

OTTAWA - CANADA

City of the Hon. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce



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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the sixth of the 1958 series of nine telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the tenth 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 Farmers are now busy harvesting hay throughout the Maritimes. Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia have had dry weather and the bulk of the hay is now in storage. In New Brunswick, on the other hand, heavy rains have hampered haymaking. In Prince Edward Island grain is heading and making excellent growth. Early potatoes are being harvested with satisfactory yields reported. Pastures are very productive. Nova Scotia reports a slightly above average hay crop and early seeded grain is beginning to ripen. Local early potatoes and vegetables are now on the market. Pastures, however, are short and dry with more rain needed. The New Brunswick potato crop is now at full blossom and prospects are improving. The condition of late grain and old meadows is described as fair with new-seeded hay good. Fine weather is urgently needed, however, for haymaking and crop development.

Quebec Warm, rainy weather throughout the past two weeks has hastened crop development throughout Quebec. Haying, however, was delayed by these conditions but cutting is now nearing completion, with yields varying from average to good. Hay quality has deteriorated due to abundant weeds and unfavourable drying conditions. Cereals show promise of a good crop but some lodging has occurred in many districts. Pastures are holding well and milk flow remains steady, with production increasing in Hull, Abitibi and Temiscamingue. Ample supplies of early potatoes are on the market on Montreal Island. Late potatoes are growing well and crop prospects are promising. Except for tomatoes other truck crops, although late, are making good progress. The strawberry crop was heavy and quality good. Raspberry picking is in full swing, with satisfactory yields. In the Joliette and Three Rivers districts tobacco is growing well and yield prospects are excellent.

Ontario During the past two weeks very warm weather coupled with sufficient moisture has promoted rapid growth of all crops in Ontario. Haying is virtually completed in southern counties but is just nicely started in the later districts of northern Ontario. Yields have been better than previously anticipated,

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

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but lighter than normal. Some counties report severe weathering with consequent reduction in quality. The pasture condition is good and milk flow is being well maintained. Fall wheat and rye are ready for harvest in most sections of the province and a large percentage has already been harvested in the earliest areas. Yields have been good. Oats and barley are ripening rapidly also and some fields have been harvested in southern counties. The general prospects are for good yields. Growth of late crops such as corn, soybeans, tobacco, and sugar beets has been satisfactory recently and present prospects are for high yields. The harvest of early potatoes and tomatoes is going on and some early apples have been picked. The harvest of raspberries and sour cherries is in full swing and high yields are reported.

Prairie Provinces Crop conditions continue to improve in Manitoba and prospects are now for an average outturn. In Saskatchewan, conditions have also improved slightly but yields on the whole will be below average due to drought. Over much of Alberta yield prospects vary from fair to very good but the outlook in some eastern sections and part of the Peace River is poor. Swathing of fall-sown crops has commenced in all three provinces and spring grain is starting to turn colour in many districts. Haying is well advanced with yields generally below average.

British Columbia Warm dry weather continues over the entire province of British Columbia with record temperatures and hours of sunshine being established. As a result all crops are maturing early. Corn, beans, early apples, and second early potatoes are now being harvested in coastal areas. Picking of pears and peaches has commenced in the Okanagan while harvesting of apricots is finished. Excellent crops of tomatoes and cucumbers are now moving at full volume. Non-irrigated crops and pastures are showing the effects of drought in all areas. In the Peace River area an early and satisfactory harvest of all grains is anticipated despite dry conditions.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Farmers in Prince Edward Island have now cut about 75 per cent of the hay crop, with average to better than average yields and excellent quality reported. Very dry weather during the past two weeks has been helpful. Most of the grain is now in head and making excellent growth, with promising prospects. Early-planted potatoes are doing well with harvesting now under way. Late potatoes are somewhat slow in developing, with slight late blight infection in some areas; however, the dry weather has prevented its spread. The strawberry crop is better than average, having been helped by late rains. Blueberries and cranberries are promising, the apple set is average and raspberries are average or better. Turnips and mangels are making satisfactory growth but require more moisture.

In the western part of Nova Scotia, haying is 90 per cent completed and, in the eastern sections, 50 per cent completed. In general the crop was slightly above average and was harvested in good condition. Local early potatoes and vegetables are now on the market. Grain is heading and the early-seeded crop is starting to ripen. In the Amherst district, an exception to the general picture, haying has been delayed by frequent showers with not more than half the crop saved. Grain crops in this area are better than average, although some lodging has occurred in barley. Pastures are in very good condition as a result of the wet weather. In the Annapolis Valley, on the other hand, rain is needed. The harvesting of winter barley has been

completed with very good yields reported. Spring grains are generally good although the straw is short. Pasture growth is also short. Early potato yields are about average but it is expected that the yield of the main crop will be down slightly due to the lack of moisture. The fruit crop is developing satisfactorily but more moisture is required. Insects are well controlled but apple scab is still developing. The strawberry harvest is nearing completion and the first picking of pickling cucumbers has been made with an average crop in prospect. Canning peas are being harvested, with average yields being obtained.

In New Brunswick potatoes are at full blossom with prospects improving. Early-sown grain is good and late grain fair. Continued wet weather has seriously hampered haying. The rain also caused considerable lodging and erosion. New-seeded hay lands are generally good and old meadows fair. Pastures are holding up well. Pea harvesting is under way with normal yields reported. The strawberry crop is over and raspberries are now being picked. Reports indicate that aphids are numerous and other insect activity about normal; however, the wet weather could aggravate the army worm problem in grain.

