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## TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the first of the 1959 series of nine telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the first 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.

Maritime Provinces The Maritime provinces report cool weather and slow growth so far this season. In Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia precipitation has been below normal. Reports from Prince Edward Island indicate that legumes, tree fruits and mulched strawberries have wintered well. Although some farmers have planted limited areas of early potatoes and vegetables in light, sandy soils, farming operations will not be general for another week or ten days. In Nova Scotia, cold weather is delaying planting throughout much of the province. However, a few days of warm weather will dry the soil. Very little growth has yet occurred on pastures but these have wintered well. Only a start has been made in seeding grain crops. In New Brunswick the weather continues cold and wet with frost still in the ground. Severe winter killing is reported on legumes. Growth on pastures and hay lands has barely started. Although some early potatoes, vegetables and turnips have been planted much of the land is still too wet to work.

Quebec The season is earlier than usual in Quebec this year. In the Montreal district, it is expected that 70 per cent of the grain crops will be seeded within the next few days. Land preparation is not as far advanced in the Quebec area where field work is just getting under way. Cultivation and seeding should, however, be general in this region by next week. Early vegetables are about 75 per cent planted in the Montreal region, but sowing is just getting under way in the Quebec area. Pastures and meadows apparently came through the winter with little damage. In spite of the poor quality of last year's hay crop, livestock are in good condition.

Ontario Winter wheat and rye suffered very extensive damage in some of the heavy producing counties, particularly Essex, Kent and Lambton, where half of the acreage seeded last fall will be replanted to other crops. For the province as a whole, probably one third of the entire acreage seeded last fall was winterkilled. This is the largest amount of damage experienced in years. Hay and clover crops, especially new seedings, also suffered more than normal winterkill in parts of southwestern Ontario, but only normal or slightly above normal in central and eastern Ontario. In northern Ontario overwintered crops are reported to have come

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

through in good condition. Pastures made very slow growth during April, and at May 1 most livestock were still being stable-fed. However, rains on April 28 and 29 and higher temperatures during the past week will hasten pasture growth considerably. Spring seeding of grain crops commenced in most southwestern counties during the third week of April and was fairly general throughout almost the whole of old Ontario at the end of April. Fields generally worked into a good seedbed and, although soil moisture reserves are low, fairly heavy precipitation at the end of April and the much warmer weather now prevailing should result in rapid germination and early development of these crops. Spring grain seeding will be practically completed in parts of southwestern Ontario this week. Seeding of spring grains is under way in the Rainy River District and will commence in the districts of northern Ontario between May 8 and 15. Most farms have ample supplies of hay and grain on hand, with the result that milk flow has been maintained at a high level and livestock are generally in good condition.

Prairie Provinces Recent precipitation in the Prairie Provinces has temporarily delayed seeding operations but has greatly improved seed bed conditions, and halted soil drifting. Surface moisture supplies are now adequate to promote germination in most districts, but subsoil reserves are generally low. Prior to recent snow and rain, fair seeding progress had been made in southern Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan, but in most other regions little more than a start had been made. Pasture growth has been generally slow.

#### Grasshopper Outbreak Forecast for the Prairie Provinces 1959

Acknowledgment is made to Dr. P. W. Riegert, Research Branch, Canada Department of Agriculture, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan for providing the following grasshopper forecast. Our thanks are also due to those officers of the Department of Agriculture laboratories at Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Lethbridge, who provided Dr. Riegert with basic data on the grasshopper situation.

"The threat of grasshopper outbreaks in 1959 has increased considerably over that of 1958. This is partly due to an intensification of abundance in some areas and partly an increase in the total area in which economic infestations are expected. 'Very severe' areas, the first since 1950, are mapped in four districts in southern Saskatchewan. At the same time, efficient control measures during the summer of 1958 have resulted in a net decrease in expected populations in a few areas such as Mortlach and Coronach. In some parts of the Red River Valley, drought conditions caused up to 40 per cent reduction in egg population due to desiccation.

In Alberta, the heaviest infestations can be expected in the area from Vauxhall through Carmangay to Monarch and Macleod; in Saskatchewan, southeast of Swift Current and south of Moose Jaw and Regina through Weyburn, Estevan and Oxbow; and in Manitoba, in the Carman-Haywood, Oak Lake-Hartney, Neepawa, Gladstone, and Stonewall districts. Much of the infested area was comparatively dry during the fall of 1958. With an early spring and a continuation of conditions resulting in poor crop growth, the hazards to crops in 1959 will be greatly enhanced.

The clear-winged grasshopper, Camnula pellucida (Scudd.), is the most common species in almost the whole of the potential outbreak area in Saskatchewan and also in a few districts in Manitoba. It is prevalent not only in its usual roadside, slough margin, and vacant sod area habitats, but as it so frequently did (in 1958), occurs also in stubble fields, where it often forms a mixture with the migratory grasshopper, Melanoplus bilituratus (Walker), (formerly known as *M. mexicanua*). In Alberta and in most of Manitoba this latter species is the dominant pest species. Together with the



two-striped grasshopper, Melanoplus bivittatus (Say), the migratory grasshopper will be of chief concern along roadsides, alfalfa fields and pastures in Manitoba and Alberta.

