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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the seventh of the 1954 series of eight telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the twelfth of a series of fourteen telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the Federal 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.

SUMMARY

Throughout the Maritime Provinces wet weather prevailed during the last two weeks. This has delayed haying which is still under way throughout the area. Cutting of the grain crop has started in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. All three provinces report some late blight on potatoes and army worm damage, the latter confined to certain localities. In Prince Edward Island many farmers have been able to save only a small proportion of their hay crop. Pastures, however, are in excellent condition but grain is ripening slowly. The potato crop is promising although late blight is reported. Grain crops are now being cut generally in eastern Nova Scotia, with good yields reported in spite of local army worm damage. Haying, however, is not yet completed due to wet weather. Pastures and root crops are in good condition. Early potatoes and vegetables are on the market. Reports from New Brunswick indicate that considerable hay is still standing, with some spoiled completely and much stored in poor condition because of the wet weather. Cutting of the grain crop has started and average yields are anticipated, although bad lodging is reported. Late blight is present in the potato crop, with some fields wiped out.

Rains during the past two weeks further delayed completion of haying in Quebec. Many fields are still uncut and much of the crop is of mediocre quality due to adverse weather and over-maturity. Grains are ripening and harvesting should begin shortly. Yields are expected to vary from fair to good. Pastures and second growth meadows are in excellent condition although some fields are being damaged by trampling due to the soaked condition of the soil. Early potatoes are yielding well but the tomato crop will be smaller than in 1953. Green peas and beans have yielded well and other truck crops are fairly promising. The outlook for orchard crops is only average although in the region south of Montreal the harvest of Melba apples is well advanced. The fruit is of good

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Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

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Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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quality. Cutting of flue-cured tobacco is under way and yields are satisfactory.

Cutting of spring grains is general throughout the southern part of Ontario, with average yields for the province higher than earlier anticipated. Although heavy losses have been caused to individual fields by army worms, the total loss for the province will be relatively small. Yields of spring grains were generally light in the counties bordering Lake Erie but elsewhere are fairly good. Both yield and quality of fall wheat have been good but some combining remains to be done. Recent rains in large areas of the province have revived pastures but have further delayed the hay harvest in parts of Eastern Ontario and in Northern Ontario. The rains have been particularly beneficial to corn and other late crops although moisture is still inadequate in those areas of the southwestern part of the province previously suffering from drought. Tobacco harvesting is well under way but has been delayed by wet weather and cool nights. Late potatoes have benefited from recent rains although white grubs are active in some counties, and blight may result from excessive rains in parts of Eastern and Northern Ontario.

Swathing has started in the southern parts of all three Prairie Provinces. Generally, however, harvesting will be abnormally late this year. With the exception of parts of southern Alberta and relatively small areas of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, moisture supplies are adequate to bring crops to maturity. The principal requirement over most of the Prairies is an extended period of warm, dry weather to advance crops and enable them to escape frost damage and lessen the ravages of rust. The Plant Pathology Laboratory at Winnipeg in its rust report of August 13, states in part: "Leaf rust infection on wheat is the heaviest on record and will cause a marked yield reduction throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan. It seems likely that it will cause losses in yield ranging from 10 per cent or less in some districts to 30 per cent or more in others where the rust appeared very early. Stem rust is still developing except in the small proportion of the wheat crop now mature or nearing maturity and consequently the amount of damage is hard to predict except for the durum wheat which, in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, will be largely ruined except for a relatively few early fields." The threat of rust in Alberta is generally less serious than in the other two provinces. Hail, however, has taken a heavy toll in Alberta and in some areas of Saskatchewan. Damage from this source has been relatively light in Manitoba.

With the exception of a few scattered showers, the weather in British Columbia has been generally clear and dry, but not especially hot, during the past two weeks. Cutting of spring wheat is expected to get under way in some areas of the Peace River Block about the end of August. In the Northern Okanagan harvesting of second-cut alfalfa is nearing completion. Cutting of grain crops is in full swing and the dry pea harvest is now under way. On Vancouver Island and in the Lower Fraser Valley raspberries are almost over and loganberries are being picked almost exclusively for the wineries. Canning peas are coming off in volume with quality and yields reported good. Canning beans and corn continue to make rather slow growth. Early potatoes are now being dug. Tobacco continues to grow rather slowly but hops are making steady growth.

Maritime Provinces The weather has continued unsettled during the past two weeks. In Prince Edward Island this has rendered it impossible for farmers to harvest the hay crop. Many have saved only a small quantity and the quality has not been good. Grain is ripening slowly, with some lodging reported. Late blight is showing in many potato fields but is spreading slowly. In spite of the blight, potato crop prospects are described



as promising. A few outbreaks of army worms in certain localities have resulted in complete losses to grain fields. Due to the abundant supplies of moisture pastures are excellent.

Unfavourable weather in Nova Scotia is still delaying haying in the eastern part of the province. Grain is ripening and harvesting is now general, with good yields reported. Some army worm damage to grain crops is evident. Pastures are good and growth subsequent to cutting of hay has been promoted by abundant moisture. Much hay has spoiled in the Annapolis Valley. Late blight is reported on potatoes and is described as moderately serious. Other root crops are in good condition. Early potatoes and vegetables are now on the market in good supply. All fruit crops are developing well but drier weather with sunshine is required. Harvesting of early plums, peaches and apples has started.

