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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA*

This is the second of the 1955 series of nine telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the third of a series of thirteen 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

Maritime Provinces - The season is later than normal in Prince Edward Island due to a period of cool, wet weather which prevailed until a few days ago. However, several warm, dry days have allowed work on the land to be resumed and it is now in full swing. Some grains, potatoes and turnips are being seeded. It is estimated that about 25 per cent of the grain and 10 per cent of the potatoes have been planted. Hay crops and pastures are promising but growth is slow. Up until the last few days the weather in Nova Scotia has been showery and cool but it has since warmed up and seeding is general. About 75 per cent of the crops has been seeded and some early-sown grain is now up. Another week of fine weather is needed to finish seeding. Grass is making rapid growth. Although pastures are generally good the retarding effect of cold weather is noticeable in certain areas. In New Brunswick farm work has been advancing normally in spite of cool weather and showers. Potato planting and grain seeding are well advanced. Pastures are excellent and hay crops are promising, with legume stands unusually good. It is estimated that seeding is more than half finished and some early-sown grain is growing well. Potatoes, however, are slow in emerging.

Quebec - Weather conditions throughout most of Quebec have been favourable for seeding operations which have been progressing quite rapidly. About 75 per cent of the grain has been sown in the Montreal district and, apart from the Gaspé peninsula, about 40 per cent is in the ground in the remaining areas. If present weather conditions continue for the next few days, seasonal work will soon be completed. Present prospects suggest a spring grain acreage this year at least as large as in 1954. Meadows and pastures have wintered well and present growth is excellent. Gardens and orchards appear to be in excellent condition particularly those around Montreal.

Ontario - Seeding of spring grains is practically completed in Ontario except in the northern part of the province. Dry weather has permitted rapid progress with spring work but is retarding growth of grain crops, hay and pasture. Showers have relieved the situation in some sections but all parts

*Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

of the province would benefit greatly from rain. Planting of corn and potatoes is well advanced and some soybeans, sugar beets and tobacco have been planted.

Prairie Provinces - Good progress has been made with seeding over wide areas of the Prairie Provinces during the past week and in many districts should be completed by the end of this month. Due to excessive moisture, however, spring work is being seriously delayed in parts of east-central and northeastern Saskatchewan and in the area bordering the foothills in Alberta. Where flooding has occurred along river valleys and in low-lying lands in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, considerable areas may not be seeded this year.

British Columbia - Although warmer temperatures have prevailed throughout most of the province during the past two weeks the season is about two weeks later than normal. In the Kootenay area seeding is general throughout Creston and Duck Lake Flats. Approximately 50 per cent of the peas and 25 per cent of the grain crops have been sown. In the north Okanagan, pasture and range lands are improving but rain would be beneficial. Most of the pea acreage in the Armstrong area has been planted. Farther south in the Okanagan the fruit crop is later than usual with apples now in full bloom. Forage crops are slow with the first cut of hay delayed up to two weeks. In the Peace River district seeding is general. At Prince George the weather was warm and dry all last week and seeding is about 75 per cent completed. The growth of pastures and hay is quite slow however. In the Fraser Valley the weather has been cool and growth slow. Grain seeding is almost completed but potato planting is late. Pastures are fair and hay crops promising. Strawberries are now in full bloom, two weeks later than last year.

Maritime Provinces Up until a few days ago weather conditions in Prince Edward Island had been cool and wet for about two weeks. This retarded work on the land and the season is now about two weeks later than last year. Following this wet cool period there have been several days of hot, dry weather which has enabled farmers to resume work on the land on a large scale. Planting of potatoes, grains and turnips is now general. About 25 per cent of the grain has been seeded and 10 per cent of the potatoes and turnips planted. Low-lying areas are extremely wet retarding cultivation. Hay crops and pastures are promising but growth is slow. Clovers wintered well. Strawberries are beginning to bloom and winter damage to fruit trees is becoming evident.

In Nova Scotia cool, showery weather prevailed up until the past few days which have been warm and dry. Seeding is general with about 75 per cent of the crops in the ground. About one week of fine weather is needed to complete seeding. Some early grain is now up. Reports from the Amherst district state that pastures and hay crops are backward because of the cool weather but most cattle are out on pasture during the day. Clovers have wintered well. In the Annapolis Valley the spring was late and cool but the weather has been hot and dry during the past four days. Seeding of all crops is general and a heavy fruit bloom anticipated. Clovers, grasses and all fruits except peaches wintered well. Seeding and planting progress is about average with early planted potatoes developing slowly. Reports state rain would improve general crop conditions.

Although weather in New Brunswick has been cool and showery seeding and planting operations have proceeded well. Rains have not been sufficiently heavy to prevent work on the land. Over 50 per cent of the seeding has been completed and although warmer weather is desirable early-sown grain is emerging well. Growth of potatoes, however, is slower. Pasture

growth is good and hay meadows better than average in condition. Legumes are unusually good.