As in 1958 the irregularity of infestation made categorization for forecasting difficult. Local infestations within forecasted areas may well exceed expectations and should be looked for. Constant vigilance by the farmer and prompt action when hatching commences will result in increased control and minimum crop damage in 1959."

British Columbia Spring ploughing and seeding are slow throughout British Columbia due to cool and unsettled weather. Pastures, haylands, early potatoes and canning peas show normal growth in most areas. Potatoes and pea acreages are slightly up from last year.

In the Okanagan Valley cherries and peaches are in full bloom; both fruits have suffered from winter injury and spring frost and some decline in tree fruit yields is to be expected.

In the Peace River Block recent snow and rains improved grain prospects and all crops should progress normally providing weather conditions improve.

MARITIME PROVINCES Reports from Prince Edward Island state that growth has been slow this year due to cool dry weather. Although some farmers have planted early potatoes, vegetables and turnips on light, sandy soils, work on the land will not be general for another week or ten days. Frost is still in the ground and snow remains in sheltered areas. Precipitation has been below normal and warm rains are needed. Pastures and hay lands have not yet started to grow. However, legumes appear to have wintered well. Tree fruits and bush fruits also came through in good condition. Blueberry sprouts are excellent but cranberry foliage is severely burned and bud injury is evident. Mulched strawberries wintered well but unprotected plantations killed badly.

In Nova Scotia very little work has been done on the land, except in the earlier areas, as farmers are waiting for the weather to clear and warm up. However, a few days of warm weather will dry the soil as precipitation has been below normal. Very little seeding is reported. At Amherst pastures and hay fields have wintered well but are showing very little growth so far due to the cold weather. In the Annapolis Valley the season is about one week later than usual. Soil moisture is low but adequate. Winter-killing of legumes and grasses is about average. Pasture and hay growth is slow with only a few beef cattle out on pasture at the present time. Potato planting is under way but no canning peas or grains have yet been seeded. Apples and pears have wintered well and growers are applying dormant sprays this week. Some winter injury is reported to peach trees.

The weather in New Brunswick continues cold and wet with frost still in the ground. As a result little work on the land has yet been done. However, some early vegetables have been seeded in the Grand Lake area and a few potatoes in Carleton County. Some farmers are harrowing their fields in the southeast section of the province. However, in most areas it is still too wet to work the land. Severe winter-killing is reported on legumes with growth of grasses just beginning. Extensive mice damage is reported in orchards. Apple growers have finished pruning.

QUEBEC In the St. Jean area south of Montreal, April was very dry, with normal temperatures. With the exception of early potatoes, little seeding has been done to date in this district. In many parts of this area apple trees were severely damaged by mice and frost bark killing during the winter. Farther east, at Lennoxville,

the weather has been cold and dry. Fields are in good condition for seeding and most farmers are beginning this week. A warm rain is needed to start growth of meadows and pastures.

Cold weather has prevailed around Ste. Anne de la Pocatière east of Quebec City and no seeding has been done as yet. Winter wheat and clover appear to be slightly damaged but it is too early to estimate the exact extent of winter injuries. At Normandin, in the Lake St. John area, April temperatures have been above average but less than one-half inch of precipitation was recorded during the month. Snow is still present in gullies and bush areas. With warmer weather it is expected that field work will start the week of May 18. Cattle are in good condition with ample forage available.

In the Caplan area of western Quebec cool weather has so far prevented any field work. The mean temperature for April was 3.5 degrees lower than normal with rainfall also below normal. Frost is still in the ground and no growth is visible.

ONTARIO Seeding operations are nicely under way in the Barrie district with about 20 per cent completed. Growth is slow and pastures are about ten days behind normal. Winter wheat suffered from 20 to 40 per cent winterkill. Recent rains have relieved dry conditions.

Seeding is well advanced in Wellington County except in late areas. Approximately 60 per cent of the spring grains have been sown. Soil is working easily but was very dry until a good rain fell this week. New seedings of grasses and clovers are generally in good condition. Winter wheat fared badly in south Wellington where a few fields have already been cultivated for spring grain. Spring grain seeding is fairly well completed in the southern part of Waterloo County. A recent all-day rain was very timely. In Halton County seeding of spring grains is 75 per cent completed but growth to date has been relatively slow. Winterkilling of fall wheat was severe and the majority of wheat fields in south Halton have been reseeded to spring grains. As a result, there has been a keen demand for seed oats. Forage crops appear to be in fair condition.

