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CROP REPORTING SERIES — No. 5

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the first of the 1960 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: Weather throughout the Maritime Provinces has been dry and farm work is further advanced than usual in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Very little winterkill in clovers and grasses is reported. Growth, however, is slow. In Prince Edward Island, potato and turnip planting is ahead of average, while in Nova Scotia the season is a week to ten days more advanced than last year. In the western part of the province farmers are planting potatoes, while in the eastern areas work on the land is just commencing. Snow last week held up activity in some areas. In New Brunswick most of the land is still too wet to work but some seeding of cereal grains, potatoes and peas has been done in the earlier areas.

Quebec: The season is later than normal in Quebec. Around Montreal spring cultivation for field crops has begun and the land is working well. Transplanting of lettuce has been underway since April 25 and corn has been seeded in some localities. Planting of early potatoes has commenced. Livestock are still stabled and are in good condition. In general, orchards suffered little winter injury although mice caused some damage. No agricultural work has begun in the eastern part of the province.

Ontario: Fall-sown grains generally wintered well in Ontario but seeding of spring grains is about ten days to two weeks later than normal. In Western Ontario the reports indicate that winter wheat is in reasonably good condition, but cool backward weather has retarded growth and delayed field operations. In Southern Ontario adverse weather has also delayed seeding operations, but some spring grains are now planted. Hay fields, fall wheat and rye are making good growth. Early vegetables in Essex County are growing well. In central Ontario the season is at least ten days later than normal, but pastures, hay fields and fall wheat appear promising except in Dundas County where considerable flood damage occurred to winter grains. In northern regions fields are bare of snow but no field work has commenced due to wet soil.

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

Prairie Provinces: Spring has been backward over most of the Prairies and recent snows and generally cool weather have retarded field operations. Considerable spring threshing of overwintered grain has been done in Alberta and in the prairie regions of Saskatchewan. Recovery has generally been satisfactory. In Manitoba and northern and eastern Saskatchewan very little threshing has been done. Seeding has made fair progress in western Saskatchewan and southeastern Alberta. Elsewhere very little field work has been done. Moisture supplies in practically all areas are reported to be ample to provide good germination. With few exceptions grass growth has been slow to date.

Grasshopper Situation - Prairie Provinces 1960

Acknowledgment is made to Mr. L. G. Putnam, Research Branch, Canada Department of Agriculture, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan for providing the following information on grasshoppers. Our thanks are also due to those officers of the Entomology Sections at the Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Lethbridge Research Stations, who provided Mr. Putnam with basic data on the grasshopper situation.

After two years of grasshopper outbreaks of rather serious extent in the Prairie Provinces (longer in Manitoba), a trend of decline now appears. This applies especially in Manitoba and most of the affected area of Saskatchewan, but to a lesser extent in Western Saskatchewan and the contrary in Alberta. In the latter province, the prospects are for a more extensive outbreak in 1960 than in the preceding year. The following are the areas, in townships, involved in the various categories of infestation in each of the three provinces:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Manitoba</u>	<u>Saskatchewan</u>	<u>Alberta</u>	<u>Total</u>
Light	62	604	191	857
Moderate	16	193	104	313
Severe	-	38	-	38
Very severe	-	-	-	-
Total	78	835	295	1,208
Change, 1959-60, in terms of 1959:				
Area	48% -	10% -	68% +	3.4% -
Total infestation	58% -	35% -	81% +	25% -

The clear-winged grasshopper, Camnula pellucida (Scudd.), is still important in the infestation in Manitoba, and predominates in the western half of the infested area of Saskatchewan and the Drumheller district of Alberta. The migratory grasshopper Melanoplus bilituratus (Wlk.) has assumed predominance in southeastern Saskatchewan and remains predominant in southern Alberta. Packard's grasshopper, M. packardii Scudd., and the two-striped grasshopper, M. bivittatus (Say), which were often prominent in cereal grain field infestations in Saskatchewan, are now of less importance than a year ago there, but M. bivittatus still is the most important species in some localities in Manitoba.

British Columbia: The general situation in British Columbia seems to be somewhat better than at the same time last year. Moisture conditions are adequate at the coast and little below average in the central areas. Spring plowing is general, with the exception of the Peace River District.

Pasture growth has been retarded by cool weather but very little winter damage has been recorded and hay crops show fair to good prospects. Spring seeding has just started, while seeding of canning peas in the Lower Fraser Valley had been completed early in April. Early potatoes and plantings of strawberries and raspberries are showing normal growth. Apples in the Okanagan Valley are in full blossom and promise a good crop and no serious winter or insect injury has been reported.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Dry cool weather prevailed during April in Prince Edward Island. Precipitation totalled 1.25 inches, less than one-half of normal, the driest April since 1916. Early in the season new meadows appeared good but are now turning brown. Although grasses wintered well growth is not starting normally because of the dry soil conditions. Seeding operations are more advanced than usual with some early potatoes and turnips already planted. Very little grain, however, has yet been sown. It is anticipated that work on the land will be general in about one week's time. Nightly frosts are reported. Fruit trees as well as strawberries, cranberries and blueberries wintered very well. However, some rodent injury is reported in orchards. Rain is needed.

