

C. R. No. 12

9 4 8

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION
OTTAWA, CANADA22-002
no. 12
1948
c. 2Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and CommerceDominion Statistician: Herbert Marshall
Director, Agricultural Division: C. V. Parker
Chief, Crop Section: W. D. PorterDOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS
13 154
PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARYCONDITION OF FIELD CROPS, JUNE 30, 1948

Ottawa, July 13, 1948, 3 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today its report on the condition of field crops in Canada at June 30. The numerical condition is expressed as a percentage of the long-time average yield per acre for each crop respectively in each of the provinces.

The numerical condition of wheat, oats and barley at June 30 this year was considerably below that of last year at the same time. Rye and flaxseed condition figures were somewhat less than a year ago whereas figures for other crops were nearly the same or slightly higher than those of 1947. Adverse weather in the Prairie Provinces pulled down the average for all Canada especially for wheat and, to a lesser degree, oats, barley and flaxseed. Fall rye, however, although somewhat lower, has fared better than the other major grain crops. Minor crops are grown more extensively in the eastern provinces and favourable weather this year has resulted in higher condition figures for peas, beans, buckwheat, mixed grains, potatoes and root crops. Hay and clover and pasture conditions are only slightly less favourable than at the same time last year.

Condition data for all crops with the exception of spring wheat for the Prairie Provinces are obtained through the medium of reports from hundreds of informed persons who are asked to express their opinion of crop conditions at June 30 as a percentage of the long-time provincial average yield per acre. It should be pointed out that the all-Canada condition figure for each crop is an average of the provincial condition figures weighted by the 1947 acreage devoted to the crop in each province. It is important also to emphasize that condition figures do not necessarily reflect ultimate yields. Any deviations from normal in respect to weather factors, plant diseases or insect infestations 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 based on weather factors indicated poorer yields in prospect at June 30 this year than at the same time a year ago when prospects were good. In Alberta and Saskatchewan wheat condition declined 29 and 34 points respectively, from the reported condition at June 30 a year ago. The decline for Manitoba was not so great and prospects in this province were still above the long-time average.

Prospects for feed grain crops in the Prairie Provinces were also not as encouraging as last year at June 30. Greatly improved conditions in eastern Canada over a year ago, however, will serve to make up in part for anticipated reductions in output of these crops. In Ontario the condition of

the winter wheat crop at 97 points was 6 points above last year. Other grain crops show greater improvement over the low points reached last year in all eastern provinces except Nova Scotia. In this province wet, cold weather delayed seeding operations and retarded growth. Hay and fodder crops in British Columbia were above normal but, with the exception of spring rye, grain crops are generally 10 to 15 points below normal. Crop conditions throughout this province are extremely variable as a result of the late season and subsequent floods.

Weather Since July 1

Above-normal temperatures and continued lack of rainfall have prevailed over the greater part of Alberta and Saskatchewan since July 1. Good rains were received in Manitoba during this period and fair to good rainfall occurred in eastern Saskatchewan, north-eastern Alberta and in the Peace River district. Elsewhere practically no precipitation was received with the result that large areas of crop land in Saskatchewan and Alberta urgently require rain.

Favourable weather has prevailed in Ontario since July 1, and the outlook for all crops is excellent.

Numerical Condition of Field Crops, June 30, 1948

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at June 30, 1948, expressed in percentage of the long-time average yields per acre, was reported as follows, with figures for June 30, 1947 within brackets: Fall wheat 97 (91); spring wheat 95 (125); all wheat 95 (125); oats 80 (88); barley 78 (91); fall rye 79 (85); spring rye 75 (89); all rye 78 (87); peas 90 (84); beans 96 (76); buckwheat 96 (87); mixed grains 96 (74); flaxseed 83 (93); corn for husking 94 (78); potatoes 95 (83); turnips, etc. 93 (82); hay and clover 94 (94); alfalfa 92 (91); fodder corn 94 (80); sugar beets 90 (89); pasture 97 (99).

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at June 30, 1948, was reported as follows, with the figures for June 30, 1947 within brackets: Manitoba - Wheat 113 (126); oats 88 (92); barley 87 (92); rye 92 (91); flaxseed 90 (91). Saskatchewan - Wheat 93 (127); oats 68 (91); barley 72 (92); rye 73 (86); flaxseed 75 (95). Alberta - Wheat 94 (123); oats 76 (93); barley 76 (93); rye 85 (84); flaxseed 82 (93).