In Middlesex County seeding of oats and barley is 65 per cent completed. Good weather prevailed between April 15 and 25 although rain caused a delay, field operations are again general. Winterkilling of fall wheat was rather severe with the loss estimated at about 20 per cent. Grass was rather backward at May 1 but is expected to improve quickly with warm weather. Livestock are in good condition and feed supplies are generally adequate. Fruit buds appear promising. Moisture supplies are ample. Winter wheat, hay and pasture were also damaged in Essex County. Seeding of spring grains is completed and planting of sugar beets and canning peas is nearly half done. Early vegetables are making satisfactory growth. Cool weather and rain have held back field work considerably. Corn and soybean ground is now being prepared. The Dominion Experimental Farm at Harrow reports that seeding operations were retarded due to the late spring. Only a very few fields of early potatoes are showing and early truck crops are later than normal. Very little corn or soybeans will be planted for another week. Tobacco seedlings are in fair condition but progressing slowly. Prospects for the fruit crop are good.

Fall wheat on Pelee Island is reported to have suffered severe winterkill. Seeding of spring grains is nearly completed in Kent County and early oats are showing. Sugar beet acreage is about 50 per cent seeded, onions 100 per cent and peas 50 per cent. Fall wheat, pastures and new seedings suffered severe winterkilling with losses varying from 10 to 100 per cent. Preparation of land for corn and soybeans is



progressing and some corn will be planted next week. Tobacco beds and early vegetables appear promising. To date, only a few livestock have been turned out to pasture. In Simcoe County seeding operations are about 40 per cent completed. The winterkill of fall wheat in this county is estimated at about 20 per cent. Hay and pasture growth have been somewhat retarded due to cool, dry weather. However, recent rains have been excessive and warm weather would now be welcome.

The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Vineland reports that most fruit crops wintered well although strawberries suffered some damage. Winter injury on peaches was somewhat more than average but blossom buds appear generally abundant. Development of Elberta and Jubilee varieties appear to be about a week later than normal. Only apricots and a few early cherries are in bloom.

In the Peterboro area winter wheat and clovers are in good to excellent condition, with only slight winter injury reported. Sowing of spring grains is about 60 per cent completed. Livestock are generally in good condition. Rain and warm weather are improving growth. The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Picton reports that rabbits and mice have caused havoc to fruit trees and ornamental shrubs. Winter-killing was also extensive and splitting occurred among all varieties of apple trees. Extensive winter damage, up to 80 per cent, has occurred in seedings of fall wheat and legumes.

Seeding is about one third completed in Leeds County and operations are proceeding rapidly under excellent conditions. Growth of fall wheat, grass and meadows has been slow but satisfactory improvement has occurred with the advent of warmer weather. Young cattle will soon be going out to pasture. Feed supplies are sufficient and milk flow is normal. In Renfrew County spring seeding commenced on April 20 and operations are now in full swing. Fall wheat, alfalfa and clover came through the winter in excellent condition. The Experimental Farm at Kapuskasing reports that cool temperatures prevailed during April and growth only commenced at the beginning of May. No seeding or field operations have started as yet.

MANITOBA Rain during the past week end brought seeding operations to a standstill Manitoba. Seeding of wheat in southern areas is about 30 per cent completed and about 10 per cent of the coarse grains have been sown. Elsewhere in the Province wheat seeding varies from nil to 10 per cent completed. Surface moisture is adequate in all areas to excessive in the Red River Valley. Except in the Valley, subsoil moisture is in short supply, and particularly so in southwestern Manitoba. Planting of sugar beets and other special crops is expected to get under way next week.

In southern Manitoba at Emerson the land appears to be in fair condition, but poor weather has delayed seeding. Some field work was started on April 29 and then a general rain amounting to an inch was received throughout the area. The Experimental Farm at Morden reports rainfall of .39 inches over the week end. Seeding is progressing favourably, about 30 per cent having been completed. Pastures are showing little growth and growth in fields is also slow. Some farmers are delaying seeding to await weed growth. The soil is in excellent condition, with satisfactory moisture supplies. Warm weather is the main requirement now.

In southwestern Manitoba at Melita dry soil conditions prevail. Seeding operations are general on summerfallowed land with percentages seeded as follows: wheat 35, oats and barley 15, and flax 5. Pastures are poor.

In the Selkirk district north of Winnipeg, seeding will not start until May 9. Surface moisture conditions are good but subsoil supplies are only fair. There has been no weed growth and pastures are brown. Fortunately, there are ample feed supplies in the district. Farther east at Beausejour, field work has just started but rains over the week end will delay spring work for at least ten days. Pastures will benefit a great deal from these rains.

Our correspondent from Portage La Prairie states that wheat seeding commenced last week and will become general this week. Some sugar beets have been planted. A half-inch of rain received over the week end has helped the surface moisture situation. Some soil drifting had occurred in this district. Pastures have been bare but should improve now. Seedings of peas, wheat and flax may show slight increases this year at the expense of barley where the land is free from wild oats.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon states that moisture conditions are greatly improved by recent rains totalling almost one inch. Seeding is well under way with 25 to 35 per cent of the wheat sown, barley 12 to 15, and oats 5 per cent. An odd field of flax has also been sown. Cool weather is retarding emergence of grains and holding back growth on pasture fields.