Quebec At L'Assomption, meadows and pastures appear to be in good condition.

Sowing of spring grains and sugar beets has been nearly completed under very favourable weather conditions. From 40 to 50 per cent of spring grain seeding has been completed in the area around Lennoxville. On well-drained farms it has been finished while in the lower-lying areas it is just getting under way. Hay and pasture fields are in good condition.

At St. Johns the season is approximately a week to ten days earlier than usual. Spring grains and peas are almost completely sown and some of them are beginning to show above ground. Most of the early potatoes were planted the latter part of April and the fore part of May and at present are doing well. The acreage devoted to sugar beets has been reduced in some districts. To date precipitation has been a little below normal. In this area, bloom has been exceptionally heavy on all varieties of apple trees and pollination conditions were quite favourable during the week of May 15. Although frost damage occurred in some local areas it was not considered important. Severe outbreaks of European red mite and bud moth have occurred in some localities, but so far no scab infection has appeared.

Cool, dry weather in the Ste Anne de la Pocatiere district has been very favourable for seeding operations with the result that all of the wheat and barley are in the ground and about 90 per cent of the oats seeding has been completed. Meadows and pastures are promising and recent showers are expected to promote growth. At the present time live stock are still being stabled. Cool, wet weather with some snowflurries has prevailed in the Gaspé Peninsula. As a result very little seeding has been accomplished and that only on the light soils. Growth of pastures and meadows has been slow to date.

Temperature and moisture conditions in the Normandin district were favourable for the commencement of seeding last week and it is expected it will become general this week. Pastures are growing well and cattle and sheep were turned out early this week. Potatoes were planted early last week on the light soils around Chicoutimi.

Ontario Seeding of spring grains has been completed in the Barrie area but cold dry weather during the past three weeks has delayed growth. There has been some frost damage in low-lying areas and rain is urgently needed to start grass and clover seedings. Wheat, hay and pastures are in fair condition. Planting of corn and potatoes is now general. Seeding is practically completed in Bruce County where early-seeded grain is now covering the ground. However, some fields in the southwestern part of the county are patchy and low spots are drowned out. Later-sown grain has failed to germinate on heavy clay knolls. Grass and hay had advanced well until the week of May 16, when cold dry weather and persistent night frosts stopped all growth. The frost so far has caused no permanent damage but rain is generally needed. Seeding of corn is expected to be general this week.

Rain is also badly needed in Wellington County where many of the early-pastured areas are beginning to take on a burnt appearance. Much of the early-sown grain is covering the ground well but later-sown crops are making slow progress. Planting of corn and potatoes is under way, with approximately 40 per cent of these crops having been sown. Recent frosts have slowed the growth of most clovers and have affected fruit blossoms to some extent. A very valuable rain received over the week-end in

Waterloo County halted deterioration which had shown up in pastures, hay and early-sown grains. However, considerably more rain is needed. In Halton County most of the spring grains had been seeded by May 14. Rainfall during May was very light and, although scattered showers were received over the week-end, more rain is required. Meadows and pastures are fair and spring grains rather spotty. Frost damaged strawberries to some extent but, in general, crops were not seriously affected.

Seeding of oats and barley has been completed in Middlesex County and there is a generally good stand of both crops. Corn and soybeans are being planted and fields of corn and sugar beets which were sown early are now up. Some of last year's seedings of clover and grasses are rather thin. Dry weather was relieved to some extent by showers on May 22. Fruit bloom is good and although there has been some light frost, not much damage has occurred. Flue-cured tobacco plants are being set out. Showers during the past few days have relieved drought conditions which persisted during recent weeks in Essex County. Although growing conditions have been generally good, more moisture is required. Fall wheat is in generally excellent condition and oats are making fair growth. Most corn and soybeans are now sown and many fields are up. Practically all early tomatoes and melons have been planted and planting of tobacco is well under way. Some lettuce is moving to market.

A report from the Dominion Entomological Laboratory in Chatham states that a trace of cutworm injury has occurred on sugar beets and asparagus and isolated infestations of Hessian fly have been observed. The weather has been cool and dry in Norfolk County where growth has been delayed during the past two weeks. Local showers have relieved the situation in some areas. In general, fall wheat and rye are in good condition. Pasture is ample and prospects are for an average hay crop. Due to cool weather fruit has set slowly and, while the bloom was very heavy, only an average set seems likely. Tobacco is being planted under favourable conditions. Weather has also been dry in the Niagara Peninsula where our correspondent at Vineland reports only 0.3 inches of rain in May. Peach leaf curl has been exceptionally prevalent in all poorly sprayed peach orchards. An unusually large number of peach trees are dying apparently due to the effects of last fall's hurricane and wet weather last fall and early this spring. Trees on poorly-drained soils are most seriously affected. Fruit crop indications following the bloom are generally good.