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 1948 and 1947. 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 difference 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, and therefore the condition of wheat as shown in the charts is not directly comparable as between provinces.

In Manitoba, the condition of wheat at June 30 this year was above or only slightly below normal in all the important wheat areas of the province except Crop District No. 1. In the latter district considerably below-normal seasonal rainfall and unfavourable temperature conditions reduced the condition of wheat well below normal. The highest wheat condition was recorded in Crop District No. 3 where over one-fourth of the wheat acreage in the province is located. In spite of the generally favourable conditions in Manitoba this year, the condition of wheat in all districts but two is below that of June 30 of a year ago and is markedly lower in nine of the fourteen official crop districts. Rainfall during the growing season has been somewhat below normal in all crop districts but generous preseasonal rains afforded good subsoil moisture reserves in most districts.

The condition of wheat in Saskatchewan at June 30 this year was less favourable with only the eastern and northern districts recording above-normal conditions. Apart from the eastern and northern districts, the condition of wheat was generally from five to twenty-five points below normal although in the central area of the province Crop Districts 3AN and 6B registered conditions forty to fifty points below normal. In only two districts, 8A and 9A, was the condition of wheat higher than at June 30 of last year. With the exception of the northern and extreme south-western districts the wheat condition this year was considerably below last year's June 30 condition. Rainfall during the period April through June was considerably below normal in all but one district though preseasonal rains of last autumn which were well above normal in the eastern and northern districts, provided good subsoil moisture reserves.

In Alberta below-normal wheat condition was indicated at June 30 in the eastern, central and Peace River districts while well above-normal condition was recorded in the three south-western crop districts. In the latter three districts rainfall from April 1 to June 30 was from one and one-half to five inches above normal. In east-central Alberta, the condition of wheat in Crop Districts 5 and 7 was less than fifty per cent of normal. South of this area in Districts 1 and 3 the wheat condition was about seventy-five per cent of the provincial normal, while in the northern Districts 10 and 13 the wheat condition was from twenty-five to thirty-five points below normal. Much below-normal condition was indicated in Crop District 8, although further north in Districts 11 and 14 nearly-normal condition was recorded. In the Peace River district the condition of wheat was slightly below normal. Compared with condition at June 30 of last year, all districts but three show declines in wheat condition this year with the declines being particularly large in Districts 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10.

Preseasonal rainfall was very favourable in practically all crop districts of the Prairie Provinces but in contrast, current seasonal rains have been generally deficient in most areas with a few notable exceptions. Early seasonal temperatures were much below normal in practically all districts but in May and June above-normal temperatures were recorded in most districts. Because of the lateness of seeding over large areas and the very rapid emergence of the first seedings with possibly inadequate root development, there is some doubt as to the ability of the wheat plant to utilize fully the subsoil moisture reserves. Under such circumstances it is possible that too much weight may be given to the influence of preseasonal rainfall on the condition of wheat. Consideration of this factor in the interpretation of the wheat condition estimates above is advisable.

Weather Summary for the Prairie Provinces

Precipitation and temperature data in the Prairie Provinces are compiled initially on a crop-district basis. The crop-district averages are then weighted by wheat acreage in the respective districts to obtain provincial acreage-weighted averages of precipitation and temperature.

Preseasonal rainfall was again very favourable for the 1948 wheat crop in all three of the Prairie Provinces. In Manitoba, preseasonal rainfall was above normal in all but two districts, Crop Districts 8 and 12, the remaining crop districts receiving rainfall ranging from one to five inches above normal. Preseasonal precipitation in Saskatchewan was above normal in all districts except 3BS and 4A but the excess over normal was not as uniformly large as in Manitoba. In Districts 5B and 8A preseasonal rains were more than 3 inches above normal. All crop districts in Alberta shared in the above-normal preseasonal rainfall. Rainfall was particularly heavy in the south-western, central and east-central districts with less generous rainfall occurring in the north-western districts.