Continued wet weather in New Brunswick has hampered haying operations with a considerable amount of this crop still standing and some spoiled completely. Much of the hay already stored is in poor condition. Due to the frequent heavy rains considerable grain has lodged badly and ripening is delayed. However, some early-sown fields have been cut in the Perth area and an average crop is indicated. Army worm damage is serious in some fields. Pastures are good but corn growth is poor. Late blight on potatoes is extensive and has wiped out some fields. Reports indicate that this may reduce yields.

#### Quebec

Cold, wet weather has prevailed for the past two weeks in the Macamic district of northwestern Quebec. Haying is difficult and only about 60 per cent has been completed. Grain fields have lodged badly due to excessive rain and strong winds. Harvesting is not expected to start before late August for the early-maturing varieties of barley.

Pastures are good in the L'Assomption area east of Montreal. Hay yields have been high but quality only fair. Cereal harvesting is just beginning in this district. Vegetable and canning crops have been generally good. The Science Service Laboratory at St. Johns south of Montreal reports that apple crop conditions in southwestern Quebec are quite satisfactory with the total crop expected to yield slightly more than 1953. Picking of early varieties has been under way for ten days. Local outbreaks of green apple aphids are well under control and the crop in general is free from apple scab. However, the apple maggot upsurge of 1953 is still maintaining importance. Farther east at Lennoxville the weather has been wet and only about half the hay crop is in. Grain crops are very late and prospects only fair. Pastures and aftermaths are still growing well.

At Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere east of Quebec City haying has been delayed by rain and only about three-quarters of the crop has been stored. Yields have been good but quality low. Pastures are good. Cereal crop prospects have improved but some damage has been caused by lodging. Rust may have delayed maturity of spring grains. The apple crop is severely infected with scab and leaf blight.

At Normandin in the Lake St. John area some 25 per cent of the hay crop remains for harvest. Heavy rains have fallen during the past two weeks and grain crops are quite badly lodged. Oats are in the milk stage and barley is turning colour. There is a heavy smut infection on the latter crop. Army worms damaged both pasture and grain crops despite applications of insecticides. The blueberry crop is good but the fruit is soft owing to rainy weather. Weather has remained wet in the Gaspé Peninsula and about a quarter of the hay crop is

still unharvested. Rain and winds have lodged cereal crops. Army worms are doing considerable damage locally at Bonaventure but have not been reported elsewhere in the district. Pastures are still very good.

#### Ontario

Recurring rains have delayed stook threshing and combining of wheat in Simcoe County. In spite of the loss from army worms it is now expected that barley will be about 90 per cent of an average crop and oats about 80 per cent. About one-third of the coarse grains is now ready for cutting. Pastures and hay fields which were badly damaged by drought during July are now growing well. Prospects for late potatoes have improved somewhat and an average crop is anticipated. Recent rainy weather in Bruce County has revived pastures and helped growth of turnips, corn and other late crops. The rain, however, has interfered with harvesting and only about 25 per cent of the spring grain crop has been cut. It is expected that yields will be normal and quality good.

Recent rains have also delayed ripening of late-sown grains and slowed up harvesting operations in Wellington County. Some fall wheat remains to be combined or threshed but well over half of the spring grain crop has been cut. Yields of spring grains will generally be good but rust and army worms have caused losses in some areas. The effect of earlier dry weather is now showing up in below average yields of spring grain in Waterloo County. Recent rains, however, have greatly assisted corn and root crops. In Halton County threshing and combining of spring grains are well advanced. Considering the late seeding and drought conditions, the crop is yielding well, with quality fair. Recent showers have helped the growth of pastures and corn, although additional moisture is still required.

Harvesting of an excellent fall wheat crop has been completed in Middlesex County. Indications are that less than the usual area is being prepared for fall seeding this year. Harvesting of oats and barley which is about two-thirds completed has been held up during the last ten days by showery weather. Yields of these grains are below average but better than expected. Tobacco harvesting is just getting under way. Although most sections of the county have had adequate showers rain would still be welcome in some areas. Recent rains in Essex County have improved the prospects for late crops such as corn, soybeans, tobacco and canning tomatoes, although yields will be lower as the result of earlier dry weather. After-harvest cultivation is now general in the county. Harvesting of the canning tomato crop will soon get under way. The flue-cured tobacco harvest has begun and peaches are about half harvested.

A report from Pelee Island indicates that prospects for soybeans have greatly improved as the result of recent rains. Growth has been rapid and although some fields are poor prospects in general are for yields amounting to 85 per cent of normal. Harvesting of fall wheat on the Island has been completed with both yield and quality good. The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Chatham reports that infestation of the second generation of European corn borer is still light. Leaf hopper damage to beans is moderate to severe while the hornworm population on tobacco is about normal.

