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CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS, JUNE 30, 1945

Ottawa, July 9, 1945 (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 lower than the condition at June 30, 1944 for all field crops, except hay, clover and pastures. In most cases the deterioration in condition from that of a year ago is very marked, and this is particularly true in the case of wheat in Alberta, coarse grain in all provinces except British Columbia and late sown crops in Ontario. Warm weather and adequate rain in British Columbia have resulted in very favourable conditions for all crops. None of these is less than 90 per cent of normal in this province.

Spring wheat conditions for the Prairie Provinces are based on an analysis of weather factors; conditions in Manitoba for this crop are on a par with those of a year ago but Saskatchewan shows a reduction of 13 points and Alberta 35 points. The Alberta condition is less than 75 per cent of normal as a result of widespread drought throughout central Alberta and low moisture reserves in south-eastern Alberta during the spring months. The condition of winter wheat in Ontario is equal to that of last year despite unseasonably cold weather during the spring. The outlook for peas and beans is less promising in both eastern and western Canada. The condition of the potato crop is below normal, although most promising in British Columbia.

Feed grain crops are in a poorer condition than a year ago. Oats and barley were seeded late in the Prairie Provinces and the cool weather has retarded their development. The lack of rain in the important coarse grain area of central Alberta has also lessened the prospects for these crops. Farmers in Ontario indicate that their oat and barley crops are in better condition than in the poor season of 1943, however, and recent warm weather may do much to improve yields. Hay, clover and pasture crops have come along rapidly despite earlier expectations of a poor yield. They are particularly good in Quebec and Ontario, and less promising in Saskatchewan and Alberta where lack of rain has been an important factor. The alfalfa crop is generally promising.

The flaxseed crop at the end of June showed a condition of 76 as compared with 91 a year ago. The most serious deterioration has occurred in the province of Saskatchewan which, because of the large acreage devoted to this crop, exerts a determining influence on the total. Corn for husking is in a well below average condition in both Ontario and Manitoba as a result of the late spring. Sugar beets in Ontario are making good progress and are now being thinned and blocked. This crop is also in good condition in Alberta although less promising in Manitoba, but still nearly equal to the condition of a year ago.

Although field work was off to an early start in eastern Canada during the warm weather in March, it was later held up by continued rain and low temperatures. Spring weather was cold in the Prairie Provinces causing most of the grains to be seeded very late. This was in marked contrast to the spring season of a year ago when field work got off to an early start in most parts of the country.

Weather Since July 1

Weather conditions since July 1 have been generally favourable for the development of field crops. Good rains fell over most of Saskatchewan and Manitoba during the last week in June, and central Alberta received scattered showers. These rains greatly improved crop prospects, an improvement which may not be entirely reflected in the condition figures of this report since some farmers had filed a return before this rainfall was received. Warmer weather is now prevailing in Ontario and

late sown crops, although still behind schedule, are making rapid progress. Central Alberta is still urgently in need of rain.

Condition of Field Crops, June 30, 1945

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at June 30, 1945, expressed in percentage of the long-time average yields per acre, was reported as follows, with figures for June 30, 1944, within brackets: Fall wheat 97 (97); spring wheat 101 (119); all wheat 100 (118); oats 82 (98); barley 81 (97); fall rye 78 (91); spring rye 78 (93); all rye 78 (92); peas 83 (94); beans 82 (97); buckwheat 89 (93); mixed grains 83 (96); flaxseed 76 (91); corn for husking 75 (94); potatoes 85 (98); turnips, etc. 86 (95); hay and clover 95 (89); alfalfa 90 (93); fodder corn 82 (94); sugar beets 90 (93); pasture 99 (94).

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at June 30, 1945, was reported as follows, with the figures for June 30, 1944, within brackets: Manitoba - Wheat 135 (135); oats 82 (97); barley 82 (96); rye 83 (93); flaxseed 85 (95). Saskatchewan - Wheat 109 (122); oats 80 (104); barley 80 (103); rye 72 (96); flaxseed 72 (94). Alberta - Wheat 73 (108); oats 84 (90); barley 83 (90); rye 86 (80); flaxseed 86 (80).