Reports from the Amherst area of Nova Scotia indicate that growth of hay and pastures has been slow due to the dry spring but these crops wintered very well. The land dried up early and farmers commenced seeding operations on April 29, to equal the record. Despite the cool weather and freezing temperatures during the nights, farming operations are well ahead at Truro. With below normal precipitation most of the land is in good condition for working. Farmers have planted considerable acreages of early potatoes as well as some grain. Very little winterkilling of grasses and legumes is reported but growth is slow so far. In the Annapolis Valley the soil is very dry for this season which made for almost ideal conditions for work on the land and as a result the planting of early crops is well advanced. About 30 per cent of the potatoes have been planted in this district and seeding of canning peas is well advanced. Hay and pasture fertilization is general. No winter injury has been reported. Tree and small fruits wintered well and are making satisfactory development. Strawberry mulch is being loosened or burned. Growers are applying dormant sprays to apples and pears under ideal conditions.

In New Brunswick legumes, grasses and strawberries came through the winter with practically no injury. The growth of grass is slow, however, due to cool, dry weather in April. Although work on the land is not yet general some seeding has been done in favoured areas. The first planting of potatoes and peas commenced in the Grand Lake on April 22 and work has started in some southern and eastern sections. Fertilizing of pasture and hay land is now almost completed throughout the Province. Grasses are just beginning to show green. It is expected that unless there are heavy rains seeding and planting should be general within a week.

QUEBEC

The Experimental Farm at L'Assomption, east of Montreal, reports that the season is late and tobacco seed beds are slow in growing. Potato planting is just beginning and no cereals have been sown as yet except on better drained soils. It is still too early to estimate the extent of winterkilling on new and old pastures and meadows. At St. Jean, south of Montreal, seasonal developments are about normal. No winterkill has been observed but mice caused serious damage by girdling apple trees in local areas. Some early potatoes were sown two weeks ago and heavy bloom is expected on apple trees. Present weather conditions favour early seeding of onions and radishes.

At Ste. Anne de la Pocatière, east of Quebec City, the snow has just disappeared and cool weather continues. Vegetative growth is about a week later than normal and first seedings are not expected until around May 10. It is too early to evaluate winterkilling. Temperature at Normandin in the Lake St. John area during April averaged 38.5 degrees compared with 40.12 degrees for the same month last year. Ten and one-half inches of snow were received in April with precipitation totalling 2.31 inches for the month. Snow still remains in gullies and bushland. No field work has been done as yet. Warmer temperatures are now prevailing.

Due to a late spring and cold weather no field work has begun in the Gaspé area. Our correspondent at Caplan reports that April has been very sunny but the ground is still frozen at 5 inches and grass growth has not yet started. No rain was reported from April 18 to May 2.

ONTARIO

Very little winterkilling of winter wheat, grasses and clovers is reported in the Barrie district of Simcoe County, but growth is slow. There has been no seeding to date except a limited amount of broadcast seeding of grasses and clovers. Seeding of spring grains should get underway in a few days. In Bruce County wet backward weather has resulted in a late-seeding season. Very little work has been done on the land but most farmers expect to start seeding operations this week. Pastures and hay fields have made a good start and steers will be going to grass only a few days later than normal. There is slightly more than the normal quota of cattle for grass due to a further increase in dairy cattle.

In Wellington County only a few young cattle have been turned out to pasture. There has been little ploughing or cultivation for spring crops due to cool, wet weather which has also retarded growth. The soil is firm enough in high areas to enable farmers to manure hay and pasture land. The maple syrup season has ended with reports of a good season for most operators. Seeding operations have commenced on earlier land in Waterloo County. Top dressing of pastures is fairly general throughout the county and some spring ploughing is underway. Wheat is reported to have wintered very well. Due to cool, wet weather there has been no work on the land in Halton County and it is doubtful if spring grains will be sown generally until next week. Some winterkilling is reported on fall wheat and new seedings are in fair condition. Forage crops have made little growth to date.

A limited amount of ploughing has been done in Middlesex County and only a few fields of spring grains are seeded. General field operations have been held up by frequent rains. Fall wheat and barley wintered fairly well, with some small areas killed by ice. Grass is making fair growth and some cattle are being turned out to pasture. Livestock are reported to have wintered well and feed supplies are adequate. Spraying of fruit trees is proceeding normally. In Essex County spring grains were seeded late, but most fields are now planted. Planting of sugar beets and feed corn is now well underway and land is being prepared for soybeans, field corn and tomatoes. Wheat and hay fields are reported to have wintered well. Early vegetables are making very good growth. Recent weather has caused fruit trees to bloom at the normal time.