QUEBEC

In the l'Assomption area, east of Montreal, cereal and pasture crops are good but haying has been difficult due to frequent rain. Hay yields vary from fair to good and silage corn prospects are said to be fair. With warmer weather, cigar and flue-cured tobacco have improved greatly. Yield and quality of canning peas are good but small fruit yields are below normal. At Saint Jean, south of Montreal, up to 9 inches of rain in July has caused serious damage to vegetable and canning crops, particularly peas. Hay and pasture crops are very good. Pea aphid and onion maggot damage has been serious. The apple crop is very satisfactory, with scab and insect injury low. Green apple aphid is still prevailing. A hail storm on July 26 caused important local damage to many crops, particularly apples in Rouville county. Farther east at Lennoxville, the weather has been generally wet and humid. However, good haying weather was experienced during five days last week and a heavy hay crop is now about half harvested. Cereal and pasture crops are good but corn is only fair and very weedy.

At Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière east of Quebec City the Experimental Farm reports abundant rain. Pastures are excellent and haying is about 85 per cent completed on the Experimental Farm and about 30 per cent done in the neighbourhood. Hay yields are running about 20 per cent above the long-term average. Rutabagas are doing well, but corn silage is only fair. Honey yield has been excellent. Vegetables are making good growth but warm season crops are slow in reaching maturity.

The Experimental Farm at Normandin in the Lake St. John region reports that showery weather has handicapped haying and damaged grain crops on heavy soil. About 35% of the fair quality hay crop remains to be harvested. Barley and oats have headed and pastures are excellent. Potatoes are blossoming and prospects are good. Blueberry crop prospects are very promising and gardens are satisfactory, except for corn and tomatoes. The Experimental Sub-Station at Caplan in the Baie des Chaleurs area reports July precipitation at less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches and that pastures are suffering from lack of moisture. Making of grass silage was completed July 21, with haying starting around July 23. The hay crop is very uneven due to cool weather which persisted until the end of June. The oat crop on the Sub-Station is headed and a good yield is expected.

ONTARIO

With fair rainfall in July, crop prospects continue to improve in Simcoe County in western Ontario. Yields of late-harvested hay were fair and raised the average for the season to an estimated 75 per cent of normal. Wheat is being cut and spring grains are turning. Yields will be down from the bumper years but will be satisfactory. Corn and potato prospects are good. Pastures are short but cattle have done exceptionally well on them so far. In Wellington County farmers are busy at the present time cutting wheat and most of this crop is now in the stook. Barley and oats in the southern part of the county are changing colour and will be ready for harvest in the near future. The recent rain and warm weather during the past weeks have greatly stimulated the growth of field corn.

The wheat harvest is well under way and the expectations are for an above-average yield in Waterloo County. Pastures remain adequate and the growth of second-cut hay is good. Aphids on turnips are the worst pest reported so far this season. In Halton County combining and threshing of wheat are in progress and yields of up to 50 bushels per acre are reported. Some spring grains are also being cut and prospects are for normal yields. Some areas in the county are very dry and pastures there are short. Corn, while spotty, is making good growth and some second-crop alfalfa is being cut.

First-cut haying is practically complete in Middlesex County in southern Ontario. Winter barley, some wheat, and a few fields of spring barley and oats have been combined. Many fields are in the stook. Yields have been excellent and the quality is good. Corn, beans and sugar beets made rapid growth during the past month but a general rain is now needed. The tobacco crop is rather uneven owing to some re-planting following damaging June winds. The tree fruit crop appears good. In Essex County humid weather slowed the harvest of wheat but combining is now nearly completed. Yields are good. Early oats are also being combined and heavy yields are reported. Most late crops have grown well during the past two weeks but could now do with more rain. Sugar beet growth is well ahead of normal. Pastures and second-cut hay crops are good. The peach harvest is just starting and tomatoes, field cucumbers, and other end of season crops are being harvested. The burley tobacco crop is only fair and there is a lot of virus disease.

On Pelee Island the fall wheat harvest was delayed by showers but is now almost completed. Average yields of 35 bushels per acre are reported and the quality is very good. The moisture content is low considering the weather. Growth of soybeans has been fair but low-lying fields are suffering from excess moisture and water damage. The combining of an excellent quality wheat crop is about 60 per cent completed in Kent County. Winter barley has yielded exceptionally well with some fields going over 100 bushels to the acre. Spring grains look excellent and are nearly ready for combining. Soybeans are a bit spotty with crops varying from poor to excellent in different sections of the county. Corn has made excellent growth and both seed and grain crops are above average. Rain would improve late crops and pastures. Moderate aphid infestation is reported on tobacco and sugar beets and the second generation of the onion maggot is causing some locally severe losses. Aster yellows is again damaging lettuce, carrots, celery, and ornamental shrubs. The wheat and rye harvest is in full swing in Norfolk County and the yield prospects are good. Some oats have been cut and the yield prospects are also good. Some excellent second-cut hay crops are being harvested. The tobacco crop is uneven and many fields are being irrigated. Some tobacco will be harvested this week. Very little rain has fallen in the county for the past three weeks and more moisture is required to promote

growth. The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Vineland reports that the sweet cherry harvest is almost over and sour cherries are now being picked. Powdery mildew is prevalent on sour cherries, apples, and raspberries. Downy mildew is still affecting some grape varieties and aphids are still prevalent on some tomato fields. Pear psylla is generally abundant this season where not well controlled by sprays.