High winds and warm weather without appreciable rain have retarded growth of spring grains and canning peas in Prince Edward County. However, it has permitted planting of tomatoes and other crops to proceed much ahead of usual. An increased acreage of corn for grain is intended for this region. Some tent caterpillars are in evidence but other pests have been negligible to date.

Seeding of spring grains is about 90 per cent completed in Leeds County in the eastern part of the province. Planting of soybeans and corn is now under way and general crop conditions are favourable. Pastures are excellent and hay prospects are good. The season is about one week ahead of normal but a good rain is needed to maintain present favourable prospects. Seeding has also been carried on under ideal weather conditions during the past two weeks in Dundas County. Grain that is already up is a good colour and an even stand. Planting of corn has been delayed as a result of near-freezing temperatures at night. A warm rain would be very beneficial. Three weeks of ideal seeding weather has enabled farmers to complete most seeding, including corn and potatoes in Renfrew County. Dry weather, however, has

retarded growth, particularly of pastures. Warm showers are now needed to provide ideal conditions.

A prolonged period of warm, dry weather has permitted excellent progress with seeding operations around Kapuskasing in northern Ontario. Emergence of spring grains has been quite good. Hay fields and pastures were damaged to some extent by late frost but are recovering. Live stock are not yet out on pasture but are expected to be grazing this week, about two weeks earlier than average. Seeding is practically completed in this region except in the Earlton area where flat land and lack of drainage prevented the ground from drying.

Manitoba Excellent headway was made with seeding in Manitoba during the past week, although week-end rains have now halted operations. In southern districts most of the seeding will be completed by the end of the month but in central and northern areas an extra week will be required. Good progress has also been made in planting special crops. Flooding of the Assiniboine River is centered around Virden and Poplar Point, the area affected approximating 150,000 acres of crop land, little, if any, of which will likely be seeded. A considerable part of the seeded crop is up and in general is showing strong growth. Weeds are less plentiful than usual. Wintered-over crops are particularly promising and pasture and hay lands are good. Moisture is in abundant supply.

In southeast Manitoba at Sprague wheat seeding is approximately 70 per cent completed and coarse grains 40 per cent. Three-quarters of all crops are seeded at Altona and more could have been done but farmers are waiting for wild oat growth. The current cool weather is delaying drying in the odd field. Early-sown crops are emerging nicely and forage crops are in excellent condition. The Experimental Farm at Morden reports that weather continues dull, cool and dry. At this point late-seeded crops require rain for germination. Wheat is showing well and some oats and barley are above ground. The seeding of corn and sunflowers has been completed. Pastures are only fair and rain would be welcome for all crops and pastures.

In the southwest corner of Manitoba at Melita 80 per cent of the wheat, 50 per cent of the coarse grains and 40 per cent of the flax have been seeded. Approximately three-quarters of an inch of rain fell over the week-end and moisture supplies are ample. In the Pilot Mound district 90 per cent of the wheat has been seeded and much of it has emerged. The percentages of other crops seeded are oats 70, barley 25 and flax 10. Moisture conditions are good.

North of Winnipeg at Selkirk good progress has also been made with seeding. The percentage of wheat sown approximates 65, barley 30 and oats 25. Around 50 per cent of the potatoes have been planted. Early-sown wheat is showing above ground. Wild oats are growing well and cultivation has started prior to late seeding of coarse grains. Around Winnipeg early-sown wheat is two inches high and wheat seeding is 80 per cent completed. A number of farmers are waiting for lower lands to dry and also for wild oats to grow before seeding coarse grains. Potato and garden planting is 80 per cent completed. In the Portage area less than 70 per cent of the wheat has been seeded, wet areas being the main deterrent to completion. About 25 per cent of the peas have been sown and 20 per cent of the coarse grains. Early-sown grain is showing above ground.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that wheat seeding is 70 per cent completed and coarse grains vary from 10 to 75 per cent sown. Much of the land intended for barley is being allowed to produce growth of wild oats before seeding. Only a few fields of flax have been sown. Recent rains will cause a further delay with spring work. Pastures and hay fields are doing well and fall rye is making rapid growth. Flooding of the Assiniboine River has caused considerable loss to many seeded acres. Wheat sowing in the Virden area is about 60 per cent completed and coarse grains 40 per cent. No flax has been seeded to date.

