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W. D. Porter.CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS, JUNE 30, 1946

Ottawa, July 10, 1946 (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 higher than the condition at June 30, 1945 for all field crops, except hay, clover, alfalfa and pastures. The increase in spring wheat condition over last year is quite marked in all provinces with the exception of Manitoba where a sharp decline has been registered from last year's position at the same date. Coarse grains generally show a fair advance over last year's numerical condition figures at the 30th of June, with Manitoba again being the exception. Crop conditions are perhaps most favourable in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia with no crop in the latter province having a condition figure of less than 95 per cent.

It is emphasized that numerical condition figures do not necessarily reflect ultimate yields. The condition data for all crops with the exception of spring wheat in the Prairie Provinces are obtained through the medium of reports from hundreds of informed persons who express their opinion of crop conditions at June 30 as a percentage of the long-term average yield per acre. The condition figures for the western wheat crop are derived from an analysis of weather factors, but the same caution applies. Any deviations from normal in respect to weather factors, plant diseases, or insect infestations occurring between June 30 and harvest-time may lead to outturns which will vary considerably from those apparently indicated by the June 30 numerical condition figures.

The spring wheat condition figures for the Prairie Provinces as based on an analysis of weather factors present a fairly bright picture this year. In sharp contrast to last year, Alberta leads the three provinces with a condition figure of 127, while Manitoba is lowest with a figure of 103. Saskatchewan's condition figure at 123 is up 14 points from last year's level and is one point above the 1944 figure. Manitoba's relatively low position is largely attributable to inadequate rainfall between April 1 and June 30. While spring rainfall has been well below normal in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan and slightly below normal in Alberta, generally good pre-seasonal moisture conditions, together with fairly satisfactory spacing of the spring rains, have maintained conditions at a higher level than would otherwise have prevailed. In arriving at the final wheat condition figures, consideration has also been given to the fact that a larger percentage of the wheat crop is currently being sown on summer-fallow than was the case in most pre-war years.

Feed grain crops in nearly all parts of the country are in better condition than last year but hay, clover, alfalfa and pastures have not generally fared as well, except in Alberta and British Columbia where fairly substantial improvements in condition over last year are indicated. Dry weather early in the season in some areas of Manitoba and Saskatchewan retarded germination and growth of coarse grains, and stands are thin with light yields in prospect. Extremely hot, dry weather during the last week in June was causing rapid deterioration of pastures in Quebec. The condition figure for fodder corn for the country as a whole stood at 92 as compared with a figure of 82 last year.

The condition of fall wheat in Ontario is somewhat better than last year, while the all-Canada figures show an increase of ten points each for peas, beans and potatoes over last year's condition at the same date. The outlook for husking corn in Ontario is well above that of last year but is still below average. Manitoba's corn crop is in relatively poor condition, due largely to unfavourable moisture and temperature factors since seeding. The flaxseed crop shows an over-all condition of 83 as compared with 76 a year ago. The sugar beet outlook is quite good with the all-Canada condition figure standing at 95. Prospects are best in Alberta and poorest in Manitoba.

Cold, wet weather delayed spring work in the Maritimes, Quebec and eastern Ontario, but the season was generally earlier than normal over the remainder of the country. Spring wheat seeding in the west was almost completed by early May but windy dry weather prevailed over southern Alberta and Saskatchewan for much of the remainder of the month and soil drifting caused considerable damage in some areas. A certain amount of reseeding was done and it is quite possible that these unfavourable conditions early in the season may have deterred farmers in the affected areas from seeding as large acreages to field crops as they originally intended. Fortunately, timely rains occurred throughout June and conditions were greatly improved by the end of the month.

Weather Since July 1

Further rains have fallen over the Prairies since the end of June, with Manitoba benefitting particularly. Hail storms have caused considerable damage over fairly wide areas in southern and central Alberta and in some parts of Saskatchewan. Conditions in Ontario have been generally well maintained by good rains during the first week in July with pastures greatly improved in many areas.