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; and rainfall and mean temperatures for April, May and June. 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-June rainfall was above normal for Manitoba, the former being about 150 per cent of average, which resulted in a very favourable provincial condition figure. In Saskatchewan as a whole, weather conditions were also more favourable than normal, especially in the north-eastern section of the province. Rainfall was below average in the south-centre. The principal factors causing a low condition figure in Alberta were the low temperatures prevailing throughout April and May, sub-normal preseasonal precipitation and below average rainfall for the province as a whole during May and June. The most favourable conditions were experienced in Crop District 2 in south-western Alberta.

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, 1945, as Compared with June 30, 1943 and 1944

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

Province and Crop	June 30 1943	1944	1945
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
CANADA			
Fall Wheat	82	97	97
Spring Wheat 1/	115	119	101
All Wheat 1/	114	118	100
Oats	88	98	82
Barley	89	97	81
Fall Rye	84	91	78
Spring Rye	91	93	78
All Rye	86	92	78
Peas	82	94	83
Beans	77	97	82
Buckwheat	90	93	89
Mixed Grains	76	96	83
Flaxseed	91	91	76
Corn, Husking	76	94	75
Potatoes	89	98	85
Turnips, etc.	87	95	86
Hay and Clover	100	89	95
Alfalfa	93	93	90
Fodder Corn	80	94	82
Sugar Beets	86	93	90
Pasture	104	94	99
P. E. ISLAND			
Spring Wheat	93	100	92
Oats	91	102	92
Barley	94	99	89
Buckwheat	96	98	95
Mixed Grains	91	101	93
Potatoes	94	102	90
Turnips, etc.	97	101	91
Hay and Clover	86	104	97
Fodder Corn	88	98	89
Pasture	86	107	104
NOVA SCOTIA			
Spring Wheat	82	91	75
Oats	86	96	84
Barley	81	95	79
Buckwheat	94	98	87
Mixed Grains	81	92	72
Potatoes	84	100	83
Turnips, etc.	89	90	90
Hay and Clover	93	87	103
Fodder Corn	84	91	74
Pasture	95	92	107

Province and Crop	June 30 1943	1944	1945
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
NEW BRUNSWICK			
Spring Wheat	93	96	87
Oats	92	99	85
Barley	92	98	86
Beans	92	95	87
Buckwheat	92	95	92
Mixed Grains	94	99	87
Potatoes	90	98	89
Turnips, etc.	91	96	92
Hay and Clover	89	87	100
Fodder Corn	90	88	94
Pasture	96	95	101
QUEBEC			
Spring Wheat	85	91	87
Oats	86	93	88
Barley	84	92	87
Spring Rye	94	95	89
Peas	86	95	76
Beans	86	95	89
Buckwheat	94	94	94
Mixed Grains	87	95	89
Potatoes	91	99	88
Turnips, etc.	88	92	93
Hay and Clover	109	85	99
Alfalfa	111	86	108
Fodder Corn	71	93	90
Pasture	108	88	103
ONTARIO			
Fall Wheat	82	97	97
Spring Wheat	68	93	85
All Wheat	81	97	96
Oats	66	93	75
Barley	66	94	75
Fall Rye	80	92	91
Peas	71	95	81
Beans	74	97	81
Buckwheat	87	92	86
Mixed Grains	69	97	81
Flaxseed	70	91	87
Corn, Husking	77	96	75
Potatoes	85	96	80
Turnips, etc.	82	98	80
Hay and Clover	97	90	92
Alfalfa	95	91	90
Fodder Corn	82	96	80
Sugar Beets	77	89	90
Pasture	106	97	97