In the Interlake area at Teulon, no seeding has been done to date but some spring work will commence this week. Moisture conditions are good and forage crops have over-wintered well. Around Arborg, excessive rains have squashed hopes of commencement of seeding within the next 10 to 14 days. A few farmers had commenced cultivation prior to the rain. Pastures and grassland should now come along fast, however, provided warm weather comes soon.

Seeding will become general at Neepawa during this week if the weather permits. Surface moisture is adequate in this district but subsoil supplies are unsatisfactory. About the same crop acreages are expected as last year. Pastures and weed growth are now coming along quickly. Livestock have wintered in fair condition, and feed supplies are ample. At Minnedosa general rains last Sunday halted spring work but the moisture will be very beneficial. About 20 per cent of the wheat has been seeded, and barley and oats seeding has started. Only slight soil erosion has occurred this spring and surface moisture is now good. Grass growth ranges from poor to fair and pastures are slow in developing.

Approximately 20 per cent of the wheat has been seeded in the Shoal Lake district but germination has been slow because of cold weather. A four inch snowfall on April 24 and one inch of rain on May 3 greatly improved surface moisture conditions. Pastures are in poor condition but will improve with warmer weather.

In the northern part of Manitoba at Dauphin, 1.4 inches of rain were received over the week end and this will supply sufficient moisture to give cereals and pastures a start. Wheat seeding is general in the district and land is in good working condition. Pastures have been slow in growing and most cattle are still on feed. Very little soil drifting has occurred this year. Warm weather is needed to promote growth.

The average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 9 per cent below normal as compared with 39 per cent below normal a week ago, 60 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 40 per cent below normal at the same time a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending May 4 was 5.7 degrees above normal as compared with 4.7 degrees below normal a week ago and two weeks ago, and 10.2 degrees below normal for the week ending May 5, 1958.



SASKATCHEWAN Although warm weather in early April made it appear that seeding would be early in Saskatchewan, cool, dry, windy weather in the latter part of the month and into the first week of May has delayed operations in many regions. Lack of surface moisture and slow weed growth have also held up seeding. However, scattered showers over the week end improved the outlook in many areas and, weather permitting, seeding should be general in all areas next week. Wheat seeding is most advanced in the Estevan-Bethune regions where 40 per cent has been sown. Some 20 per cent is in the ground in the Moosomin, Weyburn, Regina and Elbow districts. In other areas, with the exception of the northeast corner, less than 10 per cent has been sown. In the northeast it is expected that seeding will get under way next week. On a provincial basis about 10 per cent of the wheat, oats and barley has been seeded.

In the southeast part of the province seeding is making fairly rapid progress. Showers over the week end have temporarily improved surface moisture conditions and the seed bed, but more adequate rains will soon be required. The Experimental Farm at Swift Current in the southwest part reports that cool weather is keeping weeds from germinating. Some farmers in the district have seeded a considerable acreage while others are just starting. Soil drifting was severe during the past week. Surface moisture conditions are described as good and soil moisture is fair in summerfallow but poor in stubble lands. Pastures are now starting to turn green. Farther west in the Leader district seeding is general but the area completed as yet is quite small. Surface moisture supplies are adequate for seeding and subsoil reserves are average. Severe winds have caused extensive soil drifting. Pastures are turning green.

Cold, wet weather prevailed in the Togo district of east-central Saskatchewan. Moisture conditions generally are good and considerably better than during the spring of 1958. Practically no seeding has been done to date. Tame grass pastures are starting to turn green but native pastures are bare. Farmers are waiting for weed growth before commencing seeding operations. If moisture conditions are normal from now on this district should produce a good crop. Around Willowbrook 2 inches of rain since April 1 have greatly eased the dry conditions which existed last fall. The weather is unsettled and temperatures are below normal. Cultivating of summerfallow fields is becoming general as wild oats are beginning to grow. The percentage of grain sown is small but seeding should become general within the next week. Farther north at Sturgis our correspondent estimates that about 5 per cent of the wheat and no coarse grains have been seeded to date. Moisture reserves are only fair and the weather has been too cold for germination.

In the Drake district of central Saskatchewan surface moisture conditions were greatly improved by week end rains. The precipitation has also temporarily halted wind erosion. Seeding operations will be general this week. Rye fields came through the winter in patchy condition and some may have to be ploughed under. Acreage seeded to the various crops will likely be comparable to former years. Cattle are now being turned out on poor pastures. Spring tillage operations are general in the Saskatoon district and about 2 per cent of the land has been seeded. The extremely dry surface soil condition, and soil drifting, have been alleviated by recent light rain.

