etc. 95 (87); hay and clover 89 (100); alfalfa 93 (93); fodder corn 94 (80); sugar beets 93 (86); pasture 94 (104).

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at June 30, 1944, was reported as follows, with the figures for June 30, 1943, within brackets: Manitoba - Wheat 135 (144); oats 97 (90); barley 96 (87); rye 93 (84); flaxseed 95 (91). Saskatchewan - Wheat 122 (123); oats 104 (95); barley 103 (94) rye 96 (88); flaxseed 94 (92). Alberta - Wheat 86 (90); oats 90 (87); barley 90 (87); rye 80 (82); flaxseed 80 (87).

Condition of Wheat by Crop Districts in the Prairie Provinces

The two charts on the last page of this report show the condition of the spring wheat crop in the Prairie Provinces as it existed at June 30. These crop district condition figures are based on the more important weather factors affecting the growth of the wheat plant. These factors include precipitation during the preceding fall; precipitation during the three months of April, May and June; and mean temperatures for these latter three months. It is assumed that precipitation and temperature for the month of July will approximate the average for the period 1921-40. These condition data do not, of course, indicate final yields since July weather may be either more or less favourable than average.

Preseasonal and May rainfall was normal for Manitoba while June rainfall was over 150 per cent of normal which resulted in a very favourable provincial condition figure. In the province of Saskatchewan as a whole, weather conditions were more favourable than normal but the areas in the south-western part of the province suffered from sub-normal autumn and spring rains and from above-average spring temperatures. In Alberta preseasonal rain was also sub-normal resulting in deficient moisture reserves. Heavy June rains helped to offset dry May weather except in the large wheat areas of the south and south-west which suffered from both a dry fall and a dry spring.

The sharp breaks between adjacent crop districts appear unduly accentuated on the charts since the condition data are averages for the crop district. It is, therefore, impossible to show the gradual transition which actually exists. These condition figures are expressed in terms of the long-time average yield for each province which are taken as 100 per cent. For Manitoba this average is 16 bushels, for Saskatchewan 15 bushels and for Alberta 18 bushels per acre.

1. Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1944, as Compared with June 30, 1942 and 1943.

Note:- 100= Long-time Average Yield Per Acre

Province and Crop	June 30		
	1942	1943	1944
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
CANADA			
Fall Wheat	103	82	97
Spring Wheat 1/	136	115	113
All Wheat 1/	135	114	112
Oats	100	88	98
Barley	100	89	97
Fall Rye	93	84	91
Spring Rye	98	91	93
All Rye	95	86	92
Peas	97	82	94
Beans	93	77	97
Buckwheat	97	90	93
Mixed Grains	97	76	96
Flaxseed	94	91	91
Corn, Husking	88	76	94
Potatoes	97	89	98
Turnips, etc.	94	87	95
Hay and Clover	101	100	89
Alfalfa	102	93	93
Fodder Corn	92	80	94
Sugar Beets	96	86	93
Pasture	104	104	94
P. E. ISLAND			
Spring Wheat	95	93	100
Oats	91	91	102
Barley	93	94	99
Buckwheat	93	96	98
Mixed Grains	93	91	101
Potatoes	99	94	102
Turnips, etc.	89	97	101
Hay and Clover	88	86	104
Fodder Corn	96	88	98
Pasture	93	86	107
NOVA SCOTIA			
Spring Wheat	98	82	91
Oats	100	86	96
Barley	97	81	95
Buckwheat	99	94	98
Mixed Grains	100	81	92
Potatoes	101	84	100
Turnips, etc.	97	89	90
Hay and Clover	102	93	87
Fodder Corn	94	84	91
Pasture	103	95	92