Numerical Condition of Field Crops, June 30, 1946

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at June 30, 1946, expressed in percentage of the long-time average yields per acre, was reported as follows, with figures for June 30, 1945, within brackets: Fall wheat 101 (97); spring wheat 122 (101); all wheat 122 (100); oats 89 (82); barley 84 (81); fall rye 86 (78); spring rye 87 (78); all rye 86 (78); peas 93 (83); beans 92 (82); buckwheat 94 (89); mixed grains 96 (83); flaxseed 83 (76); corn for husking 88 (75); potatoes 95 (85); turnips, etc. 94 (86); hay and clover 88 (95); alfalfa 85 (90); fodder corn 92 (82); sugar beets 95 (90); pasture 93 (99).

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at June 30, 1946 was reported as follows, with the figures for June 30, 1945, within brackets: Manitoba - Wheat 103 (135); oats 70 (82); barley 70 (82); rye 75 (83); flaxseed 75 (85). Saskatchewan - Wheat 123 (109); oats 87 (80); barley 84 (80); rye 82 (72); flaxseed 85 (72). Alberta - Wheat 127 (73); oats 98 (84); barley 96 (83); rye 92 (86); flaxseed 94 (86).

Condition of Wheat By Crop Districts in the Prairie Provinces

The two charts on the last page of the report show the condition of the spring wheat crop within crop districts of the Prairie Provinces as it existed at June 30, for 1946 and 1945. The charts are directly comparable as between the two years. The crop district condition figures are based on the more important weather factors affecting the growth of the wheat plant, including precipitation during the preceding autumn period, and precipitation and temperatures during the months of April, May and June.

The sharp differences in wheat condition between adjacent crop districts as shown on the charts is an inherent characteristic where crop-district averages of condition are employed, and the true gradations of condition must be inferred. The condition figures are expressed as percentages of the long-time average yields of wheat for each province.

In Manitoba, the wheat crop in Districts 1 and 12 was seriously affected by rainfall deficiencies during the growing season. In Districts 2, 7 and 8 the condition of wheat was reduced below normal by less than normal preseasonal precipitation coupled with high temperatures during the earlier part of the growing season. Above-normal preseasonal rainfall and timely rains during the current year maintained the usual higher condition of wheat in relation to the provincial average in Districts 4, 5, 6, 10 and 11.

With preseasonal precipitation in Saskatchewan generally favourable, the pattern of wheat condition in crop districts was influenced largely by current rainfall shortages and temperatures. In District 1A, the wheat crop suffered from a combination of below-normal rainfall and above-normal temperatures throughout the season. Relatively low temperatures in Districts 2B, 5A, 5B, 6A, 7B and 9A offset moisture deficiencies and the condition in these districts is relatively favourable. Timely rains in the remaining districts prevented deterioration from otherwise below-normal moisture supplies.

The condition of the wheat crop in Alberta is very favourable in all districts as a result of generous rains during the latter part of the current season. Condition in the north-western and Peace River districts was reduced somewhat owing to less generous rains.

Weather Summary for the Prairie Provinces

Preseasonal precipitation was generally favourable for the 1946 wheat crop in the Prairie Provinces, averaging slightly below normal in Manitoba and slightly above normal in both Saskatchewan and Alberta. Within crop districts the preseasonal pattern was variable. In Manitoba, Crop Districts 2, 7, 8 and 12 were well below normal, while in Districts 4, 5, 6 and 10 preseasonal precipitation was well above normal. In Saskatchewan, all districts except 5A and 5B received above-normal rainfall during the preseasonal period, with Districts 3BN, 4A and 4B being well above normal. Crop Districts 4, 5, 6, 8 and 13 in Alberta recorded preseasonal rainfall of one inch or more above normal, while the Peace River district record was one inch below normal.

Current seasonal rainfall, on the other hand, was generally unfavourable except in Alberta. Rainfall in Manitoba from April 1 to June 30 averaged only sixty per cent of normal, close to normal rainfall occurring in Crop Districts 6, 10 and 11, and shortages of two inches or more accruing in Districts 1 and 12. In Saskatchewan current rainfall averaged about seventy-five per cent of normal during this period, all districts recording below-normal amounts. Crop Districts 5A, 6A, 6B and 9B differed from normal by less than one inch, while the greater deficiencies occurred in the southern districts and in the north-east. Close to normal current rainfall fell in Alberta, above-normal amounts being received in the south-western and west-central districts and well below-normal rains occurring in the north-western and Peace River districts.

Temperatures during the early part of the growing season were above normal in all provinces and particularly high in Manitoba. During the month of June, however, temperatures were below normal. Crop District 12 in Manitoba, Crop District 1A in Saskatchewan and Crop District 13 in Alberta were the only districts to experience appreciably above-normal temperatures during June.

1. Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1946, as Compared with June 30, 1944 and 1945

Note - 100 = Long-time Average Yield Per Acre

Province and Crop	June 30			Province and Crop	June 30		
	1944	1945	1946		1944	1945	1946
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
<u>CANADA</u>				<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>			
Fall Wheat	97	97	101	Spring Wheat	96	87	96
Spring Wheat <u>1/</u>	119	101	122	Oats	99	85	93
All Wheat <u>1/</u>	118	100	122	Barley	98	86	95
Oats	98	82	89	Beans	95	87	92
Barley	97	81	84	Buckwheat	95	92	89
Fall Rye	91	78	86	Mixed Grains	99	87	95
Spring Rye	93	78	87	Potatoes	98	89	93
All Rye	92	78	86	Turnips, etc.	96	92	92
Peas	94	83	93	Hay and Clover	87	100	83
Beans	97	82	92	Fodder Corn	88	94	89
Buckwheat	93	89	94	Pasture	95	101	86
Mixed Grains	96	83	96				
Flaxseed	91	76	83	<u>QUEBEC</u>			
Corn, Husking	94	75	88	Spring Wheat	91	87	96
Potatoes	98	85	95	Oats	93	88	90
Turnips, etc.	95	86	94	Barley	92	87	90
Hay and Clover	89	95	88	Spring Rye	95	89	92
Alfalfa	93	90	85	Peas	95	76	92
Fodder Corn	94	82	92	Beans	95	89	89
Sugar Beets	93	90	95	Buckwheat	94	94	92
Pasture	94	99	93	Mixed Grains	95	89	91
				Potatoes	99	88	94
<u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u>				Turnips, etc.	92	93	91
Spring Wheat	100	92	97	Hay and Clover	85	99	90
Oats	102	92	98	Alfalfa	86	108	84
Barley	99	89	98	Fodder Corn	93	90	91
Buckwheat	98	95	94	Sugar Beets	-	-	95
Mixed Grains	101	93	99	Pasture	88	103	93
Potatoes	102	90	99				
Turnips, etc.	101	91	96	<u>ONTARIO</u>			
Hay and Clover	104	97	86	Fall Wheat	97	97	101
Fodder Corn	98	89	93	Spring Wheat	93	85	97
Pasture	107	104	99	All Wheat	97	96	101
				Oats	95	75	98
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>				Barley	94	75	98
Spring Wheat	91	75	91	Fall Rye	92	91	103
Oats	96	84	93	Peas	95	81	95
Barley	95	79	93	Beans	97	81	92
Buckwheat	98	87	92	Buckwheat	92	86	96
Mixed Grains	92	72	92	Mixed Grains	97	81	99
Potatoes	100	83	97	Flaxseed	91	87	97
Turnips, etc.	90	90	94	Corn, Husking	96	75	89
Hay and Clover	87	103	87	Potatoes	96	80	98
Fodder Corn	91	74	95	Turnips, etc.	98	80	97
Pasture	92	107	92	Hay and Clover	90	92	85
				Alfalfa	91	90	85
				Fodder Corn	96	80	94
				Sugar Beets	89	90	88
				Pasture	97	97	94

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

1. Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1946, as Compared with June 30, 1944 and 1945
(Concluded)