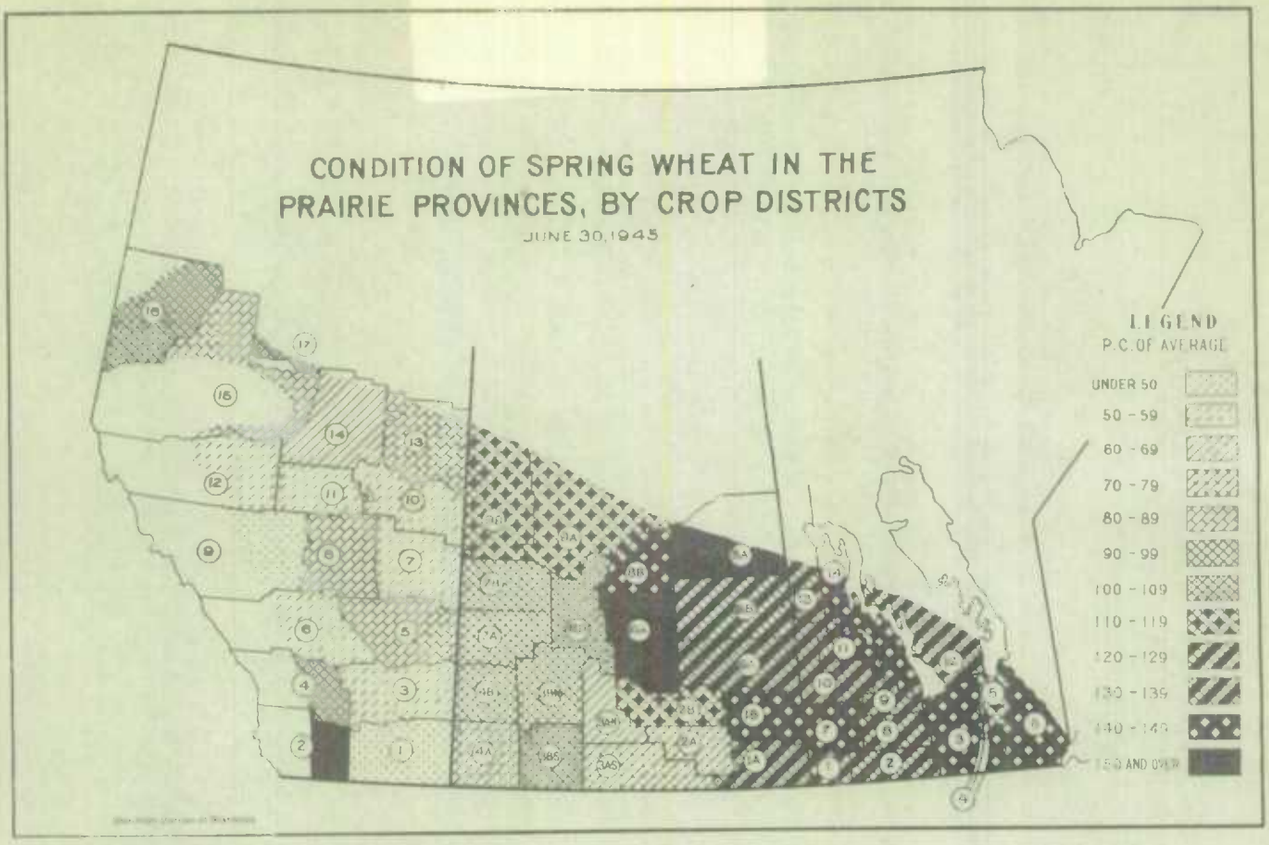
1/ Includes condition figures for Prairie Provinces based on weather factors.