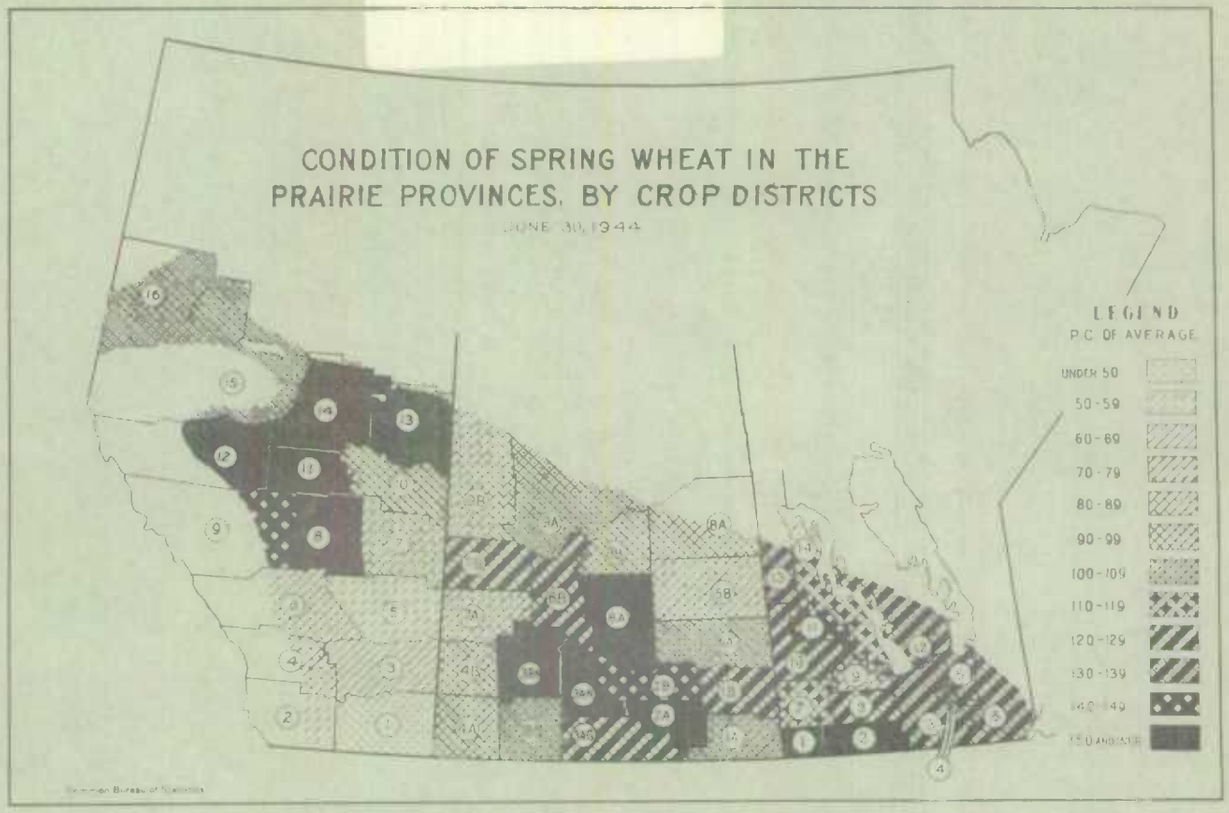
Province and Crop	June 30		
	1942	1943	1944
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
NEW BRUNSWICK			
Spring Wheat	99	93	96
Oats	100	92	99
Barley	99	92	98
Beans	96	92	95
Buckwheat	98	92	95
Mixed Grains	100	94	99
Potatoes	100	90	98
Turnips, etc.	98	91	96
Hay and Clover	103	89	87
Fodder Corn	96	90	88
Pasture	101	96	95
QUEBEC			
Spring Wheat	98	85	91
Oats	100	86	93
Barley	99	84	92
Spring Rye	100	94	95
Peas	99	86	95
Beans	98	86	95
Buckwheat	99	94	94
Mixed Grains	101	87	95
Potatoes	101	91	99
Turnips, etc.	97	88	92
Hay and Clover	101	109	85
Alfalfa	99	111	86
Fodder Corn	99	71	93
Pasture	104	108	88
ONTARIO			
Fall Wheat	103	82	97
Spring Wheat	97	68	93
All Wheat	103	81	97
Oats	96	66	95
Barley	94	66	94
Fall Rye	101	80	92
Peas	96	71	95
Beans	92	74	97
Buckwheat	96	87	92
Mixed Grains	97	69	97
Flaxseed	94	70	91
Corn, Husking	88	77	96
Potatoes	94	85	96
Turnips, etc.	93	82	98
Hay and Clover	104	97	90
Alfalfa	106	95	91
Fodder Corn	91	82	96
Sugar Beets	99	77	89
Pasture	107	106	97