At Teulon in the Interlake area over one inch of rain on May 22 has further delayed seeding. About 25 per cent of the farmers have no seeding done to date and only about 5 per cent of the seeding has been done. Many farmers at Inwood, Gimli and Fraserwood will do no seeding this year. Around Arborg only 10 per cent of the grain has been seeded and heavy rains on very wet ground will now delay seeding another ten days to two weeks. Our correspondent states that there may be a 50 per cent reduction on intended acreage in grain. Weed growth and soft ground have prevented any combining of swaths from last year's crop.

In west-central Manitoba at Minnedosa wheat seeding is nearing completion and about 20 per cent of the coarse grains are in the ground. Rain over the week-end has further delayed operations. Early-seeded crop is up two inches and pasture and hay lands are excellent. Indications point to an increase in flax acreage. Farther west at Shoal Lake seeding progress has been slow due to heavy rains. The 50 per cent that has been sown is showing excellent growth. Pastures are very good.

In northern Manitoba at Dauphin seeding is well advanced on well-drained lighter soil but just starting on heavier and poorly-drained soils. Farmers are obtaining good weed kills on heavy wild oat growth. Reserve moisture supplies are excellent and the need is for two weeks of warm weather to complete seeding and planting of gardens. At Swan River warmer weather with sunny skies has prevailed over the area during the past week. Seeding is general and a considerable part of the crop has now been sown. Growth of fall rye and pastures has been good. Continued dry, sunny weather is required.

The Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports that grasshoppers are commencing to hatch in the Dominion City and Graysville districts. The average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 36 per cent above normal as compared with 40 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 19 per cent above normal for the same period a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending May 23 was 7.7 degrees above normal as compared with 1.5 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 2.7 degrees above normal a year ago.

Saskatchewan Fairly good progress has been made with seeding operations in the western sections of Saskatchewan during the past week. Over much of the eastern part of the province, however, progress has been delayed by waterlogged soil and flooding in some areas. It is now evident that it will be impossible to seed considerable acreages in some sections of the east-central and northeastern parts of the province. Fall rye, hay and pastures are in generally excellent condition. With moisture supplies ranging from adequate to excessive, the main requirement for completion of seeding and promotion of plant growth continues to be warm, dry weather. For the province as a whole, it is estimated that almost half of the wheat and 20 per cent of the coarse grains are sown.

Seeding of spring grains is about 35 per cent completed around Yellow Grass in the southeastern part of the province. However, rain on May 24 will again delay seeding and it is evident that some flooded land will not be seeded this year. Farmers on higher better drained land are almost finished seeding while those on lower land have not started. Acreage seeded to coarse grains and flaxseed will be increased. Weeds are proving a problem. Around Indian Head warm sunny weather between May 15 and May 20 enabled most farmers to start tillage and seeding operations. However, 0.93 inches of rain on May 21 and 22 halted all operations in the district and further saturated farm lands. Cool cloudy weather since then has prevented any drying of the soil. About 2 per cent of the wheat is seeded in the northern part of this region on heavy land and about 15 per cent on lighter land in the south. Grass growth is excellent.

The general crop outlook around Gravelbourg in the southwestern part of the province is good, with moisture conditions more than adequate. Seeding operations are virtually completed. Warm, dry weather is the major requirement in this area. Around Swift Current soil is saturated with moisture and periodic showers have delayed seeding to a considerable extent. Seeding to date is about 60 per cent completed, with early seeded grains starting to emerge. A heavy growth of stinkweed survived the winter and has made rapid growth this spring. Cultivation this spring has in many cases not completely destroyed this growth and as a result many seeded fields have a fairly heavy infestation of stinkweed. Fall rye is growing rapidly and has a heavy stand. Grasses are also making excellent growth and, with the abundance of moisture in the soil, there should be a fair to good hay crop.

About 90 per cent of the wheat, 50 per cent of the barley and 25 per cent of the oats acreage have now been planted around Val Marie. No flax has been seeded to date. Weed growth will be bad but most farmers intend to use chemical sprays. Pastures are very good. In the Eastend district about 95 per cent of the seeding is now done, with some oats, barley and flaxseed remaining to be sown. The soil is in excellent condition and about one inch of rain has fallen during the past ten days. Early-sown wheat is showing green but growth has been somewhat slow as a result of cool weather. Some summerfallowing has been done. Rains have delayed seeding around Leader where crops on summerfallow have been seeded but some stubble fields still remain. Early wheat has already emerged. Moisture reserves are very high and warm weather is urgently needed to speed growth.

Seeding operations are progressing favourably around Togo in east-central Saskatchewan. Wheat seeding is almost completed and there has been some delay in an attempt to control wild oat growth. Some low-lying land is still either wet or flooded. In general, conditions are more favourable than last year in this area. A few more days of good weather should result in at least 80 per cent of seeding being completed. Around Willowbrook good progress was made with seeding last week. Showers have been frequent but, with good weather, seeding should be done by the end of the month. Pastures are good and all gardens are planted.