Recent rainfall in Norfolk County has greatly improved the prospects for all crops not yet harvested and for pastures. Tobacco harvest is in full swing but yields in many fields are light. Yield prospects for soybeans and corn are good but it is expected that late potato yields will be reduced. Apple yields are expected to be higher this year and peaches are also yielding well. Frequent rains during the latter part of July and early August ended four weeks of drought in the Niagara Peninsula. Harvesting of early



peaches and Japanese plums in the district has been almost completed. Hail damage to fruit was severe in an area of one square mile near Beamsville. Brown rot is moderately prevalent but oriental fruit moth on peach and codling moth on apple are both very light.

A high yielding hay crop has been stored in Dundas County in the eastern part of the province. Harvesting of a good grain crop is general although yields in isolated cases have been reduced due to cutworm damage. Recent heavy rains will ensure maximum yields for both fodder and grain corn. Showery weather continues to delay completion of the first-cut hay crop in Renfrew County. The second-cut crop is making excellent growth and a few fields have been harvested. Where weather conditions permit, fall wheat combining and threshing is in progress, with yields ranging from 40 to 60 bushels per acre. Harvesting of spring grain crops is also under way. Rust and smut are more prevalent in spring grains than usual. Damage from army worms was extensive despite spraying of about 3,500 acres.

Frequent rains continue to delay haying operations in northern Ontario. A report from Kapuskasing indicates that only about 60 per cent of the haying is completed in that district. Although yields were good, much of the crop was stored in bad condition. Grain crops are ripening but are badly lodged in some fields due to excessive moisture. Pastures in the district are in excellent condition.

Manitoba Harvesting is becoming general across southern Manitoba while in the northern sections it will be ten days to two weeks later. The weather has been ideal except in southwestern sections where there has been a lack of rain. Late-planted crops especially have been adversely affected. For the province as a whole indications point to widely varied yields and grades of grain crops, with outturns generally disappointing due to excessive moisture, rust and, in some cases, drought. Special crops are all promising except corn which is backward. Sugar beets are expected to establish a record tonnage of over 200,000 tons. A record hay crop has nearly been gathered under excellent conditions.

In southeastern Manitoba at Vita swathing commenced on August 10 and will be general about the 18th. Most wheat, except the Selkirk variety, is badly rusted. Aphids are present in barley and pea crops and there is some leaf hopper damage in potatoes. The oat crop is fairly good. Rain last Thursday interrupted the initial stages of harvesting at Altona but operations were resumed Monday. Barley is yielding fair so far. Special crops are very promising, sunflowers are mostly in full bloom and two-thirds of the corn are in the silk stage. Some fields of Durum have been worked down and the swaths of spring wheat appear light. The Experimental Farm at Morden reports that swathing of wheat and barley is progressing and some combining of barley has been done. Harvesting will be general at the end of this week. Barley crops will yield fair to good. Late crops are severely attacked by rust with Durums most severely affected. Row crops are improving but require rain.

In southcentral Manitoba at Pilot Mound swathing has commenced and is expected to become general about August 20. Crops look fair and wheat will average 18 bushels, barley 23, oats 28, rye 11 and flax 10. Pastures and gardens are good and an adequate supply of hay has been put up. Our Melita correspondent states that swathing is also general there. Rain over the week-end will help late crops and gardens. There has been no hail damage but grain yields are expected to be 25 per cent lighter than last year except flaxseed which should be

equal or better. Haying has been completed in this district.

North of Winnipeg at Selkirk early barley is being swathed and harvesting operations are expected to be in full swing by the middle of next week. Rust is causing considerable damage to Thatcher wheat. The quality of both wheat and barley is expected to be only fair. The potato crop is showing evidence of late blight and considerable damage has been caused to date. Marketing of early potatoes started last week. A few fields of early-sown barley and wheat have been swathed around Winnipeg and the samples are good. The late-sown crop is making fair progress in spite of dry weather. Flax is promising but potatoes appear to be light because not many tubers are forming in the hills. In the Portage la Prairie area swathing of all cereal grains has begun and some barley has been combined weighing 46 pounds and expected to grade No. 3 or better. The estimated yield of land actually in crop is wheat 18, barley 22, oats 30, rye 20, peas, 20 and flax 8 bushels to the acre. Crop land is very dry.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon also reports harvesting under way in early-sown fields but it will not be general until the 25th of this month. Rain is needed for late crops in this area. Wheat yields are estimated at 25 bushels, barley 23, oats 32, and flax 10. Drought is damaging gardens and drying up pastures. A report from Arborg in the Interlake area states that recent rains have given plenty of moisture. Farmers have started to cut grain and cutting will be general by the end of the week. Damage from army worms and rust is very extensive and will be at least 25 per cent. Much of the grain will be low grade. Some fields are being ploughed under.

Early-sown barley is being swathed in the Dauphin area but harvesting will not be general for two weeks. Yields of wheat and barley will be below average but there are good stands of oats and flax. Some late barley crops are being ploughed under. Rust will decrease yields in this district. Moisture supplies are satisfactory. Very little swathing has been done in the Swan River area. Wheat stands are good but heavily infected with leaf and some stem rust. Early barley crops also look good except for considerable lodging. Some late barley is suffering from aphid damage. Flax crops look promising. The frost hazard is great in this district.