Seeding operations will likely be general this week around Rosetown in the west-central part of the province. Stubble fields are dry and moisture reserves on summerfallowed fields are slightly below normal. Farmers have delayed cultivation to obtain a weed kill. Wheat acreage in the district will likely increase at the expense of coarse grains. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports that the unusually dry conditions and above normal soil drifting have been relieved by effective precipitation during the past few days. Seeding progress has been spotty to date. It is expected that wheat acreage will increase, mainly at the expense of rapeseed.

According to the Experimental Farm at Melfort in the northeast part of the province the weather has been generally cool and cloudy during the past ten days. Some 1.8 inches of precipitation since April 27 should permit uniform seed germination and promote good growth of pasture and hay fields. No seeding has been done to date but many farmers have completed some light cultivation operations. Fall rye and forage crops came through the winter in excellent condition. Spring work has not commenced in Nipawin district because of cool, wet weather. It may be ten days before seeding gets under way. Moisture conditions are excellent and no damage of any kind is evident in clover and grass fields, both of which wintered well. Around Meota in the northwest part of the province very little seeding has been done to date because of cloudy and cold weather. Nearly three-quarters of an inch on May 2 greatly improved surface moisture conditions. Pasture growth has been slow.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 3 per cent above normal in contrast to 18 per cent below normal a week ago, 66 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and 2 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 4 was 4.0 degrees above normal in contrast to 6.4 degrees below normal a week ago, 1.9 degrees above normal two weeks ago, and 5.3 degrees below normal for the week ending May 5, 1958.

ALBERTA Last winter's light snowfall melted early with little run-off. However, windy weather in April dried surface soil and there was considerable soil drifting. Wind erosion was most serious in the Medicine Hat-Lethbridge region but some drifting also occurred as far north as Lacombe and Two Hills. In many districts farmers delayed cultivation while waiting for rain. Prior to the snowfall this past week end, soil moisture was reported to be generally poor to fair except in the southwest and the greater portion of the Peace River area. Precipitation in the past few days will now promote uniform germination, but sub-soil moisture reserves in nearly all parts of the province are very low. Greater than normal seasonal precipitation will be needed to produce an average crop, especially on stubble land.

Seeding of barley began April 30 in the Manyberries area of southeastern Alberta. High winds and cold weather during April were unfavourable for starting weed growth. Range vegetation has also been slow in starting. Some soil drifting has occurred in the area. Moisture conditions are fair in the Medicine Hat area but cold weather has retarded growth of pastures. Winter grains are showing well in most sections. Forty per cent of the spring wheat, oats and barley acreages have been seeded. Severe dust storms occurred during the past ten days but rain was falling on Tuesday. Livestock are in fairly good condition.

The Lethbridge Research Station reports soil moisture conditions generally satisfactory in the area south of Calgary. Seeding is well advanced in the southeastern part of the district and nicely started elsewhere. Sugar beet seeding is about 40 per cent done but soil drifting was serious on some fields and a thousand acres of beets may require re-seeding. Cereal seeding has been held up just recently by cool, windy weather with some snow. Fall grains are in good condition in the Cardston area and livestock are doing well. Moisture supplies are ample. Very little spring work has been done. No seeding has been done to date in the Claresholm area where cold, windy weather has prevailed. Soil drifting has occurred in some parts of the district but moisture supplies are adequate for germination.

Dry weather prevailed in the Brooks area of south-central Alberta until about two weeks ago. Since then two snow storms and a general rain have brightened the picture. About 6 per cent of the wheat and 3 per cent of the barley acreage have been seeded. Pasture growth is slow due to cold nights. Some winterkilling is



evident in alfalfa. Farther west at Vulcan dry, windy weather over a two weeks period halted seeding as land was beginning to blow rather badly. However, some moisture was received in a recent snow storm and seeding should get under way in three days time. Hay and pasture lands are badly in need of moisture.

East of Calgary at Hanna moisture conditions are not too satisfactory although some rain and snow this past week will help hay land & pastures. Some land has been cultivated but no seeding is reported to date. Following unusually mild weather during March and most of April spring farming operations in the Calgary district were just starting when wintry weather returned bringing snow and zero temperatures. Previous dry conditions were relieved by an inch of precipitation during the last two weeks which should give crops and pastures a good start. Seeding will commence as soon as weather permits. Moisture conditions are good in the Olds district north of Calgary following a heavy snow over the week end. Seeding will be delayed till at least the first of next week.

Eight inches of snow last week stopped seeding operations in the Sedgewick sector of central Alberta. However, seeding will be general as soon as fields are dry. Pasture conditions should improve as a result of better moisture conditions. Heavy snow has also delayed seeding in the Donalda district, but it is expected that field work will be general next week. Moisture supplies are ample to start crops. Farmers have been over most of their land and seeding should be completed quite rapidly.