Unsettled weather has continued to delay seeding operations around Drake in the central part of the province where operations are just getting under way. Warm weather last week helped to dry the fields and promoted pasture growth. Acreage intended for spring grains will be reduced due to the lateness of the season and excessive moisture causing flooding in some areas. Early-sown wheat is now emerging in the immediate vicinity of

Saskatoon. No insect activity is reported by the Dominion Entomological Laboratory at that point.

In west-central Saskatchewan wheat seeding is virtually completed south of Township 41, with early-sown fields emerging with good stands. Farther north the seeding varies by districts from 20 to 90 per cent, with the lowest proportion completed in the extreme north. An increased acreage of oil-bearing seed crops is being sown. Around Rosetown 90 per cent of the wheat and 10 per cent of the coarse grains have been seeded. There has been some increase in crop acreage seeded on stubble and as a result the overall acreage is expected to be about average. There continues to be an over-abundance of rain and general moisture.

Fine weather during the past ten days has permitted some field work to be done around Melfort in the northeastern part of the province. Seeding has commenced in many areas and should be general in a day or so although the land is still very wet. Many fields are heavily infested with weeds, particularly wild oats. Pastures are excellent. Around Meota in the northwestern part of the province half the wheat has been sown. Weather has been cool and growth slow. Rainfall since April 1 has been 4.3 inches.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 135 per cent above normal compared with 221 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 23 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 23 was 3.5 degrees above normal compared with 2.0 degrees below normal for the week ending May 9 and 3.3 degrees above normal for the corresponding week last year.

Alberta

The general crop situation has improved in Alberta during the past week. Good progress was made with seeding but week-end rains postponed completion of sowing in the southeast and further delayed operations in western areas where from Lacombe south to Cardston little seeding has been done to date. The situation in the St. Paul area of the northeast which was previously backward is now well in hand except in western parts of the district where little field work will be done in the next few days. Given favourable weather conditions the bulk of seeding should be completed in most parts of the province this week.

In southeastern Alberta 95 per cent of seeding is completed in the Bow Island, Burdett and Foremost areas. North of Medicine Hat at Hilda and Schuler 75 per cent of the seed is in. About 60 per cent is completed around Medicine Hat. Field work has again been delayed in the Cypress Hills area due to snow and rain. Fall wheat and rye are doing well although grass growth is slow. Live stock are in good condition.

Wet weather has continued to delay seeding of all crops in the area south of Calgary and the lateness of the season is causing some concern. East of Lethbridge, however, about 80 per cent of the planned wheat acreage has been seeded. West of Lethbridge from 10 to 30 per cent of the wheat is in the ground. Sugar beet seeding is about 80 per cent completed but growth is slow. Canning crop seeding schedules have been upset by cool, wet weather. In the extreme southwest part of the province around Cardston heavy showers during the past week stopped all field work and seeding will be further delayed at least a week. Pastures are good. Four and a half inches of rain have fallen at Claresholm during the past ten days. Low spots in fields are filled with water and only 15 per cent of the grain crops has been seeded so far.

Prospects for sowing a normal acreage are poor although farmers have indicated they will seed wheat as late as June 10 to 15.

In the Brooks area of south-central Alberta 25 per cent of the peas for seed and 35 per cent of the cereals have been planted. Farther west at Vulcan about 50 per cent of the wheat has been seeded, with 70 per cent of the oats and 20 per cent of the barley in the ground. Heavy snow and rain stopped operations at the first of the week.

Seeding has been delayed along the Foothills by week-end precipitation. In the Calgary district the wheat acreage seeded varies from 1 to 100 per cent with an average of about 25 per cent. Coarse grain seeding varies from nil to 80 per cent with an average of about 20 per cent. South of Calgary along the Foothills farmers are expected to reduce wheat acreage as much as 30 per cent. East and northeast of the city conditions are about normal, being a week ahead of last year. In the east-central part of the province around Hanna 85 per cent of the wheat has been seeded and 20 per cent of the coarse grains. Warm weather is now needed following an inch and three-quarters of rain during the past week. Some fields are infested with wild oats and other weeds but general conditions are good.

In the Stettler-Donalda-Sedgewick sector of central Alberta, wheat seeding is from 75 to 80 per cent completed. From 40 to 50 per cent of the oats and from 30 to 50 per cent of the barley crops are in the ground. Pastures are doing well over most of the area but warmer weather is needed to speed growth. Some fields are heavily infested with wild oats.