In Leeds County in eastern Ontario the general crop situation has improved. Some 85 per cent of the hay has been harvested and yields were fairly good. Pastures still need rain but recent showers have been welcome. Some fall wheat is ready to cut and the prospects for spring grains are good. In Renfrew County plentiful supplies of moisture together with warm weather continue to improve spring grain crop prospects. Haying, however, has been delayed and there is still about 25 per cent of this crop to harvest. There has been some lodging of oats and fall wheat. This year's seeding of grasses, clovers and legumes have made good growth. Early-sown grain crops are fully headed around Kapuskasing in northern Ontario and prospects are good. Frequent rains from July 1 to 16 held up haying which got under way two weeks later than average.

MANITOBA

Crops would benefit from additional rain in Manitoba, particularly in the western section. Crop prospects are promising in northern Manitoba and near average in southern areas. Cereal grains are filling well and the few hot days have hastened ripening. Some swathing of barley and fall rye has been done and early wheat is turning colour. Haying is well advanced, the crop outturn being 50-70 per cent of average. Prospects for second cut hay are good and pastures are very good. Beet webworm infestations, although scattered, extend from Saskatchewan border to Neepawa and south to the International Border. Flax and gardens are affected.

Some barley has been swathed in the Altona district and a considerable proportion of the crop is ripening too fast. Wheat is starting to turn, sunflowers are showing colour, peas are past full bloom and early flax is in the boll and late budding stage. Haying is completed with about 70 per cent of an average crop being secured. The beet webworm infestation is abating after more than two weeks of intensive spraying activity at great cost. The Experimental Farm at Morden reports that crop prospects are much improved and the improvement is continuing. Some barley will be cut this week and wheat is starting to turn. Summerfallow crops are promising but those sown on fall ploughing are late and uneven. Corn and sunflowers are much improved and also the flax crop and second-cut alfalfa.

Crops are also progressing well in the Pilot Mound area. Wheat is starting to turn. Haying is about half completed with many farmers finished. Beet webworm infestation on flax has necessitated spraying. Six-spotted leaf hoppers are reported on flax, and late Parkland barley is showing up to 20 per cent loose smut. About a quarter of an inch of rain was received at Melita during the past week and moisture conditions are now fair. The condition of wheat, coarse grains and flax is fair, rye poor to fair and hay fair. There is a considerable number of grasshoppers and some army worms in isolated areas.

East of Winnipeg at Beauséjour, the wheat crop is expected to yield 85 per cent of average and oats and barley 70 per cent. All crops, hay and pasture have recovered remarkably well since the rains. Haying is now in full swing and wheat swathing will commence in about two weeks' time. Wheat is a good crop in the Portage La Prairie area and barley is the best in recent years. Early flax is good while

late-sown flax is poor. Sugar beets are below average but pastures are excellent and fodder supplies will be adequate. The beet webworm is a threat to sugar beets. Crop harvest will commence in mid-August with anticipated yields as follows: wheat, 20; barley, 30; flax, 8; and peas 20 bushels per acre.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports only one-tenth of an inch of rainfall over the past two weeks but cool weather has prevented crop deterioration. Prospects are for average yields of wheat, barley and flax but oats will be below average. Fall rye and the odd early barley field is being harvested. Field crops are filling well. There have been no serious disease or insect outbreaks in the area. Pastures are fair but rain will be required soon. Harvesting of fall rye is in progress in the Virden area and early barley will be ready for swathing in another week. There have been numerous reports of wheat stems breaking just above the lower node. Haying is well advanced and a fair supply has been obtained. Beet webworm infestations especially in gardens have been occurring at various places in the surrounding districts.

Beet webworms have caused some damage to flax east of Teulon in the Interlake area and about 200 acres were sprayed by airplane. Cereal crops are very good in most parts of the Teulon area and there will be some surplus hay for sale. Hail damage has occurred on about two sections of land near Winnipeg beach. In central Manitoba at Neepawa, high temperatures are hastening maturity of all crops and some cutting may start in a week's time. Average yields are expected for cereal crops but hay yields are light. Pastures are only fair. Army worms are prevalent at points throughout the area. Summerfallow wheat is filling well and most oats and barley are headed at Minnedosa. Rain will soon be needed to support heavy demands for filling. Scattered showers this week have helped. Flax fields are variable with most of them being below average. Harvesting of the first-cut hay crop is half completed with yields of grass down but many clover fields good.

In northern Manitoba at Dauphin cereal crops are also filling well. Summerfallow wheat is showing heavy growth and barley and flax crops are fair to good. There have been several reports of aphids on barley. About 75 per cent of the hay has been put up on good condition but showery weather is now delaying operations. Summerfallows are good and pastures have improved. Farther north at Swan River, wheat is 75 per cent headed, barley 35 per cent and oats 30 per cent. About 60 per cent of the hay has been garnered and yields have been good.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports light storms on July 21 at the following points; Medora, Baldur, Mentmore, Carman, Grandview, Dufresne, Beauséjour and Lac du Bonnet. The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports severe damage to sunflowers in some areas by the sunflower beetle. Chemical control measures have been necessary to protect crops. The leaf hopper population is much lower than in 1957 and only a trace of aster yellows has been noted in crops to date.