Province and Crop	June 30			Province and Crop	June 30		
	1944	1945	1946		1944	1945	1946
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
<u>MANITOBA</u>				<u>ALBERTA</u>			
Spring Wheat <u>2/</u>	135	135	103	Spring Wheat <u>2/</u>	108	73	127
Oats	97	82	70	Oats	90	84	98
Barley	96	82	70	Barley	90	83	96
Fall Rye	93	83	77	Fall Rye	81	88	91
Spring Rye	92	83	72	Spring Rye	78	82	93
All Rye	93	83	75	All Rye	80	86	92
Peas	96	86	77	Peas	92	85	98
Buckwheat	84	93	70	Beans	89	78	82
Mixed Grains	91	82	75	Mixed Grains	88	82	99
Corn, Husking	85	77	66	Flaxseed	80	86	94
Flaxseed	95	85	75	Potatoes	93	82	99
Potatoes	95	81	80	Turnips, etc.	92	79	96
Turnips, etc.	96	79	81	Hay and Clover	90	79	102
Hay and Clover	100	87	67	Alfalfa	92	83	100
Alfalfa	99	87	70	Fodder Corn	83	80	97
Fodder Corn	90	80	71	Sugar Beets	99	93	100
Sugar Beets	85	84	75	Pasture	89	84	108
Pasture	104	94	69				
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>				<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>			
Spring Wheat <u>2/</u>	122	109	123	Spring Wheat	96	92	98
Oats	104	80	87	Oats	96	92	99
Barley	103	80	84	Barley	97	92	98
Fall Rye	93	69	80	Spring Rye	100	100	100
Spring Rye	98	76	85	Peas	86	95	100
All Rye	96	72	82	Beans	98	98	100
Mixed Grains	95	74	79	Mixed Grains	96	95	100
Flaxseed	94	72	85	Flaxseed	100	95	95
Potatoes	97	78	91	Potatoes	98	90	100
Turnips, etc.	94	80	83	Turnips, etc.	93	90	96
Hay and Clover	103	80	82	Hay and Clover	92	97	102
Alfalfa	97	94	82	Alfalfa	96	95	101
Fodder Corn	92	70	80	Fodder Corn	98	94	95
Pasture	107	82	84	Pasture	97	98	106

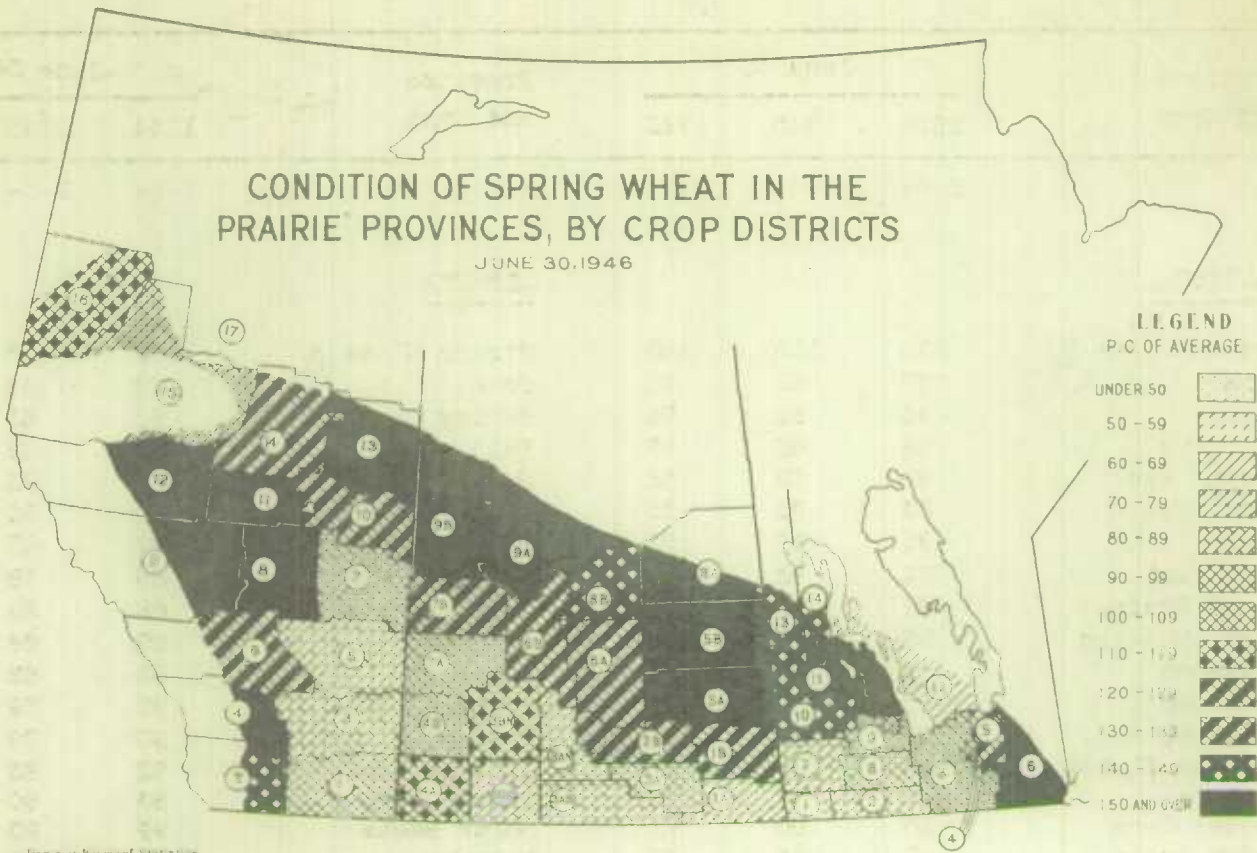
2/ Condition figures based on weather factors.