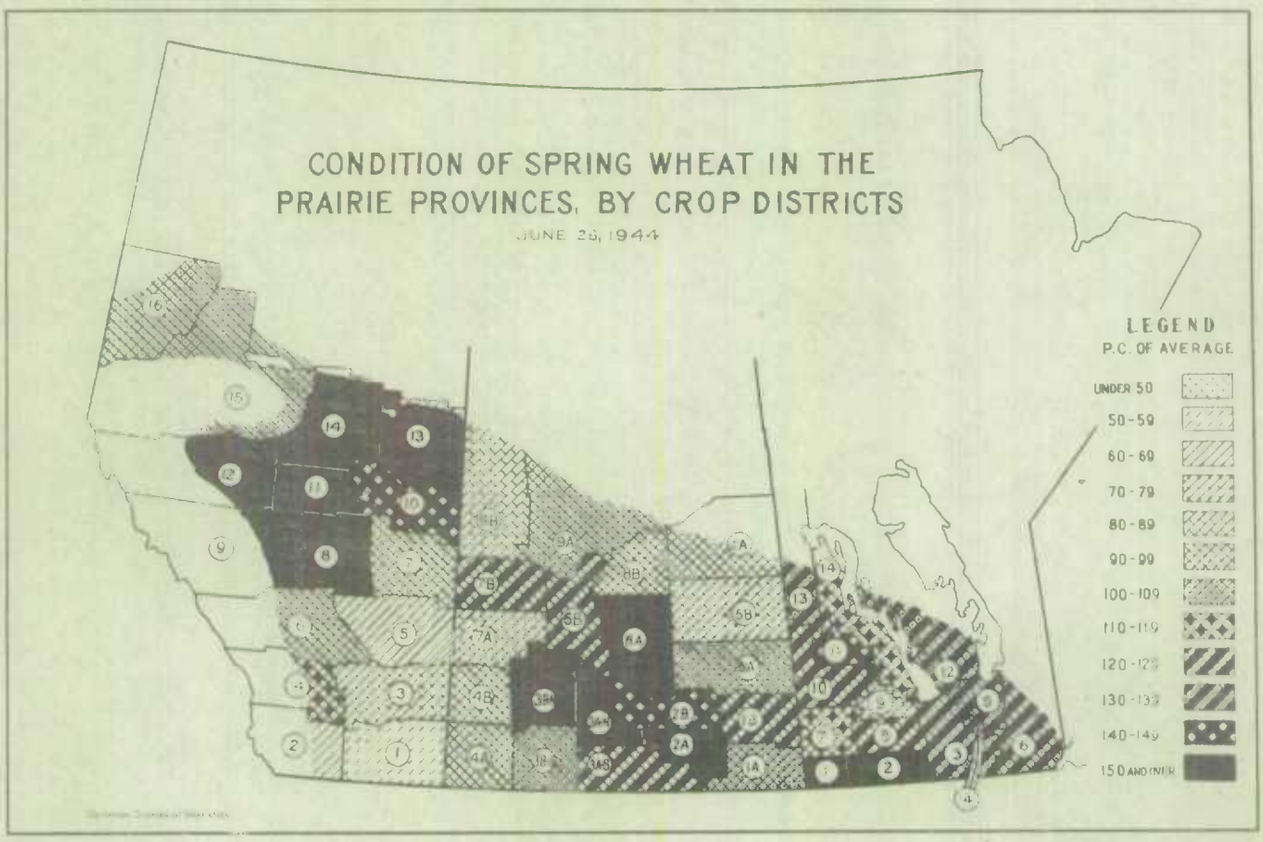
1. Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1945, as Compared with June 30, 1943 and 1944 (Concluded)

Province and Crop	June 30 1943	1944	1945
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
MANITOBA			
Spring Wheat 2/	144	135	135
Oats	90	97	82
Barley	87	96	82
Fall Rye	84	93	83
Spring Rye	87	92	83
All Rye	84	93	83
Peas	86	96	86
Buckwheat	85	84	93
Mixed Grains	89	91	82
Corn, Husking	74	85	77
Flaxseed	91	95	85
Potatoes	83	95	81
Turnips, etc.	85	96	79
Hay and Clover	95	100	87
Alfalfa	91	99	87
Fodder Corn	79	90	80
Sugar Beets	83	85	84
Pasture	102	104	94
SASKATCHEWAN			
Spring Wheat 2/	123	122	109
Oats	95	104	80
Barley	94	103	80
Fall Rye	86	93	69
Spring Rye	94	98	76
All Rye	88	96	72
Mixed Grains	91	95	74
Flaxseed	92	94	72
Potatoes	88	97	78
Turnips, etc.	87	94	80
Hay and Clover	96	103	80
Alfalfa	88	97	94
Fodder Corn	89	92	70
Pasture	98	107	82

Province and Crop	June 30 1943	1944	1945
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
ALBERTA			
Spring Wheat 2/	90	108	73
Oats	87	90	84
Barley	87	90	83
Fall Rye	80	81	88
Spring Rye	86	78	82
All Rye	82	80	86
Peas	89	92	85
Beans	84	89	78
Mixed Grains	85	88	82
Flaxseed	87	80	86
Potatoes	89	93	82
Turnips, etc.	91	92	79
Hay and Clover	93	90	79
Alfalfa	89	92	83
Fodder Corn	76	83	80
Sugar Beets	94	99	93
Pasture	95	89	84
BRITISH COLUMBIA			
Spring Wheat	94	96	92
Oats	94	96	92
Barley	94	97	92
Spring Rye	98	100	100
Peas	95	86	95
Beans	100	98	98
Mixed Grains	95	96	95
Flaxseed	100	100	95
Potatoes	93	98	90
Turnips, etc.	90	93	90
Hay and Clover	86	92	97
Alfalfa	88	96	95
Fodder Corn	88	98	94
Pasture	96	97	98

2/ Condition figures based on weather factors.


CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE
PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS
JUNE 30, 1945
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 25, 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