The average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 25 per cent below normal as compared with 26 per cent below normal a week ago, 24 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 10 per cent above normal at the same time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 28 was 2.8 degrees above normal as compared with 2.2 degrees below normal a week ago, 1.8 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 7.3 degrees above normal for the week ending July 29, 1957.

SASKATCHEWAN

Although some crops in Saskatchewan suffered as a result of the extremely high temperatures a week ago, subsequent cooler weather and scattered showers have again provided slightly improved conditions. Generally, wheat averages 23 inches and coarse grains 20 inches in height. Practically all the wheat is headed. In areas where rain was received the grain is filling well, but additional moisture is required in the drier areas to ensure proper filling of the present stands. Some grasshopper damage is reported in the south-central districts and there have been further scattered hail losses throughout the province. There is widespread beet-webworm infestation in flax and rapeseed fields. The critical fodder situation has eased considerably but it is still essential that some cereal grains be used for hay.

In the Yellow Grass district of southeast Saskatchewan, our correspondent expects about a 12 bushel wheat crop. The summerfallow crop is generally fair but stubble fields are poor. Coarse grains vary from poor to fair and flax should average about 5 bushels. Crops are filling despite the dry weather. There has been some grasshopper damage. Around Fillmore early-sown wheat is in the late dough stage. Average yields of 12 bushels for wheat and 15 bushels for barley are indicated, but rye and oats are very light. Flax is fairly good with average yields in prospect. Haying is in full swing and some light, weedy crops are being baled for feed. Rain is needed to fill late crops.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that cereal grain crops have improved considerably in this area during the past two weeks. Rains of 0.1 of an inch or over along with cool weather, except for two days, has lengthened out the crop and prevented further deterioration. Early summerfallow wheat might yield 18 to 20 bushels per acre but oats are generally short, and will be light yielding. Pastures have improved with recent rains but feed will still be in short supply.

About three-quarters of an inch of rain was received over the weekend at Big Beaver in southcentral Saskatchewan. Crops are improving more than first expected and wheat is coming well. Early fields of wheat are starting to turn colour and yields will run from 5 to 20 bushels. On well farmed land yields will range from 15 to 20 bushels per acre. According to the Experimental Farm at Swift Current crop prospects in that area have improved considerably during the past two weeks. Although stands are thin and heads short, crops have lengthened and are filling well. Coarse grains have made a remarkable recovery and many pastures are turning green. The fodder situation has changed from a definite shortage to an adequate supply provided that some cereal grains are cut for feed.

The Val Marie district in the southwest part of the province has received scattered showers and temperatures have been moderate. Moisture conditions are described as poor and more rain is needed for filling all crops although those on summerfallow are holding up remarkably well. Wheat is 85 per cent headed, barley 80 per cent, oats 60 per cent and flax is 50 per cent in flower. Around Leader, crop development has been good since the last report. Early fields are turning colour and average yields are indicated. Pastures have revived somewhat and fodder supplies will be nearly adequate.

Good rains have halted crop deterioration in east central Saskatchewan around Togo. Wheat is filling six-row and the barley crop is well advanced. Yield estimates are very difficult to make at this time. Some summerfallow wheat will give a bumper outturn while other fields are very poor. Second growth in crops will retard the harvest

Pastures are picking up and a second cutting of alfalfa is now assured. Around Willowbrook all crops show a marked improvement and recent rains and cool weather are keeping fields green. Wheat is satisfactory and yields on summerfallow are expected to be near average. Coarse grains sown on stubble are poor and yields will be light. Some hay fields are turning out about one ton per acre but many fields are too short to cut. Pastures have improved with recent rains. Crops need rain for filling in the Sturgis district. Crops on summerfallow still look fair but stubble fields have deteriorated considerably. Total rainfall this growing season has amounted to 3.95 inches compared with 7.28 inches a year ago.

In the Saskatoon district crops and pastures show further improvement with the additional rain. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports that supplementary showers have added to the good effects of mid-July rains received in the drier regions of west-central Saskatchewan. Wide variations in yields are indicated for all grains, but average yields will be below normal. However, many fields of flax and rapeseed will yield close to normal. Farmers have augmented the short hay crop by sowing late oats.

At Melfort in northeastern Saskatchewan, only traces of rain have been received since the previous report. Stubble crops in particular have deteriorated and yields will be considerably reduced. There have been several reports of diamond-back moth and beet webworm attacking rape fields, although damage is not extensive. Some early barley is changing colour. Rain is urgently needed to assure proper filling of crops. Pastures are poor. Farther east and north at Nipawin crops still continue to make good progress. Moisture supplies are adequate and all grains are filling well. Haying is well advanced and there will be plenty of feed for this winter. Estimated yields are: wheat 22, oats 35, barley 30, rye 20 and flax 10 bushels per acre. Clover crops and pastures are satisfactory and overall conditions are 100 per cent normal.

Crops around Meota in the northwestern part of the province have shown a marked improvement since the last report, although some damage was caused by hail which struck the district over the weekend. About 4.75 inches of rain have been received since April 1.

The Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports that damage to rape and flax by beet webworms larvae is showing up at widely scattered points around Scott, Wilkie, Delisle, Bounty, Yorkton and Melfort. Some spraying is under way. Surveys indicate that the flax bollworm is widespread over west-central Saskatchewan and the infestation is heavier than that of the past several years. Egg laying by roadside grasshoppers is in progress.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Company reports the following storms: July 20 - scattered storms Bromhead, Ponteix, Swift Current; on the night of the 22 and 23, Fox Valley, Cabri, Stewart Valley, Gouldtown and during the same night Shaunavon, Scottsguard, Cadillac, Ponteix to Hazermore, and also the Govan area. Total claims to date are about a third of those at the same date last year. The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following storms, some of which are reported above. July 22 - Tunstall, Golden Prairie, Richmond, Fox Valley area (heavy); Roseray to Pennant to Success to Stewart Valley to Main Centre (medium); Hatton, Maple Creek area and south (medium) Dollard to Shaunavon to Admiral to Ponteix to Aneroid (medium to heavy).

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 37 per cent below normal compared with 33 per cent below normal a week ago, 35 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 26 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 28, 1958 was 2.2 degrees above normal compared with 0.6 of a degree above normal a week ago, 0.5 of a degree above normal two weeks ago and 7.3 degrees above normal for the week ending July 29, 1957.

ALBERTA

Differences in crop prospects between regions in Alberta are becoming more clearly defined. Prospects are generally good to very good west of a line from about Manyberries through Drumheller to Leduc. In the areas extending from Medicine Hat through Acadia Valley to Edmonton and from Grande Prairie west, with some exceptions, fair crops are in prospect. Light crops are expected in all other areas. Some crops in the less favoured districts have been cut for feed, pastured or ploughed down. Swathing of fall rye and winter wheat and barley is beginning in the south. Some barley has been cut in the Peace River area. The fescue seed crop in the Peace River district is yielding well. The clover seed crop is short but seed formation has been good. The canning pea harvest in the south is in full swing. Irrigated crops and mustard seed are in good condition. Rapeseed varies from fair to good. Several severe hail storms have occurred in the past week.

Around Manyberries in southeastern Alberta early wheat and barley are in the dough stage, with later crops and oats still in the milk stage. More rain is needed to fill crops. Ranges and livestock are in good condition. Rain has improved crop conditions considerably in the Medicine Hat area. The rye harvest has commenced and swathing of early barley and wheat will begin next week. Hay supplies are only about half the average of the past six years. Considerable hail damage has occurred from Bow Island to south of Walsh and also in the Schuler area.

The Lethbridge Experimental Station reports further rain south of Calgary with hail damage in some areas. Harvesting of fall rye and winter wheat is under way, with some barley swathed. Early-sown spring wheat is turning colour. No new insect problems are reported. Our correspondent at Cardston reports that about one-quarter of the crop in that area received 35 per cent hail damage. All other crops are good, with fall grains turning colour. Winter wheat and fall rye are being swathed in the Claresholm district. Most flax fields carry an exceptionally heavy stand, with lodging occurring in some. Moisture supplies are abundant and all crops are good. Hot, dry weather is needed now.

Most crops and pastures in the Brooks area are fair to good following recent rain. Some 17,000 acres were hailed last week in the Tilley and Rainier districts with a large acreage receiving 100 per cent damage. Beet webworms have caused some loss in flax and there is some grasshopper injury in alfalfa for seed. Farther west at Vulcan plenty of moisture is now available to mature crops. About 15 per cent of the district was hailed out last week and haying operations have been held up due to wet weather. Barley crops are turning colour rapidly.

The crop outlook is still poor in the Hanna district in east-central Alberta. The few light showers received have been insufficient to do much good. Hay crops are light and pastures very poor. Should moisture be received in time for filling, wheat may yield about 7 bushels, oats 15, barley 8 and rye 5 bushels per acre. Moisture conditions remain good around Calgary. Crops are nearly all headed and filling well. Barley is beginning to turn colour and some fields of fall rye and winter wheat are ready to cut. General prospects are good. Farther north at Olds, moisture supplies are ample for the next two weeks and 80 per cent of the crop is now headed. Some early-seeded barley is turning colour. No crop damage has been reported in recent weeks and prospects are generally good.

Crop conditions are only fair in the Sedgewick area of central Alberta. Early-sown grains should return average yields but late-sown oats and barley are very short and need rain to fill. Pastures are poor and the hay crop only fair.

Farther south at Donalda, spotty showers this past week have helped somewhat. Wheat crop prospects are generally fair and heads are filling well. Coarse grains are only fair to very poor, with late-sown barley greatly retarded due to earlier drought. Rye is not filling too well, apparently due to frost damage. Crop conditions have deteriorated in the Stettler area due to lack of moisture. Warm weather is forcing barley to mature too rapidly and wheat heads are showing white caps. Rain is urgently needed to maintain present potential yields.

The Experimental Farm at Lacombe in the west-central part of the province reports grain crops filling rapidly after one-half inch of rain during the past two weeks. Grain yields are tentatively estimated as follows: wheat 25, oats 40 and barley 33 bushels per acre. Native and cultivated pastures are badly in need of additional moisture and chances are poor for a satisfactory second cut of hay unless moisture conditions improve rapidly. Farther west at Eckville swathings of barley should commence in ten days and be general by August 15. Harvesting of a fair quality hay crop is about 90 per cent completed. Summerfallows are in fairly good condition, although some fields are heavily infested with sow thistle. A good rain would now be welcome.