A severe hail storm was reported on August 13 in the Minnedosa--Carberry districts. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 was 33 per cent above normal as compared with 36 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 38 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 16 was 2.2 degrees below normal compared with 1.4 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 2.1 degrees above normal a year ago.

**Saskatchewan** Recent unsettled weather conditions have delayed field work and favoured rust development throughout much of Saskatchewan. Moisture supplies are now adequate to bring crops to maturity in most areas and, in some districts, excessive rainfall has seriously interfered with summerfallowing and has caused sprouting in swathed grain. Conditions during the past week have been favourable to rust development, with indicated declines in yields, particularly for wheat. Coarse grain prospects remain generally good, with swathing started in the extreme southeastern part of the province and in the Moose Jaw and Elbow regions. Swathing of fall rye is under way and although there has been little threshing, anticipated yields are quite favourable. Further hail losses, ranging from light to severe, resulted from week-end storms over widely scattered areas. In most sections of the province, hot dry weather continues to be the most urgent requirement to bring crops to maturity, to check



the rust threat, and to facilitate normal harvesting and other field operations.

A report from Manor in the southeastern part of the province indicates that the weather has turned cool and damp, retarding maturity of crops. Some late crops have not yet headed and warm, clear weather is urgently needed. The extent of rust damage to wheat is not yet known and some fields of oats are also badly rusted. Fall rye is ready to swath. Moisture supplies are adequate to carry crops to maturity. Dull showery weather around Fillmore has also delayed crop development and increased the rust threat. Stem rust is now evident and is likely to take a heavy toll of the late-sown crops. Most stands are good but there is a heavy infestation of wild oats. Harvesting will not be general for two to three weeks. In spite of rust infection, early-sown wheat is filling fairly well in the area around Indian Head. Late-sown wheat is heavily infected with rust and a reduction in yield and grade will occur. Some wheat has been swathed early due to rust and wild oats and will be put up for feed or burned.

Crop yield estimates in the Gravelbourg district in the southwestern part of the province are expected to be reduced by 50 per cent as a result of damage caused by rust, sawflies and hail. The weather during August has been very damp, with almost daily showers being received. Hail in the area caused 100 per cent loss on most of the 15,000 acres affected. Durum wheat is very badly rusted and is expected in many cases to be a complete failure. Swathed crops of fall rye and barley are beginning to germinate as a result of excessive rainfall. Warm dry weather is urgently needed in the area to promote proper plant development and facilitate harvesting. Crop stands are excellent in the district around Swift Current. A considerable amount of leaf and stem rust is in evidence but it is difficult to determine the damage. Fall rye crops are swathed and early barley crops are ready for swathing. Oats have started to turn colour. Both cultivated and native pastures are very green with an abundance of grass.

Our correspondent at Val Marie estimates that hail has caused about 8 per cent damage and sawfly about 3 per cent loss to the crop. Rust is also in evidence. Expected yields in the area are wheat, 15; oats, 60; barley, 20; and rye, 12 bushels per acre, although harvesting is not likely to start until almost the end of August. Excessive moisture is delaying work on summer-fallows and fields are getting very weedy. Cool, cloudy weather in the area around Leader is favouring the development of rust. All fields are now infected and reductions in yield are almost certain to occur. Crop development continues later than normal and harvesting is not expected to start for another two weeks.

Wheat crop prospects continue to be variable around Togo in the east-central part of the province. Partial drought and rust have reduced wheat heads to two rows. With the exception of late-sown fields barley yields are expected to be heavy. Oat yields will be variable, depending on time of seeding. In general, all late-seeded crops are expected to be light. Swathing operations are expected to get under way in about ten days. Although rain would be welcome, warm weather seems to be the chief requirement. Early-seeded grains are filling very well in the Willowbrook district but late crops are poor due to rust damage. It will be at least fifteen or twenty days before harvest starts. No other damage except rust has occurred to date.

Early-sown grains are turning colour in the district around Drake in the central part of the province. Cool, cloudy weather persists and warmer weather is urgently needed. All grains in the district are very late. With the exception of blight in oats, coarse grains promise an average yield providing

they escape frost damage. Yield prospects for the small acreage seeded to flax are good. Haying has not yet been completed in the district. The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports that weather in that area continues unseasonably moist and backward, favouring sporadic development of aphids and green bugs. Surveys show an increase in adult grasshopper infestations in the southwestern part of the province compared with recent years but there is little immediate threat of serious damage.

Abnormally heavy rains, high humidity and cool temperatures in west-central Saskatchewan have increased the damage from leaf rust on wheat, now estimated as ranging from 10 to 30 per cent. However, good yields are still expected on early-seeded wheat. Barley is promising and oats are excellent in the district around Scott. Yields of Durum wheat are very poor as result of rust infection. In the district around Rosetown a good crop is still in prospect but dull weather continues to retard ripening and swathings. Rust damage in the area is evident but considered light. Wheat heads are filling only four rows, attributed to lack of efficient pollenization.