Cool, wet weather has delayed spring seeding operations in Kent County. Although some spring grains have been planted work on the land is two weeks later than normal. Approximately 10 per cent of the sugar beets, 50 per cent of the canning peas and most commercial onions have been planted. Winter wheat, hay and pastures are making good growth, with very little winterkilling reported. In Norfolk County field work has just commenced and very little seeding has been completed. New seedings and hay fields came

through the winter in good condition. Fall wheat and rye suffered only slight winter damage and prospects are promising. Tobacco beds are growing well. Feed supplies are reported to be adequate. Fruit tree development in Lincoln County is about average, with blossoms open only on the earliest apricots. Land is drying well for spring operations. Early market vegetables are planted and onions and carrots are showing above ground.

Spring arrived late in Central Ontario and the land has remained wet. Seeding operations, however, are now reported in some areas. Pastures are late but hay fields appear promising. Winter wheat is growing well. The season is at least two weeks later than normal in Leeds County and work on the land is just commencing. Pastures, hay and fall wheat appear promising. Moisture supplies are ample. Feed supplies are satisfactory and livestock are in good condition. Milk flow is above normal. A week or ten days of dry weather is needed in Dundas County in order that seeding operations may commence. Losses of clovers and fall sown grains were heavy in this area due to flood conditions this spring. Considerable mouse and rabbit injury is reported in apple orchards. Work on the land has just commenced in Renfrew County due to the wetness of the soil. A few fields have been seeded, but the season is ten days later than normal. Fall wheat is in excellent condition. Some old stands of alfalfa were rotted out on low-lying soil apparently due to saturation.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that fields are generally bare of snow but the soil has been soaked by recent heavy rains. No field work has been done.

MANITOBA

Heavy snowfall in Manitoba on April 25 and 26 followed by cool, damp weather has delayed spring work which is only just starting in the most favoured areas. Seeding is not expected to become general south of the Riding Mountains until the week of May 15. In the Russell, Dauphin and Swan River areas seeding is expected to be general by May 12 and east of the Red River and in the Interlake area by May 20. Harvesting of the remainder of the 1959 crop has just started in the Swan River Valley and other scattered areas. Given warm drying weather much of the crop can be salvaged except in the Brandon, Minnedosa and Portage districts where the situation is less optimistic. Depletion of fodder supplies is serious for many farmers as growth of grass has been very slow to date. Flooding persists in Westbourne municipality.

In the southeast corner of the province at Vita, six inches of snow were received last week and no field work has been done this year. However, given dry weather field work should start before the end of this week. No pasture growth is noticeable. Seed reserves are ample and livestock have wintered fairly well. At Altona field work was just starting when the heavy snow interfered. It is anticipated that field work will recommence on lighter soils later this week unless further precipitation is received. The Experimental Farm at Morden reports that snowstorms last week stopped all spring operations. However, if present drying conditions continue cultivation will recommence later this week.

Cool, wet weather has prevented any spring work at Pilot Mount. Only a few warm days, however, are required to make spring harvesting and land work possible. With few exceptions hay supplies are practically exhausted in this district. At Somerset, fields are still too wet for cultivation but a start may be made by this week end. Combining of the over-wintered 1959 crop has not yet commenced. In the southwest corner of the province at Melita 1.2 inches of precipitation were received last week. Moisture supplies, both surface and subsoil, are good in this district. Seeding operations are about to start, pastures are turning green but no grazing has commenced. Many farmers are short of feed.

East of Winnipeg at Beausejour farmers report excessive moisture. Pasture growth is slow and temperatures remain below normal. Good warm drying weather is needed in order that field work may start by the middle of May.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports cool weather conditions, with temperatures running 10 to 15 degrees below normal and frosts occurring nightly. Little or no growth has occurred on pastures or haylands. Preparation for seeding has commenced at scattered points throughout the district, but no seeding has taken place.

In the Interlake district, at Teulon, recent snowfall has delayed the drying of land and no spring work has been done. It is probable that no land work will be started for at least two weeks. Fodder supplies are sufficient in this district. Record floods around Arborg are causing farmers to hold back preparations for seeding. Unharvested crops will result in very little wheat being sown and other crops will be late judging from conditions at the present time. Interest in applying wild oat killer has dampened considerably in this district. Seed and feed supplies are adequate.