Crops remain fair in the Edmonton district, showers having improved prospects in some areas. However, crops as a whole are spotty and only fair to average yields are anticipated. In the northeastern part of the province around Bonnyville local showers have been relieving acute drought conditions but crop prospects are still poor. Barley is beginning to turn colour and very low yields of coarse grains are expected. Wheat may average 10 bushels per acre. Haying is about completed with yields averaging only about one-third of a ton per acre. Around Athabasca north of Edmonton some local showers have been received during the past two weeks but only 3.3 inches of rain have been recorded for the season. Haying is nearly completed, with yields only about 30 per cent of normal. Pastures are poor. Stubble crops are very poor, with thin small heads. Summerfallow crop prospects are about 75 per cent of normal, providing sufficient rain is received to fill heads.

The Experimental Farm at Beaverlodge in the southern part of the Peace River area reports continued warm dry weather is rapidly bringing all crops to maturity. The fescue seed harvest has commenced, with good to excellent yields being received. Harvesting of olli barley is expected to begin this week. North of the Peace River around Berwyn crops are ripening fast under dry weather conditions. The fescue harvest has been completed with yields averaging 350 pounds per acre. Some barley has been swathed but light yields are anticipated for all cereal crops. Pastures are poor and the hay crop was light but of good quality. Some 40,000 acres of crops have been hailed in this district. Hay supplies are scarce. Light showers have fallen in the Fort Vermilion area in the far north during the past week. Most stands of grain are fair to good but further rain would be beneficial. Barley, however, is ripening and harvest should commence in about a week. Flax prospects are good but the crop is still 5 to 6 weeks away from maturity. A poor set of alfalfa seed is anticipated. Harvesting of a generally good quality hay crop is practically completed. Pastures are poor.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports that hail storms on July 26 caused tremendous damage in strips varying from 1 to 6 miles wide from Ensign to Tilley, from Durward to Scandia, from west of Retlaw to Hays, from Coalhurst to Purple Springs and through townships ten and eleven to Saskatchewan, with a local storm at Schuler. A severe storm occurred on July 27 in a 15 square mile area south and west of Cardston. The Canadian Hail Insurance Underwriters Association reports the following storms:

July 15 - Hines Creek-Fairview area (heavy), Brownvale area (heavy), Belloy area (light), Woking area (light), Mayerthorpe area (medium); July 16 - High Prairie (medium); July 22 - Diamond City to Chin to Taber to Grassy Lake to Bow Island to Winnifred to Seven Persons to Irvine to Walsh (heavy), Ensign and Champion to Armada and Enchant to Rainier to Tilley (heavy), Hays-Vauxhall-Scope area (heavy).

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 18 per cent below normal as compared with 24 per cent below normal a week ago, 19 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 26 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 28 was 0.9 degrees above normal compared with 2.4 degrees above normal a week ago, 1.4 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 1.7 degrees above normal for the week ending July 29, 1957.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

In the Kootenay district around Creston, prolonged hot, dry weather has hastened the maturity of all cereal grains and seed peas. Harvesting of winter wheat and seed peas has commenced with yields average and quality high. Growth of second-cut hay and pastures has been retarded due to low rainfall. The cherry crop has been picked, with average yields being obtained. It is expected that apples will also be an average crop in this area. A report from Dawson Creek, in the Peace River area of British Columbia indicates that the weather is hot and dry. The fescue harvest is in full swing and harvesting of early-seeded barley will commence in about a week. Wheat is in the late milk and early dough stage. Late-seeded crops have shown considerable second growth. Haying operations are about 75 per cent completed and the crop is being harvested in excellent condition.

Around Prince George, in the central interior, the weather has been extremely dry and hot with practically no growth of field crops or pastures. Cereals and forage crops, which were germinated by June rain, are deteriorating rapidly.

According to a report from Summerland in the Okanagan district the weather continues unseasonably hot and is causing rapid maturity of fruit crops. Picking of apricots is completed. Harvesting of peaches and pears has commenced with size somewhat reduced. Early apples are now moving freely. Special precautions are required with the main apple crop against a heavy infestation of codling moth. Tomatoes are in full production. Irrigated hay crops are in good condition and the third cut will soon be ready for harvest. A report from Agassiz, in the Lower Fraser Valley, indicates that the weather continues hot and dry with the temperature hitting a new record for the month of July of 101 degrees on July 27. Pasture growth is being checked by drought in some areas. All processing crops are beginning to show damage from heat and drought. Harvesting of bush beans is almost complete while the pole bean harvest is commencing. Harvesting of oats is general in the eastern half of the Fraser Valley and yields are light.

On Vancouver Island the weather has been very hot and dry and the retarded pasture growth is now affecting milk production. Irrigation is paying off well and where not available crop growth is restricted. The above average temperature is having a marked beneficial effect on ripening heat-loving crops and is hastening maturity of all crops.

According to the Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Kamloops, severe losses have been caused by maggots in crops of bunching onions in the Kelowna district. Cabbage worms are more abundant and injurious than usual to cabbage and cauliflower in the dry southern interior of British Columbia. An outbreak of variegated cutworm is general throughout the Vancouver delta and the Lower Fraser Valley district with severe defoliation to some crops. Grasshopper infestations have necessitated control measures in the Princeton, Nicola, Kamloops, Clinton and Pavilion Mountain district involving over 13,000 acres.