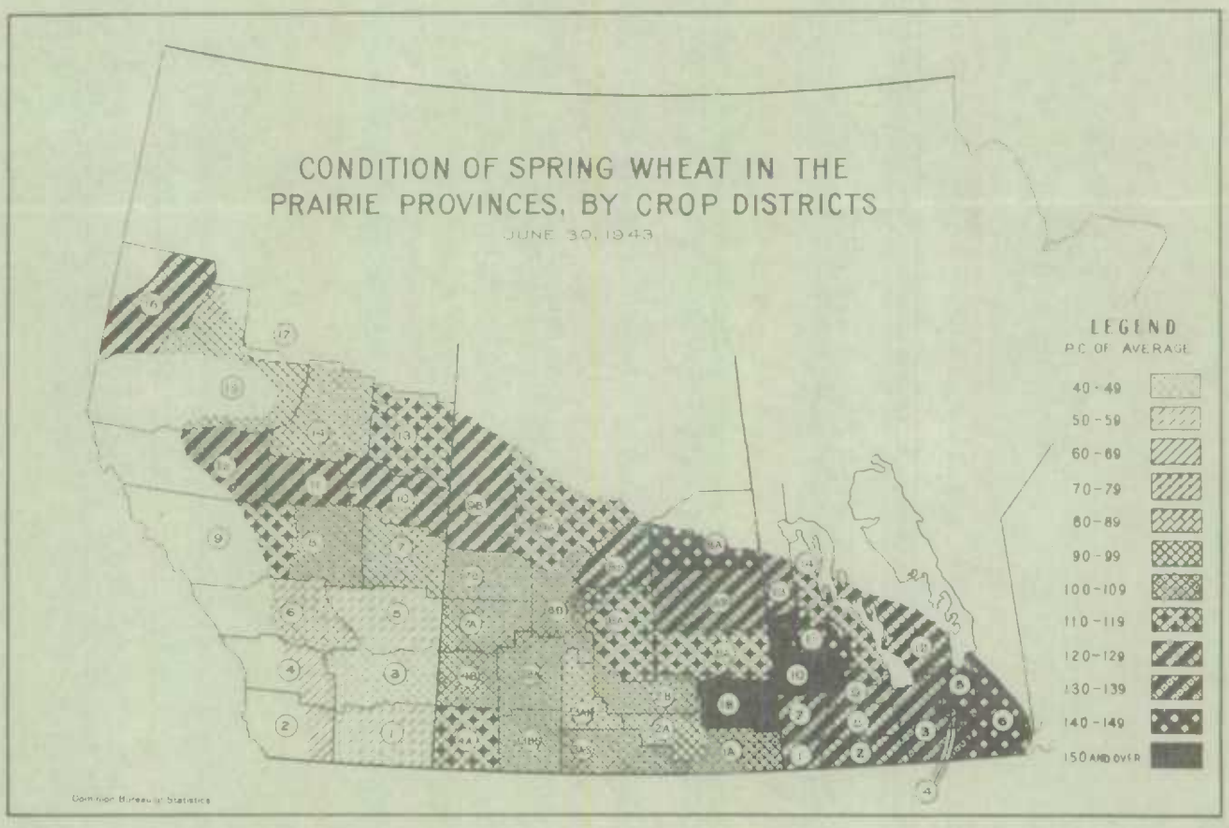
1/ Includes condition figures for Prairie Provinces based on weather factors.

1. Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1944, as Compared with June 30, 1942 and 1943 (concluded)

Province and Crop	June 30			Province and Crop	June 30		
	1942	1943	1944		1942	1943	1944
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
MANITOBA				ALBERTA			
Spring Wheat 2/	129	144	135	Spring Wheat 2/	139	90	86
Oats	97	90	97	Oats	100	87	90
Barley	97	87	96	Barley	99	87	90
Fall Rye	98	84	93	Fall Rye	93	80	81
Spring Rye	97	87	92	Spring Rye	94	86	78
All Rye	98	84	93	All Rye	93	82	80
Peas	91	86	96	Peas	100	89	92
Buckwheat	91	85	84	Beans	92	84	89
Mixed Grains	94	89	91	Mixed Grains	98	85	88
Corn, Husking	89	74	85	Flaxseed	96	87	80
Flaxseed	93	91	95	Potatoes	95	89	93
Potatoes	94	83	95	Turnips, etc.	96	91	92
Turnips, etc.	93	85	96	Hay and Clover	95	93	90
Hay and Clover	99	95	100	Alfalfa	97	89	92
Alfalfa	95	91	99	Fodder Corn	81	76	83
Fodder Corn	91	79	90	Sugar Beets	96	94	99
Sugar Beets	91	83	85	Pasture	101	95	89
Pasture	104	102	104				
SASKATCHEWAN				BRITISH COLUMBIA			
Spring Wheat 2/	137	123	122	Spring Wheat	101	94	96
Oats	103	95	104	Oats	101	94	96
Barley	104	94	103	Barley	101	94	97
Fall Rye	91	86	93	Spring Rye	104	98	100
Spring Rye	100	94	98	Peas	99	95	86
All Rye	93	88	96	Beans	96	100	98
Mixed Grains	98	91	95	Mixed Grains	99	95	96
Flaxseed	94	92	94	Flaxseed	103	100	100
Potatoes	89	88	97	Potatoes	96	93	98
Turnips, etc.	91	87	94	Turnips, etc.	96	90	93
Hay and Clover	97	96	103	Hay and Clover	106	86	92
Alfalfa	84	88	97	Alfalfa	104	88	96
Fodder Corn	79	89	92	Fodder Corn	93	88	98
Pasture	102	98	107	Pasture	107	96	97

2/ Condition figures based on weather factors.


CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE
PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS
JUNE 30, 1944
LEGEND
P.C. OF AVERAGE
UNDER 50
50-59
60-69
70-79
80-89
90-99
100-109
110-119
120-129
130-139
140-149
150 AND OVER


CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE
PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS
JUNE 30, 1943
LEGEND
P.C. OF AVERAGE
40-49
50-59
60-69
70-79
80-89
90-99
100-109
110-119
120-129
130-139
140-149
150 AND OVER