At Neepawa, in west-central Manitoba, the recent snow of eight inches has prolonged the spring drying period. Extensive flooding persists in Westbourne municipality. Winter feed supplies are exhausted and the spring pasture growth is very short. Spring seeding is much later than usual. Grain overwintered in the swath will be of very poor quality. Livestock are in poor condition and higher than average losses have been experienced in spring crops of lambs, calves and pigs. No field work has started as yet at Minnedosa, the weather being very cool and the land wet due to excessive snowfall last winter. In many areas there is overwintered grain to be harvested. It will be two weeks before any spring work commences in this district.

In the northern part of Manitoba at Dauphin no spring land work or harvesting of last year's crops have been done to date. Very little fall work was done and, therefore, more land preparation will be needed this spring. The spring runoff has been less than usual due to the soil absorbing more water. Moisture conditions are excellent. Warm, dry weather is now required if land work is to start this week. At Swan River harvesting has just commenced. The weather has turned warm and dry and farmers on sandy soil have been able to make a start. Feed supplies are becoming depleted but no serious shortage is apparent.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg states that due to the late spring there has been no insect activity as yet.

The average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 31 per cent above normal as compared with one per cent below normal a week ago, 32 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 9 per cent below normal for the week ending May 4, 1959. The mean temperature for the week ending May 2 was 10.8 degrees below normal as compared with 2.6 degrees above normal for a week ago, 2.8 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 5.7 degrees above normal for the week ending May 4, 1959.

SASKATCHEWAN

In Saskatchewan this week seeding operations are underway in the southwest and west-central areas. It is expected to get underway next week in other areas except in the northeast and across the north where the land is still too wet to permit field operations. In these areas seeding will probably get underway around May 21. In general, moisture conditions are good to excellent and sufficient for proper germination. Seed supplies are adequate except for a shortage of good seed oats. Harvesting of overwintered grain is underway in the Prairie areas but fields are still too wet east of

Regina, in the Watson-Melfort area and across the north to Turtleford and Meadow Lake. The indications are that overwintered grain suffered some grade deterioration and some fields were pastured off. Preliminary reports indicate that a high proportion of the unthreshed grain will be salvaged. Warm dry weather is required to advance seeding and harvesting and to promote grass growth in pastures.

In the Willmar district in the southeast part of the province late April snow has held up harvesting of overwintered crops. Many farmers have purchased hay for cattle as there has been very little pasture growth. A few farmers are now having grain cleaned in elevators and some land has been worked, but as yet there has been no seeding done. It has been a cold, cloudy, windy spring and April precipitation has amounted to 0.61 of an inch. At Fillmore, continued cold and wet weather has slowed land work, which is expected to be general this week. No seeding has been done. Moisture conditions are excellent and pastures are beginning to turn green. Unthreshed crops wintered badly and considerable damage has been done by mice, migrating wild fowl and spring run-off. Perhaps only half of the original yield can be salvaged and the quality is expected to be poor.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current, in the southwest part of the province, reports that about 9 inches of snow fell during the past week and heavier snowfalls were received west and south of the farm. This has improved moisture conditions considerably and relieved the soil drifting situation which was becoming quite serious in some areas. Some seeding has been done in the southwest parts of the territory but there has been little activity elsewhere. Wheat germination is slow due to low soil temperatures. The grass is turning green. At Big Beaver April was windy and cool. Subsoil moisture reserves are very good and 6 inches of snow on April 25 replenished topsoil reserves. Seeding should begin towards the end of this week and germination will be good if the weather warms up. It is expected that a good kill of weeds will be obtained. In the Leader district seeding operations are now starting. The recent snow added much to the moisture supply and should insure good germination.

In the east-central part of the province at Togo, combining of the 1959 crop has started and grains are grading 1 to 2 grades lower than last fall. Variable losses are evident. Wet and cold weather prevailed and very little growth is showing. Field work has just started but no seeding has been done. Warm dry weather is needed to bring on pastures and speed field work. Spring operations have been delayed due to unsettled weather in the Willowbrook district. There has been no sowing of any kind up to the present. Moisture conditions are excellent. Spring threshing has just begun, but the grain is grading down due to winter weathering and loss of weight. Very little growth is showing in pastures.

The weather has been cold and wet at Sturgis and no seeding has been done to date. The ground is too soft and wet for field work. Some farmers have tried to combine, but the ground is too soft. At Drake, in the central part of the province April has been cold, cloudy and windy, and the spring is late. Moisture supplies are good and 0.9 of an inch was received in April. Cattle are moving out to poor pastures and feed is scarce. Rye wintered well. A normal acreage of crops is planned.

Work on the land just commenced in the Rosetown district in the west-central part of the province. Moisture conditions are good and seeded acreages will likely be comparable to last year. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports that harvesting of last year's crop is nearly completed. However, to the north the land is still too wet for heavy harvesting machinery. Seeding will be general to the south this week but at Scott only land preparation will be underway. There is sufficient moisture for germination, but early rains will be needed. Farther north, at Meota, no seeding has been done to date. The weather has been cold and growth is slow. The swathed grain left in the fields over winter has now been harvested. Moisture conditions are good.