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CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS

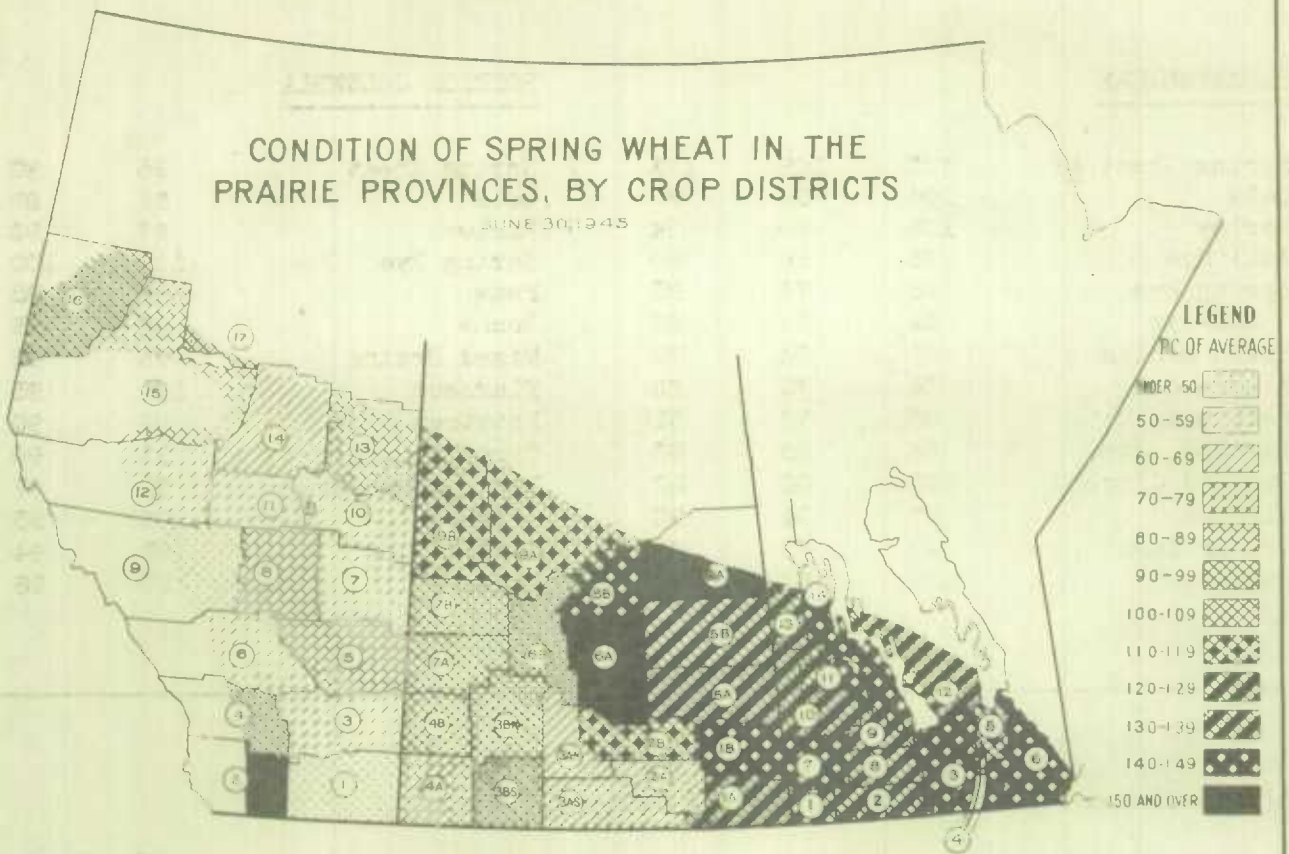
JUNE 30, 1946



Domestic Bureau of Statistics

CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS

JUNE 30, 1945



Domestic Bureau of Statistics