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. July 28, 1958	since April 1	since April 1	July 28 1958	Normal
			- inches -		- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.07	3.86	8.76	68	65
	Melita	.23	4.63	9.62	68	66
	Waskada	.23	3.95 ^{2/}	9.14	68	67
2	Boissevain	.08	5.71	8.77	68	66
	Deerwood	1.15	6.88	8.90	69	65
	Ninette	.23	5.29	9.33	67	66
	Pilot Mound	.53	6.02	8.99	67	66
	Portage la Prairie	.89	7.62	8.92	70	65
3	Macdonald	.18	8.49	8.90	69	65
	Graysville	1.27	7.23	8.63	68	66
	Morden	.62	7.55	9.14	70	66
	Altona	.25	7.84	8.49	70	66
	Morris	.55	9.56	7.91	69	66
	Roland	.58	6.11	8.67	69	67
	Gretna	.94	8.43	8.49	70	67
	Emerson	.45	7.93	8.48	69	67
4	Winnipeg	1.05	9.92	8.30	69	67
5	Sprague	.88	9.33 ^{2/}	9.25	68	65
	Seven Sisters Falls	.28	7.13 ^{2/}	7.77	68	64
	Steinbach	.63	10.09	8.67	68	67
7	Virden	.11	4.62	8.30	68	63
	Reston	Trace	3.92	8.80	67	65
	Rivers	.01	4.10	9.98	67	65
8	Brandon	.11	4.29	9.46	67	65
	Cypress River	.91	6.63	8.73	67	65
9	Neepawa	.11	4.59	8.58	68	64
	Grass River	.13	5.30	9.05	70	63
10	Russell	.43	3.46	7.95	65	63
	Rosburn	N.R.	5.46 ^{2/}	8.07	N.R.	63
	Birtle	.30	3.53	8.46	66	63
11	Dauphin	.87	7.12	8.19	67	64
12	Gimli	1.23	11.19	8.76	68	65
13	Swan River	.26	5.84	7.88	65	63
	The Pas	.57	4.44	6.73	64	64
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.49	6.50	8.65	67.9	65.1
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.13	3.31	8.65	69	65
	Carlyle	.10	4.15	8.33	64	63
	Oxbow	.21	.84 ^{2/}	8.70	66	65
	Willmar	.08	2.77	8.17	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.11	3.11	8.35	65	63
	Moosomin	.17	4.04	8.94	67	65
2A	Yellow Grass	.22	2.57	7.84	67	65
	Creelman	.11	3.21	7.82	66	65

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	July 28	
		July 28,1958	April 1	April 1	1958	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (continued)						
2A	Weyburn	.04	2.01	7.93	68	65
	Midale	.72	3.32	7.64	67	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.03	3.63	7.18	69	66
	Regina	.05	3.09	7.53	68	63
	Francis	Trace	1.90	6.90	64	64
	Qu'Appelle	N.R.	Trace ^{2/}	8.20	N.R.	64
	Indian Head	.33	2.83	7.57	67	63
	Wilcox	.11	2.34	7.67	67	63
3AS	Assiniboia	.04	3.92	7.53	68	65
	Ormiston	.01	4.10	7.77	67	65
	Readlyn	.04	4.33	7.77	68	65
	Cardross	.11	4.59	7.77	68	65
	Ceylon	.03	3.47	8.64	66	66
3AN	Chaplin	.19	4.26	6.55	69	65
	Gravelbourg	.31	4.60	7.45	68	65
	Coderre	.30	4.57	7.23	69	65
3BS	Shaunavon	.50	4.10	6.82	69	63
	Cadillac	.88	5.27	7.26	67	63
	Pambrun	.30	5.40	7.63	66	65
	Aneroid	.50	5.80	6.85	66	63
3BN	Instow	.88	3.08	6.86	63	66
	Pennant	.75	5.03	6.70	67	65
	Swift Current	.29	4.74	7.36	66	66
	Hodgeville	.20	2.28 ^{2/}	7.52	67	66
	Hughton	.35	4.33	6.17	66	63
	Maple Creek	N.R.	3.54 ^{2/}	6.69	N.R.	64
4A	Consul	.39	2.73	6.04	62	62
	Cupar	.39	4.76	6.97	68	62
5A	Leross	.61	4.63	7.53	65	63
	Melville	.43	2.79	7.45	66	62
	Yorkton	.50	3.76	7.72	66	62
	Bangor	.56	3.85	7.72	67	62
	Dafoe	.55	5.85	7.78	65	62
	Foam Lake	.59	3.71	7.81	68	62
5B	Lintlaw	.23	5.89	7.83	63	62
	Kamsack	.47	4.38	7.49	65	63
	Arran	.22	6.87	7.68	64	63
	Pelly	.26	5.87	7.68	63	63
	Davidson	1.01	3.77	6.86	67	64
	Dilke	.25	5.83	6.23	N.R.	N.R.
6A	Imperial	.86	3.63	6.80	67	64
	Semans	.69	3.38	6.18	67	63
	Strasbourg	.70	4.89	7.08	66	63
	Watrous	.60	5.24	6.50	65	63
	Harris	N.R.	3.69 ^{2/}	6.40	N.R.	64
	Outlook	.66	4.49	6.05	68	64