In the Nipawin area, in the northeast the weather has been cool and unfavourable for spring work. Some threshing is now underway. The ground is slow in drying and the frost is not yet out in some of the low areas. No seeding will be done for a week. Overwintered grain is very dry but light in weight. Below normal temperatures have also prevailed at Melfort and this has prevented proper drying of unharvested crops. Progress in this direction has been very slow to date. The odd report indicates that spring combined wheat tested approximately 54 pounds and is grading No. 5. A few farmers have completed some light cultivation but seeding will not get underway for ten days.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 17 per cent below normal as compared with 18 per cent below normal a week ago, 43 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 3 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 2 was 9.4 degrees above normal compared with normal a week ago, 3 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 4 degrees above normal for the week ending May 4, 1959.

ALBERTA

From 5 to 10 per cent of the grain left in Alberta fields over winter remains to be threshed in the area north of Lacombe and Coronation, with about 50 per cent remaining in the Rocky Mountain House-Bluffton district. Grain threshed out very dry, with recovery better than expected. There are some reports of good recovery of overwintered clover seed. Seeding had become general in the southeast before last week's heavy snow. Elsewhere, very little had been done. The weather has been too cold for germination of weed seeds. Moisture conditions are generally good although somewhat spotty in the Peace River area, with subsoil moisture only fair in the southeast. Livestock wintered in good condition but pastures are slow.

In the extreme southeast of the province at Manyberries seeding of barley and oats started April 19, with a few farmers having almost completed their seeding operations. Heavy snow last week stopped further work. Lambing and calving are progressing well although some losses were reported from last week's storm. The range is making good growth as there was very little run-off from thawing snow and most of the moisture soaked into the ground. Seeding was 50 per cent completed in the Medicine Hat district when snow halted operations last week. Moisture supplies are fair and early plantings are up. Livestock are in good condition but grass is slow.

The Lethbridge Experimental Farm reports that the recent wet snow has improved soil moisture reserves, particularly at the surface. However, cold wet weather has delayed seeding, with very little done west of Taber. Pastures and native ranges show little growth. About 40 per cent of the sugar beet acreage has been seeded. Occasional losses of calves and lambs occurred due to heavy snow. General conditions are good in the Claresholme area but no field work has been done due to cool wet weather. Fall rye and winter wheat came through the winter in good condition. In the southwest around Cardston the ground is very wet and no spring seeding has been done. Field work should get underway in another week, given favourable weather. Fall grains came through well.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of moisture were received in the Brooks area from the heavy snow storm of April 23 and 24. Most summerfallows were worked before the storm, with some seeding being done on unirrigated land. Considerable interest is being shown in seeding more tame pasture and flax. The dry seed pea acreage is expected to be up about one-third. Farther west at Vulcan all land for seeding had been worked prior to receiving 16 inches of snow. Seeding will be general in a week, weather permitting. Hay and pasture lands are in healthy condition, with ample moisture available for a good start. It is expected that hundreds of acres will be seeded to grass and legumes in this area.

At Hanna east of Calgary field work was general until a week ago when ten inches of snow interrupted progress. However, the land is in good condition with ample surface moisture reserves to provide even germination. Subsoil reserves are not too good. The weather has been cool during the past ten days, but weather permitting, seeding will be general by the end of this week. Heavy wet snow last week equalling almost two inches of rain provided ample moisture in the Calgary district to give pastures, hay and cereal crops a good start. Considerable cultivation was done prior to the snow and seeding will get underway as soon as soil conditions permit. At Olds north of Calgary only a small percentage of wheat has been seeded so far, but seeding will be general about May 10. Moisture reserves are sufficient to start all crops and conditions are generally favourable.

In the Sedgewick area of central Alberta wheat seeding has started and will be general in a week. The weather has been cold and pasture growth slow. Moisture conditions are good. Farther south at Donalda spring threshing is still underway, with some fields still too wet to carry machinery. About 8 per cent of the spring threshing remains to be done. Spring field work is now underway and farmers began seeding on May 2. Moisture reserves are ample to start the crops.

In the Red Deer district spring threshing is completed, with the exception of wet, low-lying land, and spring cultivation is underway. Wheat is now being seeded and planting of other crops will start this week. Warmer weather is required to assure germination and to stimulate more rapid growth of pastures. Four inches of snow in the Lacombe district halted field operations and harvesting last year's crop. However, work resumed during the past week and the spring harvest should be completed by this week. Hay and pastures are commencing growth but the soil temperature is low. Seeding should be general by May 10. Farther west at Eckville spring combining is 90 per cent completed with yields estimated at 50 to 80 per cent of those received last fall in this locality. Grain dropped one or two grades. Spring work is just starting and hay fields are now showing two to three inches of growth. Sixty per cent of the hay fields has been fertilized and no winterkill is reported on legumes.