Wheat seeding is almost completed in much of the Red Deer area of west-central Alberta. The acreage is expected to be about normal in the eastern part of the district but in western sections an increase in coarse grain acreage is anticipated, with some reduction in wheat due to the late season. All field operations were stopped by heavy rains over the week-end but warmer weather has advanced hay and pasture crops. At Lacombe 90 per cent of the wheat, 40 per cent of the oats and 10 per cent of the barley crops have been seeded, but heavy rains over the week-end have delayed further seeding. Another heavy rain could render it impossible to seed some fields which are now water-soaked. However, given two weeks of dry weather, normal anticipated acreages should be seeded. Pasture and hay growth are well started. Farther west at Eckville 90 per cent of the oats and from 5 to 10 per cent of the barley have been seeded. Pastures are coming along nicely and live stock are in fair condition. Wheat seeding has been completed but this amounts to only about 2 per cent of the cropped area in this particular district. Warm, dry weather is needed.

Seeding of wheat is nearly completed at Vermilion in eastern Alberta and from 5 to 10 per cent of the oats and barley crops are in the ground. The soil is in excellent condition with some wheat up and grass growing well. Wild oats, however, are a serious problem. At Bonnyville in north-eastern Alberta favourable weather last week permitted seeding operations to get under way. All wheat and oats should be in the ground by the end of this week. Moisture is still plentiful and seed is germinating well. Pastures, however, are slow and live stock feeding is still required. North of Edmonton at Athabasca wheat seeding is completed with 25 per cent of the oats and 10 per cent of the barley in the ground. Some low land is still too wet to work but another ten days of good weather will see much of this seeded.

Early-maturing barley will likely be sown on the later soils.

In the Beaverlodge district of the Peace River area wheat seeding is 95 per cent completed, oats 60, barley 25 and flax 25 per cent. Some re-seeding of very early oats has been reported. First-seeded wheat is emerging. Considerable winterkilling of red clover and alsike is reported in some areas. Moisture supplies are good. At Falher seeding is completed as follows: wheat and flax 90 per cent, oats 80 per cent and barley 70 per cent. Early wheat is showing up. Soils are drying rapidly with cool, windy weather. Pasture and hay fields are green but growth is slow.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 73 per cent above normal as compared with 72 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 25 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 23 has been 0.9 degrees below normal as compared with 2.1 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 3.6 degrees above normal a year ago.

British Columbia Although the weather has been warmer throughout most of the province during the past two weeks the season is about two weeks later than normal. In the Kootenay district seeding is general with reports from Creston indicating that it is about 25 per cent completed. Pastures and hay crops are making favourable growth. There have been no reports of frost damage to tree fruit blossoms. In the Southern Okanagan the blossom dates for all tree fruits are late with apples now in full bloom. The crop outlook is excellent although even with good fall weather harvest will be delayed. Vegetable planting is progressing rapidly. Forage crops are retarded and the first cut of hay is about two weeks late.

In the Kamloops district the season is late with spring grain not yet up. Although growth is slow pastures are doing well throughout the district. Range conditions are dry and growth very backward. Tomato planting is under way and apples are blossoming. There are no reports of insect damage yet in the interior of British Columbia. At Prince George the seeding of grains and forage crops is about 75 per cent completed. Due to cool weather pasture and hay growth is slow.

In the Peace River district seeding operations are general with 75 per cent of the spring grains seeded at Dawson Creek. Early-sown fields are up three inches. The weather is dry and rain is needed for optimum growth. Winter damage to crops is negligible.

Reports from the Fraser Valley state that grain seeding is almost complete. The weather has been wet and cool retarding plant growth. Potato planting is late. Strawberries are in full bloom, two weeks later than in 1954. Pastures are fair and hay crops promising. Early vegetables are growing poorly. On Vancouver Island a report from Saanichton states that the season continues cool and backward with seeding in some areas delayed due to wet soil. Some pastures are good. Potato planting is now in full swing and strawberries are in full bloom. Tree fruit blossom is over.

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	May 23	
		May 23, 1955	April 1	April 1	1955	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
M A N I T O B A						
1	Pierson	N.R.	2.94 2/	2.64	N.R.	52
	Melita	.25	4.05	2.73	58	54
	Waskada	1.17	2.36 2/	2.09	58	52
	Deloraine	N.R.	1.25 2/	2.44	N.R.	52
2	Boissevain	1.11	2.77	2.75	58	51
	Deerwood	.67	3.17	2.41	60	51
	Ninette	.76	2.98	2.92	61	53
3	Portage la Prairie	1.10	3.63	2.48	61	53
	Graysville	.56	1.82	2.34	60	52
	Morden	.28	1.68	2.60	62	53
	Altona	.36	2.84	2.63	62	53
	Morris	.07	2.22	2.31	61	53
	Roland	.45	2.13	2.28	61	53
	Emerson	.12	2.39	1.88	63	53
4	Winnipeg	.37	2.49	2.76	61	54
6	Vita	N.R.	2.56 2/	2.51	N.R.	52
	Sprague	.30	3.49	2.72	62	51
	Seven Sisters Falls	Nil	1.59	1.73	61	52
7	Virden	.93	3.68	1.73	57	52
	Rivers	.56	3.75	2.35	60	52
8	Brandon	.94	3.77	2.30	59	53
	Cypress River	1.00	2.77	2.36	60	52
9	Neepawa	1.04	3.80	2.32	59	52
	Plumas	N.R.	2.07 2/	2.33	N.R.	52
10	Russell	.22	3.62	1.98	56	50
	St. Lazare	N.R.	1.48 2/	2.05	N.R.	51
	Birtle	.38	4.24	2.05	58	51
11	Dauphin	.08	4.21	1.73	58	51
12	Gimli	1.18	3.54	2.77	59	50
13	Swan River	Nil	2.90	1.73	59	50
	The Pas	Nil	5.00	1.56	58	50