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. July 28,1958	since April 1	since April 1	July 28 1958	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (concluded)						
6B	Saskatoon	.93	6.15	7.21	66	63
	Elbow	.23	3.40	6.23	61	64
	Tugaske	.37	4.73	6.87	67	64
	Dundurn	1.09	6.29	6.50	66	63
	Rosthern	.48	5.75	7.11	64	63
7A	Kindersley	.57	5.15	5.96	65	63
	Rosetown	.41	5.15	6.97	66	63
7B	Macklin	.45	4.00	6.62	63	60
	Scott	.68	4.85	6.61	67	61
	Biggar	.56	5.82	6.69	66	63
8A	Hudson Bay	.88	7.63	7.79	63	63
	Porcupine Plain	.34	7.77	7.73	63	63
	Prairie River	.28	7.06	7.53	62	63
8B	Humboldt	.28	5.12	6.74	64	62
	Melfort	.13	3.62	7.09	65	63
9A	North Battleford	.34	6.73	6.45	66	64
	Victoire	.19	7.46	6.63	62	60
	Prince Albert	.28	6.58	7.31	63	64
	Island Falls	.49	6.15	7.06	62	65
9B	Waseca	.50	5.32	6.78	63	60
	St. Walburg	.43	7.30	6.63	61	60
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.39	4.60	7.26	65.7	63.5
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Bindloss	N.R.	5.01 ^{2/}	5.15	N.R.	65
	Empress	.55	3.10	4.68	67	69
	Excel	N.R.	3.00 ^{2/}	6.10	N.R.	66
	Foremost	.50	6.13	6.93	66	69
	Hanna	.32	3.66	6.77	65	66
	Manyberries	.44	4.95	5.63	67	68
	Medicine Hat	1.21	4.64	6.03	69	68
	Naco	N.R.	3.45 ^{2/}	5.84	N.R.	64
	Oyen	N.R.	1.74 ^{2/}	5.64	N.R.	N.R.
	Winnifred	1.10	5.06 ^{2/}	5.91	N.R.	N.R.
2	Brooks	.68	4.70	5.88	66	69
	Drumheller	.35	4.97	6.54	66	69
	Gleichen	1.09	6.76	7.08	65	62
	Hays	1.38	4.76	6.03	68	66
	Raymond	.92	7.89	7.75	66	66
	Lethbridge	1.30	8.71	7.85	67	66
	Strathmore	.65	5.41	7.67	63	61
	Taber	1.06	5.84	6.64	66	67
	Three Hills	.24	5.61	7.42	62	61
	Trochu	.16	5.67	8.03	61	61
Vauxhall	1.34	6.54	5.99	66	68	



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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	July 28	
		July 28,1958	April 1	April 1	1958	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
ALBERTA (concluded)						
2	Vulcan	1.05	8.33	7.27	66	63
3	Calgary	.63	8.50	8.82	61	62
	Cardston	2.47	12.57	8.54	63	66
	Cowley	.51	11.88	8.59	64	63
	Fort MacLeod	1.13	8.37	8.47	65	67
	Claresholm	.91	9.38	8.88	66	66
	High River	1.05	11.13	9.62	61	62
	Magrath	1.01	8.03	8.35	N.R.	65
	Olds	.41	8.64	8.77	61	60
4	Alliance	N.R.	3.94 ^{2/}	7.91	N.R.	65
	Camrose	.34	3.77	7.39	64	61
	Coronation	.15	3.56	7.20	64	63
	Hardisty	.18	3.19 ^{2/}	6.94	N.R.	N.R.
	Hughenden	N.R.	3.48 ^{2/}	7.03	N.R.	66
	Lloydminster	.39	3.73	6.81	64	61
	Stettler	.10	4.77	8.36	63	60
	Vegreville	.90	3.63	7.12	63	60
	Vermilion	.32	2.94	7.40	64	60
5	Edmonton	1.07	6.06	8.60	65	62
	Lacombe	N.R.	6.60 ^{2/}	9.06	N.R.	60
	Red Deer	.32	8.78	8.52	63	59
	Rocky Mountain House	.27	8.41	11.18	62	59
	Wetaskiwin	1.42	6.49 ^{2/}	8.46	64	61
6	Athabasca	N.R.	2.60 ^{2/}	7.52	N.R.	60
	Campsie	N.R.	3.32 ^{2/}	8.88	N.R.	60
	Edson	.25	9.20	9.31	60	57
	Elk Point	1.01	3.13	7.31	61	61
	Embarras	Trace	3.57	5.12	62	66
	Lac la Biche	.47	2.23	7.60	64	60
	Whitecourt	.04	5.48	9.56	62	60
7	Beaverlodge	.02	4.42	6.44	62	60
	Berwyn	N.R.	1.35 ^{2/}	6.15	N.R.	60
	Fairview	.03	3.16	6.70	63	61
	Grande Prairie	Trace	5.65	6.57	64	60
	High Prairie	NIL	2.30	7.73	N.R.	61
	Rycroft	NIL	2.38 ^{2/}	6.37	63	60
	Wagner	.33	3.01	6.88	62	61
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.63	6.01	7.36	64.0	63.1

N.R. - No report.

^{1/} - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

^{2/} - Incomplete; not included in average.