Spring combining is just about completed in the Vermilion area east of Edmonton and 5 per cent of the new wheat crop has been seeded. The weather has been cold and weed germination very slow. Pastures are not showing growth as yet. Rapeseed acreage is estimated at three times greater than that of last year. Spring harvesting should be completed by this weekend in the Edmonton area and seeding should start about the first of next week. Moisture conditions are fair. Farther west at Stony Plain five per cent of the 1959 crop remains to be harvested. Cool weather is retarding field work, but some has been done on most farms. Seeding is not yet started.

Cold dry weather prevails in the Bonnyville district northeast of Edmonton. Most crops left over winter have now been harvested in good condition. Fields are dry but little tillage is being done due to the cold weather. Seeding operations will proceed quickly as soon as the soil warms up. There is no growth of any kind and no pasture is expected to be available for livestock before the end of the month. At Colinton north of Edmonton spring threshing is 95 per cent completed. Spring work has started but no seeding has been done. Moisture conditions are fair, with heavy frosts at night.

Spring cultivation is well advanced around Beaverlodge in the western part of the Peace River District and some seeding has been done. Moisture reserves are moderate, with some drying of surface soils indicated. Some winterkilling is reported in alsike. Soil temperatures are still fairly low. No soil drifting has occurred. Wheat seeding is general in the Berwyn district, with about 50 per cent completed. The weather has been very dry and cold and there is little weed growth on summerfallow. Pasture growth has been slow. Some water erosion has occurred and wind erosion could become serious.

At Fort Vermilion in the far north of the province field operations are commencing but are not expected to be general until the end of the week. Moisture supplies are adequate for germination but reserves are limited. No winterkill of seeded pasture or legume crops is reported, but spring growth is slow. Survival of fall rye seedings is good.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 8 per cent below normal as compared with 3 per cent above normal a week ago and in contrast to 75 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 16 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 2 was 6.1 degrees below normal as compared with 2.1 degrees below normal a week ago, 3 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 5.3 degrees below normal for the week ending May 4, 1959.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Tillage operations on the main field crop area in the West Kootenay region of British Columbia have just started. Seeding might be later than normal. There has been a slight winter injury to winter wheat and alfalfa, but tree fruits have escaped it.

Fruit growing conditions in the South Okanagan Valley are good and with only light frost damage reported all fruits are promising an early bumper crop. Kamloops region reports generally cool and overcast weather which is slowing down growth of pasture and hay. Moisture reserves are somewhat low. Grazing on the lower grasslands started early in April. Seeding of grain and peas is in full swing in North Okanagan Valley.

Normal rainfall and mean April temperature are reported from the Lower Fraser Valley with 70 per cent of district grain seeding already completed. Planting of canning peas has become general. Pastures show good growth.

Central Skeena district reports more than adequate moisture reserves and a possible 10 per cent increase over last year's crop in table potatoes. All forage crops wintered well and tillage operations are just commencing.

In Vancouver Island a promising early season has been somewhat delayed by recent cool and wet weather, now, with normal conditions hay and pasture crops are making rapid progress, promising high yields. First early potatoes are now emerging.

In the Central Interior region early mild weather with little precipitation and winds has dried up soil. Grain seeding has already started. Some winterkilling of forage crops is expected because of cold and slow growth.

About 35 per cent of the wheat has already been seeded in the Peace River and a considerable part of the remaining area is ready for seeding. There has been no evidence of winterkilling, but a night frost could cause injury to young clover plants. Feed grain crops are expected to be heavier than in the last year.

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 2, 1960	April 1	April 1	1960	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.50	1.07	1.29	35	45
	Melita	N.R.	N.R.	1.39	N.R.	45
	Waskada	N.R.	.63 ^{2/}	1.08	N.R.	45
2	Boissevain	.40	1.09	1.18	34	44
	Deerwood	1.20	2.21	1.25	33	46
	Ninette	.71	1.50	1.38	33	46
	Pilot Mound	.65	1.51	1.36	33	43
3	Portage la Prairie	.72	1.83	1.19	34	44
	Graysville	.95	.95 ^{2/}	1.24	35	44
	Morden	.61	1.94	1.45	35	45
	Altona	.65	1.62	1.25	34	47
	Morris	1.03	2.43	1.11	35	46
	Roland	.93	2.00	1.25	34	45
	Gretna	1.08	2.03	1.26	35	45
	Emerson	.80	1.90	1.26	35	46
	Stonewall	.89	2.13	N.R.	31	N.R.
4	Winnipeg	.75	1.96	1.25	33	44
6	Sprague	.70	1.78	1.53	35	43
	Seven Sisters Falls	.50	2.71	1.04	31	42
	Steinbach	.80	2.19	1.25	33	44
7	Virden	.85	1.22	.97	34	44
	Reston	.25	.74	1.34	35	44
	Rivers	.51	.91	1.02	33	43
8	Brandon	.70	1.23	1.37	33	45
	Cypress River	.77	1.49	1.09	34	44
9	Neepawa	.74	.92	1.01	31	43
	Grass River	.10	.57	1.04	31	44
10	Russell	.60	1.10	.94	31	42
	Rosburn	.57	1.12	.94	33	42
	Birtle	.64	1.16	1.02	31	42
11	Dauphin	.53	1.06	1.00	29	44
12	Gimli	1.01	2.14	.92	32	42
13	Swan River	.14	.94	.93	33	41
	The Pas	.05	.92	.96	30	40
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.67	1.53	1.17	33.1	43.9
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.25	.46	.91	36	46
	Carlyle	.13	.57	1.09	34	43
	Oxbow	.64	1.12	1.14	33	44
	Willmar	.21	.55	1.03	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.63	1.11	1.00	31	42
	Moosomin	.60	.94	.83	33	43
2A	Yellow Grass	.21	.74	.85	35	44