MANITOBA AVERAGE	.53	3.14	2.31	59.7	52.0
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S A S K A T C H E W A N

1A	Estevan	.56	4.59	2.22	57	51
	Carlyle	.61	4.83	2.60	55	51
	Oxbow	.84	2.09	2.47	57	50
	Willmar	.85	3.96	2.36	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.24	4.90	2.18	55	52
	Moosomin	.43	5.47	1.83	56	52
2A	Yellow Grass	.29	4.05	2.14	N.R.	51
	Creelman	.35	4.84	1.87	55	50
	Weyburn	.12	3.53	2.37	57	51
	Midale	.42	3.59	2.58	56	51

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since	Normal since	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		May 23, 1955	April 1	April 1	1955	May 23 Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
S A S K A T C H E W A N (continued)						
2B	Moose Jaw	.18	4.18	1.97	54	54
	Regina	1.00	5.21	1.87	54	52
	Rowatt	1.03	5.32 <u>2/</u>	1.88	N.R.	52
	Francis	.21	4.40	1.37	54	50
	Qu'Appelle	.99	5.36	2.50	53	52
	Indian Head	.83	5.08	2.12	54	52
	Wilcox	1.07	5.18	1.99	53	51
3AS	Assiniboia	.94	5.65	1.60	52	51
	Ormiston	N.R.	3.71 <u>2/</u>	1.82	N.R.	51
	Readlyn	1.10	6.07	1.60	53	51
	Minton	.04	3.89	2.63	54	52
3AN	Ceylon	.10	4.55	3.02	54	52
	Chaplin	.47	4.80	2.36	54	53
	Gravelbourg	.95	5.70	1.64	53	52
3BS	Coderre	.52	4.58	1.74	51	52
	Shaunavon	.50	3.83	1.80	50	50
	Cadillac	N.R.	4.11 <u>2/</u>	2.81	N.R.	50
	Aneroid	.59	5.34	1.95	51	50
3BN	Instow	.42	4.26	1.76	49	51
	Pennant	.68	4.26	2.28	52	52
	Swift Current	.54	4.80	2.04	51	53
4A	Hughton	N.R.	4.05 <u>2/</u>	2.49	N.R.	51
	Maple Creek	N.R.	4.64 <u>2/</u>	2.05	N.R.	52
4B	Consul	.67	3.34	2.12	48	50
	Roadene	.88	4.56	2.50	N.R.	51
5A	Leross	.02	6.71	1.98	55	49
	Yorkton	.10	4.63	1.95	58	51
	Bangor	N.R.	3.81 <u>2/</u>	2.07	N.R.	51
5B	Dafoe	Trace	6.77	1.57	56	48
	Lintlaw	Nil	4.27	2.23	56	48
	Kamsack	Nil	2.25	1.48	59	49
	Buchanan	.13	4.68	1.89	57	49
	Pelly	N.R.	3.05 <u>2/</u>	1.63	N.R.	49
	Davidson	.66	5.50	1.79	54	51
	Dilke	N.R.	4.66 <u>2/</u>	1.96	N.R.	N.R.
6A	Imperial	N.R.	5.37 <u>2/</u>	1.67	N.R.	51
	Semans	.06	4.96	1.45	56	50
	Strasbourg	.08	5.54	2.01	54	51
	Watrous	.10	6.88	1.48	55	52
	Harris	Nil	3.14 <u>2/</u>	1.43	52	50
	Outlook	1.05	5.01	1.50	55	52
	Saskatoon	.10	4.74	1.63	57	52
6B	Elbow	Nil	5.08	1.67	58	52
	Tugaske	.40	6.38	1.62	53	51
	Dundurn	.23	5.87	1.77	55	51
	Rosthern	.07	4.63	1.96	55	51
	Eston	.34	2.79	1.68	52	50
	Kindersley	.34	2.62	1.67	51	49
	Rosetown	.35	3.57	2.04	52	50
7A						