Our correspondent at Melfort in the northeastern part of the province reports that leaf rust has recently increased very rapidly and that traces of stem rust are appearing. Most of the wheat has only reached the milk stage but a few fields of barley are beginning to change colour. Rye crops are approaching maturity. Present indications show above average yields but the eventual outcome will be determined largely by the lateness of the frost-free period and the extent of rust damage. Early-seeded crops in the Archerwill district are in the dough stage and late-seeded crops are just heading. Both leaf and stem rust are in evidence. Warm, dry weather is needed for the completion of haying and the satisfactory maturing of cereal crops. A considerable acreage of sweet clover has only a fair set of seed.

Swathing around Meota in the northwestern part of the province is not expected to be general for two to three weeks. Heavy rust infection is reported in this area. Heavy rainfall, amounting to 11.7 inches since April 1, has made summerfallowing operations very difficult.

Fairly extensive hail damage, ranging over much of the southern part of the province, has been reported during the past week. Among the areas affected on August 10 were Dunblane to Davidson where damage was medium to heavy; Kincaid to Verwood, severe; Frankslake and Edenwold, severe; and Imperial, medium; on August 11, Eston to Elrose, medium; Shaunavon to north of Val Marie, medium; Wood Mountain to Limerick, medium; on August 12, Asquith to Saskatoon to Dundurn to Simpson, medium; Shellbrook to St. Louis, heavy; and Antelope to Wymark, severe; on August 13, Govan and Southey to Cupar, medium to heavy; and on August 14, Portal and Radville, heavy; and Verwood, Assiniboia and La Fleche, medium.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 46 per cent above normal compared with 39 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 35 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 16 was 0.9 degrees below normal compared with 1.0 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 3.0 degrees above normal for the corresponding week last year.



Alberta

Except for western portions, the southern part of the province from High River eastward to the Saskatchewan border remains fairly dry. Harvesting of fall rye and winter wheat is well under way in this area, with good yields being obtained. Spring grains in some sections, however, require more moisture. In the extreme southwest and in east-central areas grains are practically all headed with moisture supplies sufficient to mature crops. In northern and west-central regions rain has continued to retard crop development. Some wheat and a considerable proportion of the coarse grains have not yet headed. Warmer weather is urgently needed. Heavy leaf rust infection is now general in the northeast. Evidence of stem rust is showing up in several localities in the province. Early barley is about ready for harvesting in the Peace River area although recent rains have again delayed development. Hail storms have been numerous and have caused above average damage in many parts of the province.

Thirty per cent of the barley crop has been harvested in the Manyberries district of southern Alberta and some oats will soon be ready. The wheat harvest is expected to start August 26. Barley is yielding about 30 bushels to the acre with oats and wheat expected to be about 38 and 22 bushels respectively. Ranges and live stock are in good condition and a second operation on summerfallow has been completed. Haying is still in progress. Crops are still good in the Medicine Hat area although hail has done some damage in the Cypress Hills district and around Schuler and Bow Island through to Winnifred. Swathing of wheat, oats and barley is becoming general, with some having been combined. Wheat yields are estimated at 18 bushels per acre and oats and barley at 30. Slight grasshopper damage has occurred in the Bow Island area. Dry, warm weather is needed to bring on late-seeded crops which are still green. Live stock and range lands are in good condition.

General rains in the Lethbridge district during the past week will help fill grain but most stubble fields were too far deteriorated to be benefited. Combining of spring wheat has started in the south but crops are much later towards Calgary. The over-all average yield of wheat in the area is estimated at about 18 bushels per acre. Durum wheat has been slightly affected by rust but satisfactory yields are indicated. Severe hail damage has occurred in localized areas. In the extreme southwest at Cardston an inch of rain last week provided sufficient moisture to fill spring grains. The fall wheat and rye crops have been swathed. Some hail damage has occurred in outlying districts. Pastures are good. The south half of the Claresholm district was badly hailed on August 15, with some fields suffering 100 per cent damage. Harvest is expected to be general about September 1. Fall wheat is now being swathed and threshed with good yields. Sufficient moisture is available to mature all crops. Wheat may yield an average of 18 bushels per acre.

Harvest should be general at Brooks in south-central Alberta within the next ten days to two weeks. Frequent rains and showers have improved pastures and crops but there has been some further hail damage. Farther west at Vulcan recent rains are helping to fill wheat in small to medium heads. Hail damage has been heavy. Winter wheat and fall rye are being cut and threshing of these grains should begin in about a week.

Excessive rains since August 1 have ruined most of the hay crop in the Hanna district of east-central Alberta. All crops are late and no swathing is anticipated for at least three weeks. Hot weather is badly needed. Poor grades are expected. At Calgary continued cool, showery weather has provided ample moisture to finish the crops. All grains are headed and filling

well but are about two weeks behind normal. Frost would cut yields in half. Rye and winter wheat are being harvested with normal yields. Farther north at Olds some four inches of rain have fallen during the past week. All crops are headed but average about two to three weeks later than normal. Warm, sunny weather is urgently needed. Yields of wheat are estimated at 20 bushels per acre, barley at 30 and oats at 45.

At Sedgewick in central Alberta crops are excellent and moisture supplies good. The season, however, is about ten days late and warm, sunny weather is needed. About 15 per cent hail damage has been experienced in this district. Farther south at Stettler prospects are good except for the lateness of the crop. Early wheat is in the dough stage with early barley showing colour.