In contrast current seasonal rainfall in the Prairie Provinces has been below normal in practically all crop districts with the notable exception of south-western Alberta. In Manitoba, rainfall during May and June was below normal in all districts with deficiencies of two inches or more in Districts 1, 6, 9, 12 and 13. In Districts 2 and 3 May-June rainfall was only about one-half inch below normal. Rainfall in Saskatchewan during the period April 1 to June 28 was below normal in all crop districts except in District 9A. Rainfall during June was very light and accounts for most of the below-normal total for the period. Current rainfall has been two inches or more below normal in the southern districts as far west as District 3A and in the west-central, north-eastern, and north-western districts. South-western Saskatchewan and the east-central districts have received rainfall from one to two inches below normal. Rainfall since April 1 in Alberta has been above normal in the south-western and north-western districts but elsewhere seasonal rainfall has been below normal. The most significant shortages have occurred in Districts 3, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 13, where rainfall has ranged from one and one-half to two and one-half inches below normal. Rains during April were above normal in all but the southern districts and the moisture deficiency which developed during the May-June period is particularly acute in the eastern and central districts.

Temperatures during the earlier part of the growing season were well below normal in most districts of the three provinces. South-eastern Manitoba and south-western Saskatchewan crop districts recorded temperatures close to or slightly above normal. Over the April-May period temperatures averaged close to two and one-half degrees below normal. Temperatures during June were more variable over the Prairies averaging slightly below normal in Manitoba, one degree above normal in Saskatchewan, and approximately two and one-half degrees above normal in Alberta. In Manitoba temperatures were above normal in June in the west-central and northern districts but normal or below elsewhere in the province. Over southern and east-central Saskatchewan June temperatures were close to normal but in other districts temperatures were well above normal. With the exception of the extreme south in Alberta June temperatures were considerably above normal and were particularly high in those districts where rainfall had been light.

1. CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS AT JUNE 30, 1948 AS COMPARED WITH JUNE 30, 1947 and 1946

Note: 100 = Long-time Average Yield per Acre

Province and Crop	June 30			Province and Crop	June 30		
	1948	1947	1946		1948	1947	1946
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
<u>CANADA</u>				<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>			
Fall Wheat	97	91	101	Spring Wheat	97	78	96
Spring Wheat 1/	95	125	122	Oats	93	76	93
All Wheat 1/	95	125	122	Barley	91	78	95
Oats	80	88	89	Beans	85	79	92
Barley	78	91	84	Buckwheat	93	86	89
Fall Rye	79	85	86	Mixed Grains	91	78	95
Spring Rye	75	89	87	Potatoes	95	78	93
All Rye	78	87	86	Turnips, etc.	86	80	92
Peas	90	84	93	Hay and Clover	102	89	83
Beans	96	76	92	Fodder Corn	82	84	89
Buckwheat	96	87	94	Pasture	100	98	86
Mixed Grains	96	74	96				
Flaxseed	83	93	83	<u>QUEBEC</u>			
Corn, Husking	94	78	88	Spring Wheat	96	76	96
Potatoes	95	83	95	Oats	96	86	90
Turnips, etc.	93	82	94	Barley	98	86	90
Hay and Clover	94	94	88	Spring Rye	95	76	92
Alfalfa	92	91	85	Peas	99	71	92
Fodder Corn	94	80	92	Beans	98	77	89
Sugar Beets	90	89	95	Buckwheat	98	86	92
Pasture	97	99	93	Mixed Grains	101	85	91
				Potatoes	102	81	94
<u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u>				Turnips, etc.	96	81	91
Spring Wheat	94	90	97	Hay and Clover	95	97	90
Oats	95	90	98	Alfalfa	97	89	84
Barley	93	88	98	Fodder Corn	95	78	91
Buckwheat	98	88	94	Sugar Beets	102	91	95
Mixed Grains	93	90	99	Pasture	97	99	93
Potatoes	96	89	99				
Turnips, etc.	94	93	96	<u>ONTARIO</u>			
Hay and Clover	106	76	86	Fall Wheat	97	91	101
Fodder Corn	97	95	93	Spring Wheat	90	67	97
Pasture	110	88	99	All Wheat	97	89	101
				Oats	92	65	98
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>				Barley	90	65	98
Spring Wheat	75	82	91	Fall Rye	98	95	103
Oats	76	89	93	Peas	95	75	95
Barley	64	86	93	Beans	96	76	92
Buckwheat	92	83	92	Buckwheat	95	87	96
Mixed Grains	60	90	92	Mixed Grains	95	68	99
Potatoes	78	90	97	Flaxseed	88	75	97
Turnips, etc.	81	86	94	Corn, Husking	94	78	89
Hay and Clover	99	97	87	Potatoes	98	78	98
Fodder Corn	75	93	95	Turnips, etc.	95	79	97
Pasture	105	102	92	Hay and Clover	91	91	85
				Alfalfa	94	91	85
				Fodder Corn	95	79	94
				Sugar Beets	94	80	88
				Pasture	96	99	94