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Total	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. May 23, 1955	since April 1	since April 1	May 23 1955	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (continued)		- inches -			- degrees F -	
7B	Macklin	.20	3.19	2.66	53	49
	Scott	.40	4.06	1.87	53	51
	Biggar	1.63	4.63	1.57	55	51
	Ruthilda	.45	3.08	1.81	N.R.	N.R.
8A	Hudson Bay	nil	4.06	1.86	57	51
	Porcupine Plain	nil	5.43	1.81	57	50
8B	Cudworth	N.R.	N.R.	1.96	N.R.	51
	Humboldt	.03	4.47	1.64	56	51
	Melfort	nil	6.10	1.98	57	51
	North Battleford	.01	3.35	1.59	56	54
9A	Rabbit Lake	.10	3.86	1.58	55	51
	Leask	.02	5.70	1.82	55	53
	Prince Albert	nil	4.25	1.83	56	52
	Island Falls	nil	2.52	1.84	56	48
	Waseca	N.R.	3.90 2/	1.83	N.R.	50
<u>SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE</u>		.40	4.59	1.95	54.4	50.9
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Taber	.76	5.40	2.23	50	52
	Foremost	.50	5.14	3.39	48	57
	Winnifred	1.71	6.70	2.51	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	1.59	5.48	1.78	52	55
	Manyberries	N.R.	6.52 2/	2.33	N.R.	54
2	Cowley	.67	2.75	2.81	44	50
	Macleod	.39	5.55	1.96	48	54
	Cardston	.55	5.46	3.79	45	53
	Lethbridge	.60	6.23	2.28	48	53
	Del Bonita	.49	6.82	2.82	43	53
	Magrath	N.R.	4.07 2/	3.04	N.R.	53
	Vauxhall	.66	4.25	1.91	50	53
3	Hays	.86	4.89	1.85	51	53
	Brooks	1.04	4.03	2.05	50	54
	Bindloss	N.R.	2.75 2/	2.10	N.R.	55
	Empress	N.R.	2.19 2/	1.98	N.R.	55
	High River	.98	4.55	3.01	46	50
4	Vulcan	.83	5.82	2.21	45	52
	Drumheller	.61	1.84	2.05	N.R.	51
5	Hanna	.82	3.16	2.39	51	53
	Naco	.34	2.24	2.63	51	53
	Oyen	.61	2.35	1.50	N.R.	N.R.



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Total	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	May 23	
		May 23, 1955	April 1	April 1	1955	Normal
		- inches -				
ALBERTA (continued)						
6	Olds	.61	4.74	2.66	48	50
	Calgary	.86	4.71	2.32	48	51
	Three Hills	1.00	3.84	1.67	49	49
	Strathmore	N.R.	3.45 2/	2.10	N.R.	49
	Gleichen	.32	4.34	2.05	50	51
	Hussar	N.R.	2.93 2/	2.43	N.R.	N.R.
	Trochu	.65	2.81	1.92	49	49
7	Alliance	.53	3.89	1.80	53	51
	Hardisty	nil	2.59	1.55	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.10	3.47	2.05	51	51
	Hughenden	trace	4.91	2.08	53	53
8	Red Deer	1.37	3.65	2.70	50	49
	Lacombe	1.38	4.25	2.10	51	50
	Wetaskiwin	1.00	4.06	1.78	56	50
	Camrose	.38	2.52	2.45	54	48
	Stettler	1.29	3.55	3.03	52	50
9	Rocky Mountain House	.86	4.12	2.85	50	48
	Springdale	N.R.	.24 2/	2.69	N.R.	48
10	Vegreville	nil	1.33	2.33	50	50
	Vermilion	nil	2.81	1.95	55	49
	Lloydminster	nil	5.51	1.58	56	48
	Edmonton	.30	3.92	2.00	54	52
12	Edson	.78	2.55	1.78	48	50
	Whitecourt	.56	3.57	2.37	50	50
	Sangudo	.36	1.40	1.91	52	50
13	Elk Point	trace	3.77	1.75	54	49
	Lac la Biche	.02	3.08	2.00	56	50
14	Campsie	N.R.	2.69 2/	1.85	N.R.	50
	Athabaska	nil	2.37	2.00	54	50
15	High Prairie	.01	1.98	1.56	47	49
	Wagner	.02	2.18	2.06	48	50
16	Beaverlodge	.12	1.41	1.65	51	50
	Grande Prairie	.08	1.83	1.83	52	52
	Fairview	.19	2.46	1.20	50	51
	Fort St. John	.10	4.13	1.75	50	51
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.55	3.77	2.18	50.3	51.2

N.R. - No report.

1/ - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ - Incomplete: not included in average.