Due to cool, wet weather crops are advancing slowly in the Red Deer area of west-central Alberta where heavy rains have fallen during the past two weeks. Barley harvesting is expected to commence about September 1 but cutting of oats and wheat is not expected to get under way until September 10. Warm, dry weather is needed to ripen grains, to dry the fields for harvesting and to allow cultivation on summerfallow. Grain crops are still two to three weeks late at Lacombe and warm, sunny weather is required to promote maturity. Rain has fallen on 12 of the first 16 days of August with a total of 4.75 inches recorded this month to date. Hail has done considerable damage in local areas. Farther west at Eckville haying has been nearly completed but quality is only fair due to wet weather. Early crops are now turning colour but hot, dry weather is needed to advance growth. Prospects are for fair yields only. Summerfallows are in fair condition with pastures and gardens doing well. There has been no hail damage in the immediate district.

Leaf rust is heavy at Vermilion east of Edmonton but no serious damage is expected. Rye and barley crops are ripening rapidly but hot, dry weather is needed for wheat which is two to three weeks late. No more than average crops are expected. Pastures are very good. Warm, dry weather is also needed in the Edmonton district to promote crop development. Heavy rains have continued west of Edmonton at Evansburg where cereals are only 20 per cent headed. Sixty per cent of the hay crop has been cut and 10 per cent stacked and most of the crop has been badly damaged. Pastures and live stock are in good condition.

Continued wet weather has slowed down crop development in the Bonnyville district of northeastern Alberta. Prospects are extremely poor since considerable grain is only now heading. Harvesting will not be general for another month. Leaf rust is expected to seriously damage the wheat crop. About half of the hay crop is still in the field and badly spoiled. Cool, showery weather has also held back crops in the Athabasca district north of Edmonton. Wheat is up to a very good stand but is just starting to fill. Oats are very late. Early fields of barley are turning and some barley may be cut by September 1. At Falher in the Peace River District barley cutting is expected to start August 20 and wheat on August 30. Harvesting of oats will be still later. Estimated yields for this area are wheat 25 bushels per acre, oats 40, barley 35, and flax 10 bushels. Clovers are setting seed but the season is late. Seventy per cent of first-cut hay spoiled in windrows due to rains.

The Entomological Laboratory at Lethbridge reports considerable cutting of spring wheat by wheat stem sawfly in southern Alberta. Light damage from sugar beet webworm has occurred, mostly in the Coaldale and Lethbridge areas. In addition to many smaller storms some of the major hail losses during the past



week are indicated as follows: August 9, Skiff to Bow Island and northeast to river--very severe, Galahad to Sedgewick and Castor area--light; August 10, Galahad to Sedgewick light, Olds, Didsbury, Carstairs--severe, Two Hills area--light; August 11, Nanton to Parkland--medium, Blackie area--medium, Forestburg--light; August 14, Cardston area--medium; August 15, Claresholm area--heavy.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 20 per cent above normal as compared with 7 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 33 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 16 was 0.9 degrees below normal as compared with 1.9 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 3.2 degrees above normal a year ago.

British Columbia In the Kootenay district a small amount of winter wheat has been combined from the swath and straight combining is expected to get under way this week-end. Seed peas are maturing rapidly and a fair acreage has been swathed. Recent rains have delayed operations but will help fill spring grains. A fair second cutting of hay is being harvested. The cherry crop was better than expected and apples and pears are sizing well. It is estimated that cutting of spring wheat in some areas of the Peace River Block will commence about the end of the month, although harvesting operations may not become general until well on in September.

A report from Kamloops indicates that dull, overcast weather with occasional showers and abnormally high humidity is holding off tomato ripening, and seriously hampering the harvest of second cut hay. Range land and pastures are in excellent condition. The lateness of the season for cannery vegetables along with cold nights is causing much concern. In the area around Williams Lake the hay harvest has been delayed by rains and considerable loss of quality has occurred. Cereal crops are heavy but late. Range conditions are excellent.

In the area around Prince George barley is beginning to ripen but oats and wheat are still very green. Cutting is expected to commence in about two weeks. There is a rank growth of straw but the heads are quite short so that only medium yields are expected. Cool weather indicates that there is considerable danger of frost.

According to a report from Summerland in the Okanagan Valley apricots are moving freely with the crop slightly below earlier estimates. Peaches are ~~sizing~~ and indications are for a moderate crop. The apple crop may be large in this area. Mildew on onions and a virus affecting beans are reducing yields of these crops in some areas. The tomato crop appears promising provided hot weather prevails for the coming month.

Reports from Agassiz indicate that combining of fall wheat is general around Armstrong. Coarse grains are ripening rapidly. Cutting of second-growth alfalfa is under way with yields averaging one ton per acre. Ensilage corn is a fair crop. Pastures in the Lower Fraser Valley are holding up well. Hay curing has been a slow operation due to poor weather. Early-sown barley is ripe and oats are ripening. Raspberry picking is almost completed. Canning peas are being harvested in volume with yields and quality good. Corn, tomatoes and beans are developing very slowly due to cool weather. The bean harvest is just beginning.