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

1. CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS AT JUNE 30, 1948 AS COMPARED WITH JUNE 30, 1947 AND 1946
(concluded)

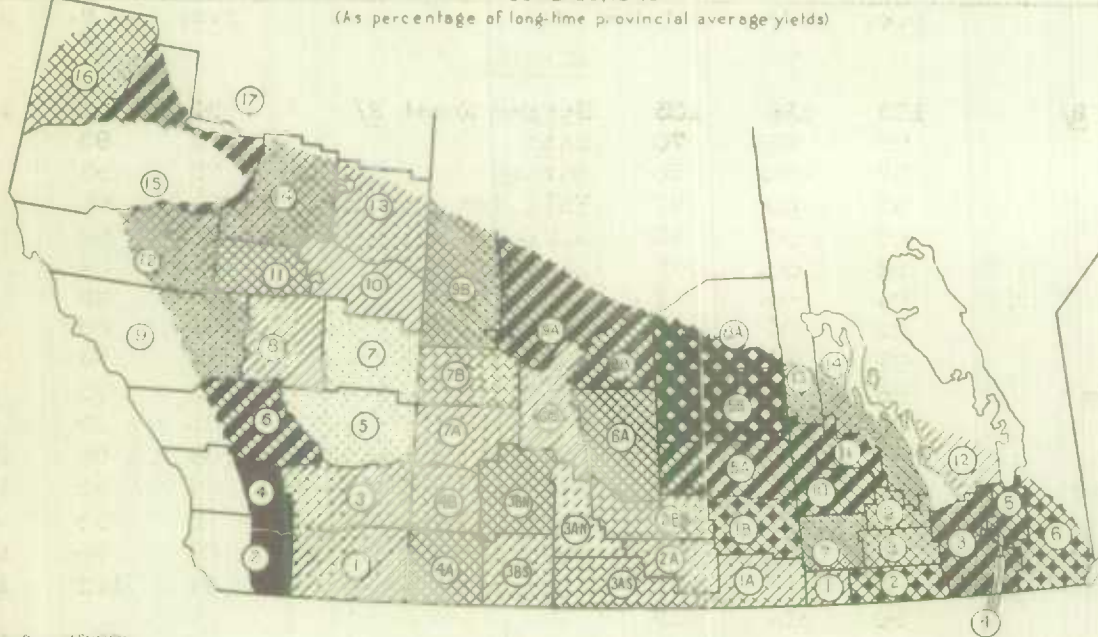
Province and Crop	June 30			Province and Crop	June 30		
	1948	1947	1946		1948	1947	1946
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
<u>MANITOBA</u>				<u>ALBERTA</u>			
Spring Wheat <u>2/</u>	113	126	103	Spring Wheat <u>2/</u>	94	123	127
Oats	88	92	70	Oats	76	93	98
Barley	87	92	70	Barley	76	93	96
Fall Rye	93	89	77	Fall Rye	91	82	91
Spring Rye	89	94	72	Spring Rye	76	89	93
All Rye	92	91	75	All Rye	85	84	92
Peas	84	94	77	Peas	85	92	98
Buckwheat	91	86	70	Beans	78	88	82
Mixed Grains	91	94	75	Mixed Grains	70	95	99
Corn, Husking	86	83	66	Flaxseed	82	93	94
Flaxseed	90	91	75	Potatoes	83	93	99
Potatoes	89	89	80	Hay and Clover	88	95	102
Hay and Clover	92	96	67	Alfalfa	89	91	100
Alfalfa	90	96	70	Fodder Corn	73	93	97
Fodder Corn	88	85	71	Sugar Beets	88	98	100
Sugar Beets	84	83	75	Pasture	94	102	108
Pasture	90	102	69				
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>				<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>			
Spring Wheat <u>2/</u>	93	127	123	Spring Wheat	85	92	98
Oats	68	91	87	Oats	88	94	99
Barley	72	92	84	Barley	81	90	98
Fall Rye	73	83	80	Spring Rye	98	91	100
Spring Rye	71	90	85	Peas	90	95	100
All Rye	73	86	82	Beans	93	96	100
Peas	76	-	-	Mixed Grains	88	92	100
Mixed Grains	71	76	79	Flaxseed	80	75	95
Flaxseed	75	95	85	Potatoes	92	95	100
Potatoes	84	90	91	Turnips, etc.	89	96	96
Hay and Clover	78	87	82	Hay and Clover	101	97	102
Alfalfa	79	77	82	Alfalfa	103	94	101
Fodder Corn	78	88	80	Fodder Corn	95	94	95
Pasture	80	91	84	Pasture	105	101	106