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces^{1/}

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending 8 a.m. May 2, 1960	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. May 2 1960	Normal	
			- inches -		- degrees F. -		
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)							
2A	Creelman	.30	.77	.84	34	44	
	Weyburn	.17	.49	.84	35	45	
	Midale	.30	.40	.93	35	46	
2B	Moose Jaw	.30	.90	.82	36	46	
	Regina	.31	.86	.85	35	45	
	Francis	.10	.21	.68	35	44	
	Qu'Appelle	1.00	1.99	1.12	32	44	
	Indian Head	.41	1.09	.90	33	44	
	Wilcox	.17	.24	.84	35	45	
	3AS	Assiniboia	.27	.79	.77	35	45
	Ormiston	.08	.41	.85	33	45	
	Readlyn	.18	.49	.74	34	45	
	Minton	.17	.43	1.14	34	47	
	Cardross	.20	.47	.84	34	45	
	Ceylon	.05	.31	1.17	33	45	
	3AN	Chaplin	.05	.32	.85	36	45
	Gravelbourg	.18	.61	.79	36	47	
	Coderre	.20	.81	.84	35	45	
	3BS	Shaunavon	.23	1.68 ^{2/}	.88	33	46
	Cadillac	N.R.	.58 ^{2/}	.98	N.R.	46	
	Pambrun	.14	.99	.84	36	46	
	Aneroid	.15	.89	.95	35	46	
	Instow	.34	1.24	.80	33	47	
	3BN	Pennant	.25	1.35	.98	36	47
	Swift Current	.26	1.56	.89	34	47	
	Hodgeville	.30	.88 ^{2/}	.84	37	46	
	Hughton	N.R.	.43 ^{2/}	.83	N.R.	44	
	4A	Maple Creek	N.R.	1.98 ^{2/}	.91	N.R.	47
	Consul	.10	2.06	.76	32	44	
	4B	Abbey	.18	1.44	N.R.	36	N.R.
	5A	Cupar	.22	.81	.84	35	43
	Leross	.20	1.12	1.08	29	41	
	Lorlie	.37	.70	N.R.	32	N.R.	
	Melville	.38	.87	.84	33	43	
	Yorkton	.39	.73	.89	33	43	
	Bangor	.45	.53	.94	33	42	
	5B	Dafoe	.20	.61	.78	34	42
	Foam Lake	.35	.91	1.00	36	42	
	Lintlaw	.14	.76	1.00	32	40	
	Kamsack	.10	.59	.95	32	43	
	Arran	.15	.78	.93	32	40	
	Pelly	N.R.	N.R.	.93	N.R.	40	
	6A	Davidson	N.R.	N.R.	.78	N.R.	44
	Dilke	.23	.71 ^{2/}	.71	N.R.	N.R.	
	Imperial	N.R.	.25 ^{2/}	.74	N.R.	44	
	Semans	.50	.94	.87	33	44	
	Strasbourg	.35	.87	.72	34	43	