Due to recent rains soil moisture is excellent in the Saanichton area. Late cereals and potatoes are above average. Spring-sown oats are being harvested. Pastures are improving. The early apple crop is over. Late Lambert and Olivet cherries are being picked. The cherry crop is above average, while apples and pears are average. Winter injury to bramble canes is not affecting yield. The set of grapes is poor.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	Aug. 16	
		Aug. 16	April 1	April 1	1954	Normal
			- inches -	- degrees F. -		
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Pierson	.47	15.18	9.12	62	63
	Melita	.75	15.42	11.85	62	64
	Waskada	N.R.	12.15 2/	9.80	N.R.	63
	Deloraine	.47	15.73	9.45	62	63
2	Boissevain	1.05	15.29	9.09	59	64
	Deerwood	.61	19.22	9.49	61	63
	Ninette	1.06	15.42	9.61	57	65
3	Portage la Prairie	.10	11.35	9.42	62	63
	Graysville	.49	13.87	9.81	59	63
	Morden	.74	12.20	9.66	63	64
	Altona	1.28	10.43	9.63	61	64
	Morris	.25	12.58	9.53	55	64
	Roland	.70	13.38	9.35	60	64
	Emerson	1.28	11.23	9.09	61	64
4	Winnipeg	.10	12.70	10.83	61	64
6	Vita	.45	12.79	9.84	60	63
	Sprague	.41	9.49	10.15	57	63
	Seven Sisters Falls	.25	9.82	8.07	60	61
7	Virden	.50	13.98	8.24	59	61
	Reston	N.R.	13.10 2/	10.06	N.R.	63
	Rivers	.10	10.64	9.58	62	62
8	Brandon	.18	10.38	9.72	62	62
	Cypress River	.93	12.59	9.60	64	63
9	Neepawa	.25	12.07	9.47	60	62
	Plumas	.44	9.80 2/	9.56	61	62
10	Russell	.60	12.45	9.05	61	60
	St. Lazare	N.R.	5.97 2/	9.67	N.R.	60
	Birtle	.43	11.55	9.67	60	60
11	Dauphin	.35	10.95	8.40	60	61
12	Gimli	.06	12.50	10.09	60	62
13	Swan River	.52	10.41	9.67	60	59
	The Pas	.27	11.04	7.67	57	61

SASKATCHEWAN

1A	Estevan	.80	12.42	8.92	63	63
	Carlyle	.40	11.10	9.62	49	61
	Oxbow	.42	12.83	9.23	60	63
	Willmar	.62	11.18	8.91	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.55	18.48	8.74	57	61
	Moosomin	.64	15.26	8.42	60	64
2A	Yellow Grass	.39	10.94	8.44	62	64
	Weyburn	.47	9.03	8.89	62	63
	Midale	.41	12.56 2/	9.31	63	63



Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.		
		8 a.m. Aug. 16	since April 1	since April 1	Aug. 16 1954	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (continued)							
2B	Moose Jaw	.54	11.64	8.75	63	64	
	Regina	.20	11.49	8.86	63	62	
	Rowatt	.77	11.29 2/	8.75	N.R.	62	
	Francis	.88	12.16	7.38	59	63	
	Qu'Appelle	.26	13.48 2/	10.42	60	62	
	Indian Head	.40	14.57	9.98	60	61	
	Wilcox	.53	13.14	8.65	61	63	
3AS	Assiniboia	1.48	12.53	7.17	64	62	
	Ormiston	.76	9.39 2/	7.92	63	62	
	Ceylon	.81	12.63	10.60	62	64	
3AN	Chaplin	.22	11.54	9.20	63	61	
	Gravelbourg	1.25	9.56 2/	7.34	64	62	
	Coderre	2.21	10.18 2/	7.77	N.R.	62	
3BS	Shaunavon	1.09	10.13	7.43	64	62	
	Cadillac	.87	12.16	9.60	65	61	
	Aneroid	.42	9.93	8.78	65	61	
	Instow	.50	9.95	7.74	63	61	
3BN	Pennant	.90	10.96	8.63	63	64	
	Swift Current	.52	13.38	9.00	60	62	
	Hughton	N.R.	7.45 2/	7.92	N.R.	62	
4A	Maple Creek	.70	9.53	8.29	64	63	
	Consul	.85	10.27	6.92	65	61	
4B	Roadene	1.07	11.58	7.93	63	62	
	Leader	N.R.	.90 2/	6.99	N.R.	63	
5A	Leross	2.53	15.34	8.86	58	60	
	Yorkton	.81	11.86	9.11	59	60	
	Bangor	.80	15.60	8.92	56	60	
5B	Dafoe	.12	15.44	7.87	59	58	
	Lintlaw	.18	11.33	8.78	56	58	
	Kamsack	.54	11.14	8.42	59	59	
	Buchanan	.32	10.51	8.78	58	59	
	Pelly	.27	12.17	9.08	55	59	
	Davidson	.99	13.13	7.22	61	61	
	Dilke	N.R.	11.24 2/	7.50	N.R.	N.R.	
	Imperial	1.15	15.43	7.22	61	60	
	Semans	1.55	15.40	5.74	59	60	
	Strasbourg	.47	13.34	8.09	61	60	
	Watrous	.10	12.99	6.36	59	60	
	6B	Harris	Nil	8.32 2/	7.82	62	62
		Outlook	.19	9.41	6.41	63	61
		Saskatoon	.50	10.45	8.33	60	60
Elbow		.12	10.66	7.19	61	62	
Tugaske		N.R.	10.16 2/	7.19	N.R.	62	
7A	Dundurn	.29	12.23	8.54	61	61	
	Eston	.36	11.01	6.93	64	61	
	Kindersley	.19	8.09	7.52	62	60	
	Rosetown	.12	12.01	8.47	62	60	