Wet weather during the past two weeks has limited field operations in the Red Deer area. About half of the land has received one tilling with the odd field seeded. Seeding will be general as soon as fields dry sufficiently. Sweet clover weavils are reported to be active. A little farther north at Lacombe snow storms during the past two weeks interrupted field operations which were general in mid-April. Moisture received has restored reserves to near normal. Pasture and hay crops are just commencing growth. With no further storms, seeding should be general by May 11. Similar weather conditions have prevailed at Eckville but sub-soil moisture reserves are reported to be very poor in this district. Hay and pastures are just starting growth and warmer weather is needed. New seedings wintered well.

Pasture growth has been slow in the Vermilion area east of Edmonton where field work was general prior to a heavy snow over the week end. No seeding has been done as yet. Approximately 7 inches of snow have fallen since May 1 in the Edmonton area, providing considerable relief to the very dry conditions existing previously. There are only isolated reports of any seeding having been done in this district. West of Edmonton field work was well under way until the snow of May 2 to 5. However, the snowfall will be of great help in supplementing low moisture reserves.

In the northeast around Bonnyville seeding has barely started prior to the weekend snowfall. Some concern is shown over feed supplies which are practically exhausted. Reports from Colinton and Athabasca indicate that the recent snowfall has improved surface moisture conditions. Sub-soil reserves, however, are low. Little sowing has been done as yet, but seeding could be completed in about ten days, given warmer weather.

Snow melted early in the Falher area of the Peace River District and some tillage was done in April. However, recent snow and cold weather will likely delay operations until about May 10. Moisture conditions are good but forage supplies are exhausted and the ground is still frozen and snow-covered. Cultivation and seeding of spring crops is being delayed by continuing rain and snow in the Beaverlodge

area. No winterkilling of cereals or forage crops is apparent but present freezing temperatures could cause damage. Surface moisture supplies are adequate but sub-soil reserves are poor, especially in the North Peace area. At Berwyn 3 to 4 inches of snow have fallen in the past four days and temperatures dropped to as low as 10 above. Moisture conditions are only poor to fair. Pastures are short and hay is scarce in many areas. Seed supplies are satisfactory, except for oats. A small percentage of the wheat acreage was seeded a week ago. At Fort Vermilion in the far north of the province, some cultivation was done during the past week but seeding operations have been delayed by cold weather and snow flurries. Temperatures are still below freezing at night. Soil moisture reserves are only fair but are adequate for germination. Spring pasture growth is nil.

The Crop Insect Section of the Research Station at Lethbridge reports that woolly bear caterpillars are damaging dry land pastures in scattered areas. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 16 per cent above normal in contrast to 10 per cent below normal a week ago, 37 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 20 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 4 was 5.3 degrees below normal as compared with 10.1 degrees below normal a week ago, 0.4 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 0.3 degrees above normal for the week ending May 5, 1958.

BRITISH COLUMBIA Unfavourable weather conditions delayed field operations in the southern Okanagan Valley. Only small percentages of cereal grains, seed peas and clover have been seeded. Little injury has been observed to small fruits and winter wheat. Asparagus canning has already started. Apricots and peaches have suffered some damage while losses in sweet cherries are heavy in individual districts. However, main fall and winter varieties of apples seem unaffected by the adverse weather conditions.

In the North Okanagan Valley grain and pea seeding is almost complete. Both pastures and hay fields suffered from icing and low spring temperatures. Alfalfa damage is also reported because of bacterial wilt, crown rot and winter injury. Ranges are generally dry and irrigation has commenced where necessary.

Reports from the central interior district indicate severe winterkilling of all legume crops and weak growth of grasses. Soil moisture reserves are low and field operations are not expected to start before May 11.

Excessive rains at the end of April and the beginning of May delayed tillage operations and caused flooding of some pastures and hay seedings in the lower Fraser Valley. Otherwise pasture and hay growth is reported normal for the season.

Normal growth of forages and cereals which appear to have wintered well is reported from Victoria district also. A spell of good, warm weather is required for a satisfactory pollination of fruit trees.

There have been no insect outbreaks on cereal or special crops according to the Kamloops Entomological Laboratory.



Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces<sup>1/</sup>

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since	Normal since	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		May 4, 1959	April 1	April 1	May 4 1959	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<b>MANITOBA</b>						
1	Pierson	.15	.65	1.38	52	45
	Melita	.10	.85	1.50	53	45
	Waskada	Trace	.30	1.17	54	45
2	Boissevain	1.72	1.82	1.29	53	45
	Deerwood	N.R.	.32 <sup>2/</sup>	1.35	N.R.	45
	Ninette	.64	1.15	1.49	53	45
	Pilot Mound	.53	1.14	1.45	53	46
	Portage la Prairie	.43	.98	1.30	52	45
3	Macdonald	.70	1.25	1.30	50	45
	Graysville	.69	1.16	1.32	50	45
	Morden	.50	1.01	1.58	53	46
	Altona	.27	.64	1.35	53	45
	Morris	.49	.93	1.18	54	46
	Roland	.39	.80	1.35	53	46
	Gretna	.46	.90	1.37	54	45
	Emerson	.49	.72	1.36	54	46
4	Winnipeg	.46	1.07	1.35	54	46
6	Sprague	.11	.51	1.62	50	43
	Seven Sisters Falls	.36	.88	1.12	48	47
	Steinbach	.92	1.63	1.35	51	46
7	Virden	.11	.57	1.06	49	45
	Reston	.02	.57	1.42	51	45
	Rivers	.44	1.23	1.11	52	45
8	Brandon	.82	1.36	1.48	51	46
	Cypress River	.82	1.45	1.20	51	45
9	Neepawa	.85	1.45	1.10	50	45
	Grass River	.76	1.36	1.13	48	43
10	Russell	.90	1.13	1.01	45	43
	Rosburn	1.25	2.48 <sup>2/</sup>	1.01	49	42
	Birtle	N.R.	1.03 <sup>2/</sup>	1.09	N.R.	42
11	Dauphin	1.39	2.79	1.09	45	43
12	Gimli	.38	1.37	1.01	47	43
13	Swan River	.59	1.11	1.00	43	40
	The Pas	.41	1.40	1.03	36	41
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.57	1.15	1.26	50.3	44.6
<b>SASKATCHEWAN</b>						
1A	Estevan	.16	.64	.96	54	45
	Carlyle	.19	.59	1.16	50	43
	Oxbow	.47	1.07	1.22	52	45
	Willmar	.17	.47	1.09	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.29	.91	1.07	50	44
	Moosomin	.36	.89	.90	48	44

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces<sup>1/</sup>

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	May 4	
		May 4, 1959	April 1	April 1	1959	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
2A	Yellow Grass	Trace	.70	.93	53	44
	Creelman	.10	.58	.91	52	44
	Weyburn	.01	.59	.92	53	45
	Midale	.25	.39	1.02	53	45
2B	Moose Jaw	.27	1.41	.89	52	46
	Regina	.20	.74	.92	52	44
	Francis	.09	.39	.74	51	45
	Qu'Appelle	.15	.43	1.19	47	44
	Indian Head	.15	.92	.98	51	45
	Wilcox	.02	.58	.93	52	44
	Assiniboia	.10	1.30	.86	50	45
	Ormiston	Trace	.71	.94	52	45
3AS	Readlyn	N.R.	.79 <sup>2/</sup>	.81	N.R.	45
	Minton	NIL	.84	1.23	55	45
	Cardross	.19	.94	.93	52	45
	Ceylon	NIL	.76	1.26	53	45
	Chaplin	.42	.87	.93	50	46
	Gravelbourg	.32	1.28	.87	51	45
	Coderre	.36	1.23	.91	50	45
	Shaunavon	.20	1.02	.97	48	43
3BS	Cadillac	N.R.	.46 <sup>2/</sup>	1.07	N.R.	43
	Pambrun	.27	1.19	.92	N.R.	44
	Aneroid	.29	1.10	1.02	49	44
	Instow	N.R.	.54 <sup>2/</sup>	.87	N.R.	43
	Pennant	.25	1.10	1.05	48	47
	Swift Current	.25	1.31	.96	48	46
	Hodgeville	.35	1.05	.91	50	45
	Hughton	.36	.79 <sup>2/</sup>	.90	46	44
4A	Maple Creek	N.R.	1.14 <sup>2/</sup>	.99	N.R.	46
	Consul	.41	.89	.82	47	44
5A	Cupar	.18	.90	.91	52	43
	Leross	.78	1.15 <sup>2/</sup>	1.15	47	43
	Melville	.57	1.07	.92	49	43
	Yorkton	.43	1.63	.96	47	43
	Bangor	.52	2.06	1.02	48	44
	Dafoe	.77	1.67	.84	45	40
5B	Foam Lake	1.03	1.30	1.07	48	40
	Lintlaw	.75	1.18	1.07	43	41
	Kamsack	.90	1.56	1.02	47	41
	Arran	.83	1.35	1.00	43	41
	Pelly	.86	1.54	1.00	43	41
	Davidson	.28	.91	.86	49	44
	Dilke	.37	.87	.78	N.R.	N.R.
	Imperial	.42	.73	.81	51	44



Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces<sup>1/</sup>

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since	Normal since	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		May 4, 1959	April 1	April 1	May 4	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (concluded)						
6A	Semans	.31	.94	.94	48	43
	Strasbourg	.50	1.04	.79	50	43
	Watrous	.38	.91	.79	48	44
6B	Harris	.28	.58	.80	45	45
	Outlook	.33	.57	.62	50	45
	Saskatoon	.42	.57	.87	48	44
	Elbow	.39	.82	.86	48	45
	Tugaske	.32	1.00	.80	49	45
	Dundurn	.30	.71	.81	48	44
	Rosthern	.28	.56	.92	46	44
7A	Kindersley	.19	.56	.83	45	43
	Rosetown	.37	.71	1.02	47	43
7B	Macklin	.51	1.01	1.10	43	42
	Scott	.57	1.01	1.04	43	44
8A	Biggar	.30	.66	.73	45	43
	Hudson Bay	.82	.99	1.07	41	42
	Porcupine Plain	N.R.	N.R.	1.00	N.R.	43
8B	Prairie River	1.96	2.19	.91	40	43
	Humboldt	.62	1.05	.81	45	43
	Melfort	1.69	1.99	.96	41	43
9A	North Battleford	.54	1.02	.97	44	47
	Victoire	N.R.	.33 <sup>2/</sup>	.97	N.R.	44
	Prince Albert	.65	.93	1.19	43	45
	Island Falls	.07	1.14	.98	32	38
9B	Waseca	.62	1.15	1.18	40	44
	St. Walburg	.46	.74	1.11	42	44
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.40	.98	.95	47.8	43.8
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Bindloss	N.R.	.97 <sup>2/</sup>	.80	N.R.	48
	Empress	.10	.14	.63	52	48
	Excel	.37	.89	.90	43	47
	Foremost	.22	1.20	1.31	46	49
	Hanna	.33	.98	.91	41	47
	Manyberries	.38	1.44	.95	47	48
	Medicine Hat	.09	1.07	1.12	48	50
	Naco	.44	1.05	.98	40	45
	Oyen	.45	.95	.79	N.R.	N.R.
	Winnifred	.36	1.53	1.22	N.R.	N.R.
	2	Brooks	.15	.31	.95	46
Drumheller		.50	1.51	.88	44	45
Gleichen		.54	1.76	1.27	43	44
Hays		.20	.57	.94	46	47



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces<sup>1/</sup>

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.		
		8 a.m. May 4, 1959	since April 1	since April 1	May 4 1959	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
<b>ALBERTA (concluded)</b>							
2	Hussar	.40	.99	1.13	N.R.	N.R.	
	Raymond	.50	2.60	1.84	44	48	
	Lethbridge	.65	2.11	1.51	45	47	
	Strathmore	.20	.65	1.16	44	43	
	Taber	.36	1.61	1.24	45	47	
	Three Hills	.50	1.85	.97	38	45	
	Trochu	.80	2.42	1.31	39	45	
	Vauxhall	.07	1.20	.97	46	48	
	Vulcan	.40	1.17	1.24	39	45	
3	Calgary	.51	1.53	1.40	39	45	
	Cardston	.36	2.10	1.30	43	47	
	Cowley	.26	2.40	1.21	43	46	
	Fort MacLeod	.03	1.29	1.18	45	48	
	High River	.45	2.20	1.92	39	44	
	Magrath	.25	1.49	1.48	44	48	
	Olds	.70	2.23	1.35	38	45	
	Alliance	.70	1.09	1.02	40	44	
4	Camrose	.70	1.24	1.21	40	45	
	Coronation	.43	1.10	1.13	40	44	
	Hardisty	.57	.77	.96	36	N.R.	
	Hughenden	N.R.	.29 <sup>2/</sup>	.95	N.R.	44	
	Lloydminster	.39	.72	1.10	41	43	
	Stettler	.12	.27	1.22	40	44	
	Vegreville	.21	.33	.85	39	44	
	Vermilion	.61	1.11	.97	41	43	
	5	Edmonton	.67	.91	1.22	39	47
		Lacombe	.60	1.54	1.47	39	46
Red Deer		.46	1.69	1.11	39	43	
Rocky Mountain House		.72	1.92	1.67	39	42	
Wetaskiwin		.72	1.39	1.40	39	46	
6		Athabasca	.14	.17	.88	35	44
	Campsie	.63	.87	1.14	36	46	
	Edson	.62	1.78	1.18	36	44	
	Elk Point	.29	.71	.96	41	42	
	Embarras	.69	.89	.83	29	36	
	Lac la Biche	.67	1.25	.93	36	44	
	Whitecourt	.80	1.98	1.46	35	43	
	7	Beaverlodge	1.42	1.81	1.00	30	44
		Berwyn	.40	.40	.74	32	43
		Fairview	.97	1.19	1.12	31	43
Fort Vermilion		N.R.	.20 <sup>2/</sup>	.71	N.R.	41	
Grande Prairie		1.22	1.48	.96	32	44	
High Prairie		.90	1.13	1.12	31	44	
Rycroft		.83	1.26	.81	29	43	
Wagner		1.14	1.36	1.10	32	43	
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.50	1.30	1.12	39.7	45.0	

N.R. - No report.

<sup>1/</sup> - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

<sup>2/</sup> - Incomplete; not included in average.