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces^{1/}

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending 8 a.m. May 2, 1960	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. May 2 1960	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)							
6A	Watrous	.38	.78	.73	35	44	
6B	Harris	NIL	NIL	.74	36	44	
	Outlook	.08	.24	.55	36	46	
	Saskatoon	.14	.59	.80	36	45	
	Elbow	.38	.62	.78	34	45	
	Tugaske	.20	.41	.73	36	45	
	Dundurn	.22	.49	.74	36	45	
	Rosthern	NIL	.55	.85	36	44	
	7A	Alsask	.06	.63	N.R.	38	N.R.
7B	Kindersley	.04	.53	.76	36	44	
	Rosetown	.23	.73	.94	35	44	
	Macklin	.02	.51	1.03	38	44	
	Scott	.01	.52	.96	37	43	
8A	Biggar	.16	.40	.67	36	45	
	Ruthilda	N.R.	N.R.	.63	N.R.	N.R.	
	Hudson Bay	Trace	.67	.98	33	41	
	Porcupine Plain	Trace	.40	.93	32	38	
	Prairie River	Trace	.62	.84	33	38	
8B	Humboldt	Trace	.28	.75	34	41	
	Melfort	Trace	.52	.89	34	43	
9A	North Battleford	.01	.41	.90	38	44	
	Victoire	NIL	.51	.91	36	41	
	Prince Albert	Trace	.56	1.12	35	43	
	Island Falls	.04	.96	.91	28	36	
9B	Waseca	Trace	.27	1.11	38	43	
	St. Walburg	NIL	.54	1.04	36	41	
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.24	.73	.88	34.4	43.8	
ALBERTA							
1	Bindloss	N.R.	N.R.	.73	N.R.	47	
	Empress	Trace	.66	.58	38	48	
	Excel	N.R.	.99 ^{2/}	.83	N.R.	45	
	Foremost	.26	1.37	1.22	34	48	
	Hanna	.26	1.57	.84	39	45	
	Manyberries	.02	2.31	.89	34	47	
	Medicine Hat	.15	1.46	1.03	38	49	
	Naco	.04	1.15	.93	36	45	
	Oyen	N.R.	N.R.	.73	N.R.	44	
	Winnifred	.32	1.06	1.13	N.R.	49	
	2	Brooks	.20	1.25	.86	38	47
		Drumheller	NIL	.93	.81	39	48
		Gleichen	.02	.74	1.18	37	45
		Kays	.37	1.53	.85	35	48
Hussar		.09	.89	1.04	N.R.	N.R.	
	Raymond	.35	2.23	1.73	34	46	



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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 2, 1960	April	April 1	May 2 1960	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
ALBERTA (concluded)						
2	Lethbridge	.28	1.77	1.40	36	46
	Strathmore	Trace	.50	1.07	33	44
	Taber	.05	1.67	1.15	35	43
	Three Hills	.05	1.22	.89	39	44
	Trochu	.17	.84	1.24	37	45
	Vauxhall	N.R.	N.R.	.88	N.R.	46
	Vulcan	.18	2.27	1.15	33	45
3	Calgary	.52	1.55	1.31	36	44
	Cardston	.12	1.74	1.19	33	46
	Cowley	.16	1.14	1.11	33	44
	Fort MacLeod	.44	1.75	1.07	34	48
	High River	.59	2.29	1.82	39	43
	Jasper	N.R.	.86 ^{2/}	.71	N.R.	43
	Magrath	.50	2.72	1.36	32	45
4	Olds	.05	.72 ^{2/}	1.26	37	43
	Alliance	N.R.	.60 ^{2/}	.94	N.R.	43
	Camrose	N.R.	.22 ^{2/}	1.12	N.R.	44
	Coronation	.07	.93	1.06	37	44
	Hardisty	N.R.	N.R.	.90	N.R.	N.R.
	Hughenden	N.R.	.57 ^{2/}	.88	N.R.	44
	Lloydminster	Trace	.34	1.03	38	44
5	Stettler	.10	.77	1.14	39	43
	Vegreville	Trace	.16	.77	41	43
	Vermilion	NIL	.30	.92	38	43
	Edmonton	.01	.17	1.14	41	45
	Lacombe	.05	.47	1.38	38	44
	Red Deer	.14	.72	1.02	40	44
	Rocky Mountain House	.42	.88	1.54	39	44
6	Wetaskiwin	Trace	.80	1.31	39	45
	Athabasca	NIL	.45	.79	38	43
	Campsie	.08	.52	1.03	40	43
	Edson	Trace	.49	1.09	41	43
	Elk Point	NIL	.56	.89	36	41
	Embarras	NIL	.12 ^{2/}	.76	36	38
	Fort McMurray	N.R.	.24 ^{2/}	.81	N.R.	41
7	Lac la Biche	NIL	.48	.84	39	40
	Whitecourt	.03	.62	1.35	40	41
	Beaverlodge	.17	.25 ^{2/}	.91	45	44
	Berwyn	N.R.	NIL ^{2/}	.69	N.R.	42
	Fairview	Trace	.15	1.05	48	42
	Pt. Vermilion	NIL	.25	.64	46	40
	Grande Prairie	.03	.08	.87	46	43
	High Prairie	NIL	.30	1.04	43	44
	Rycroft	.26	.51	.74	43	42
	Wagner	Trace	.09	1.01	41	42
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.13	.95	1.03	38.1	44.2

N.R. - No report

^{1/} Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.^{2/} Incomplete; not included in average.