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	Aug. 16	
		Aug. 16	April 1	April 1	1954	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)</u>						
7B	Macklin	.62	9.93	8.60	59	58
	Scott	.74	10.77	7.97	58	59
	Biggar	.26	11.41	8.69	61	61
	Ruthilda	N.R.	10.16 <u>2/</u>	8.63	N.R.	N.R.
8A	Hudson Bay	.39	13.96	8.77	57	61
8B	Humboldt	.11	10.24	7.30	59	59
	Melfort	.38	14.17	8.74	57	61
9A	North Battleford	.60	11.74	8.28	58	62
	Rabbit Lake	1.29	12.32	8.70	54	59
	Leask	1.02	14.49	8.52	57	61
	Prince Albert	.51	13.21	8.49	57	61
	Island Falls	.16	10.51	8.90	56	61
9B	Waseca	.43	9.19	8.13	57	57
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.63	12.08	8.30	60.3	61.2

ALBERTA

1	Taber	.10	4.44	8.22	64	66
	Foremost	.47	5.30	9.84	66	66
	Winnifred	.79	7.41	6.22	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.20	8.25	7.36	67	65
2	Manyberries	.63	9.38	7.41	67	66
	Cowley	.49	8.76	9.09	60	61
	Macleod	.38	6.57	8.23	63	64
	Cardston	1.11	6.59	11.93	62	62
	Lethbridge	.58	6.94	8.19	63	63
	Del Bonita	1.05	7.08	8.95	61	64
	Magrath	.71	8.19	10.08	63	63
	Vauxhall	.62	6.13	7.10	63	64
3	Hays	.02	7.55	6.98	64	64
	Brooks	.95	8.60	7.11	62	66
	Bindloss	.32	7.98	6.94	62	65
	Empress	.48	7.73	7.60	64	65
	High River	.91	10.18	10.10	59	59
4	Vulcan	.50	8.82	8.40	57	61
	Drumheller	2.51	10.05	8.97	N.R.	66
	Hanna	.76	12.73	9.74	62	62
5	Naco	1.32	10.03	8.46	58	62
	Cyen	.95	8.34	6.86	N.R.	N.R.
	Olds	4.14	16.88	9.77	58	56
6	Calgary	1.87	11.56	10.07	59	60
	Three Hills	1.02	10.17	8.46	60	59
	Strathmore	N.R.	6.31 2/	8.82	N.R.	57
	Gleichen	.12	6.81	8.25	60	60
	Hussar	N.R.	9.79 2/	8.13	N.R.	N.R.
	Trochu	1.23	12.19	9.09	58	59



Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	Aug. 16	
		Aug. 16	April 1	April 1	1954	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>ALBERTA</u> (concluded)						
7	Hardisty	2.12	9.65	8.82	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.76	8.56	7.26	58	61
	Hughenden	.29	7.55	8.20	58	63
	Alliance	1.09	9.99	8.04	57	61
8	Red Deer	1.49	13.88	11.71	59	57
	Lacombe	2.55	14.56	10.02	58	57
	Wetaskiwin	3.41	16.15	9.52	58	59
	Camrose	2.16	15.97	8.98	58	59
	Stettler	1.62	12.50	10.17	59	58
9	Jasper	.34	10.35	4.97	54	54
	Rocky Mountain House	.45	14.43	10.46	57	57
	Springdale	.81	12.09	11.94	53	56
10	Vegreville	.56	11.51	10.73	N.R.	58
	Vermilion	.58	10.24	10.55	56	57
	Lloydminster	.16	11.25	7.80	58	58
11	Edmonton	.95	13.44	10.30	58	60
12	Edson	.85	18.65	10.07	54	56
	Whitecourt	1.81	20.38	10.83	55	57
	Sanguo	1.00	15.97	10.76	56	57
13	Elk Point	.63	12.56	8.50	56	57
	Lac la Biche	.61	12.05	8.74	58	57
14	Campsie	N.R.	12.54 2/	10.31	N.R.	58
	Athabaska	1.64	15.09	9.31	58	57
15	High Prairie	.98	12.65	8.61	55	59
	Wagner	.43	9.27	9.38	56	59
16	Beaverlodge	.90	8.56	7.16	58	58
	Grande Prairie	1.78	10.32	8.58	58	58
	Fairview	.67	9.92	6.36	58	59
	Berwyn	N.R.	N.R.	8.41	N.R.	59
	Fort St. John	1.35	13.46	8.31	58	60
<hr/>						
ALBERTA AVERAGE		1.02	10.61	8.83	59.3	60.2

N.R. - No report.

1/ - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ - Incomplete; not included in average.

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