2/ Condition figures based on weather factors.

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

JUNE 30, 1948

(As percentage of long-time provincial average yields)



LEGEND

P.C. OF AVERAGE

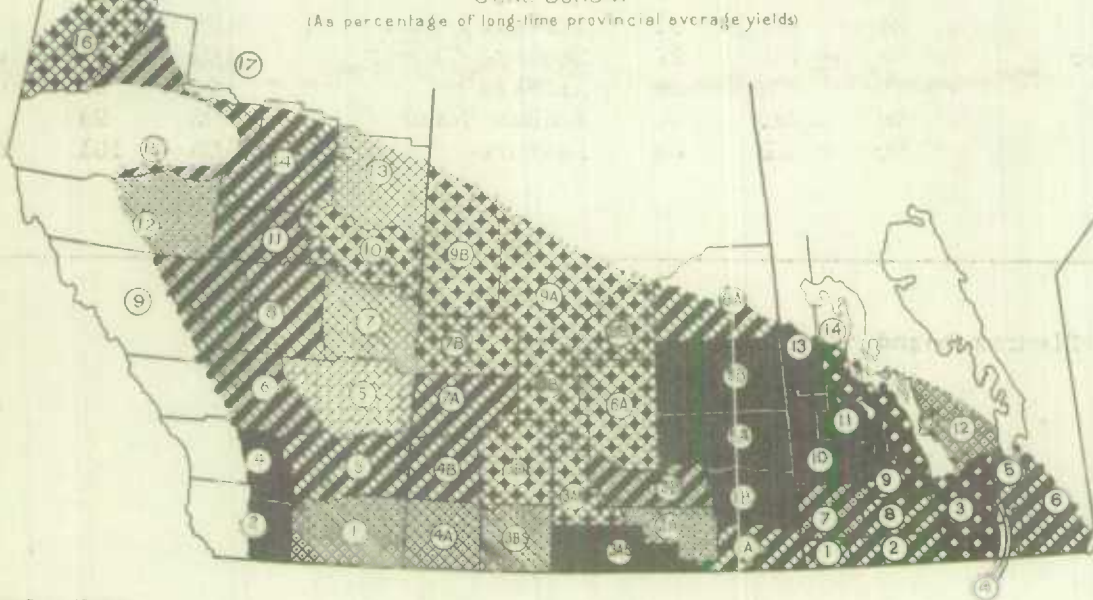
40-49	[Stippled pattern]
50-59	[Diagonal lines \]
60-69	[Diagonal lines /]
70-79	[Cross-hatch pattern]
80-89	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
90-99	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
100-109	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
110-119	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
120-129	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
130-139	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
140-149	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
150 AND OVER	[Solid black]

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

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

JUNE 30, 1947

(As percentage of long-time provincial average yields)



LEGEND

P.C. OF AVERAGE

UNDER 50	[Stippled pattern]
50-59	[Diagonal lines \]
60-69	[Diagonal lines /]
70-79	[Cross-hatch pattern]
80-89	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
90-99	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
100-109	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
110-119	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
120-129	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
130-139	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
140-149	[Dense cross-hatch pattern]
150 AND OVER	[Solid black]

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010524460