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CROP REPORTING SERIES - No. 15

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the sixth 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 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.

S U M M A R Y

Maritime Provinces: Recent rains greatly improved growing conditions in many sections of Prince Edward Island. Elsewhere in the province where the rainfall was sparse, more moisture is needed. Haying is well advanced but operations were held up by rain. In Cumberland County of Nova Scotia uplands haying is completed and marsh haying about 50 per cent done. The strawberry crop was excellent but blueberries are showing effects of drought. Haying has been completed at Bridgewater and in the Western Shore area. Pastures are good but rain is needed. At Antigonish farmers have nearly finished haymaking and aftermath and pastures are poor due to lack of rain. Early potatoes are being harvested with a fair crop reported. At Truro in the central part of the province extremely dry weather has obliged dairy farmers to feed as heavily as in the winter. Potatoes are being harvested with average yields obtained. Kings County is suffering from a lack of moisture and pastures are poor. The apple crop is sizing well and the fair potato crop is being harvested. Frequent thunder storms and showers have seriously hampered haymaking operations in New Brunswick with considerable damage and losses of hay reported. Crops are maturing rapidly, pastures are excellent and a good grain crop is in prospect. Harvesting of early potatoes is underway.

Quebec: Weather conditions in Quebec have not changed greatly since the last report. Frequent showers have hindered haymaking and in most sections of the province there are large quantities of hay yet to be stored. Yields are good on new meadows and medium on old meadows. Unfavourable weather conditions and advanced maturity have reduced the quality of the hay. Early-sown cereals will give a good yield and harvesting will commence soon in the central section of the province. In many districts pastures are short and would benefit from good warm rains. Forage corn is making slow growth and yields will be low. Near Montreal early potatoes are being dug and good yields are reported. Soon growers will be harvesting sweet corn for processing but cool nights have retarded tomato maturity. Other horticultural crops look promising.

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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Flue-cured tobacco is also very promising and raspberry picking is well advanced in the central areas and now starting at Quebec City. Good yields are reported. Grasshoppers are plentiful in almost all districts. In general, in spite of frequent showers, moisture reserves are insufficient for good vegetative growth and more heat would be welcome.

Ontario: In western areas of Ontario harvesting of fall wheat has commenced. Oats and barley are heading but fields are variable, with early-sown crops about normal and late-sown still to head. Haying is nearing completion. The corn crop varies from late to near normal. In southern Ontario the weather has been variable and many crops have improved. Harvesting of fall wheat is proceeding, and early-sown barley and oats are turning and harvesting will soon commence. Corn, soybeans and late tomatoes are improving and harvesting of tomatoes and potatoes is progressing. Pastures and second growth hay are growing well following recent rains. Prospects for the soybean crop on Pelee Island are reported to be not too favourable. Harvesting of tobacco is expected to commence this week. The development of fruit crops is generally good but a few days later than normal. Haying operations are practically finished in central Ontario. Cutting of fall wheat has commenced but combining is not expected to start for about ten days. Spring-sown grains appear variable. Pastures are good. In eastern Ontario harvesting of first cut hay is almost completed and the second cut has commenced. Some fall wheat has been cut and stooked. Early-sown spring grains are turning. In northern Ontario haying is proceeding under good weather conditions. Pastures have been slow to recover due to the lack of rain. Grain crops are reported to be in good condition and early-sown fields are heading.

Prairie Provinces: Hot, dry weather in the Prairie Provinces during the past two weeks has caused a decline in crop prospects, which were excellent up to that time. Deterioration is occurring to late-sown and stubble crops, but in many districts crops on summerfallow are still holding up. Rain is urgently needed to promote filling of all crops. Haying is nearing completion and yields have generally been good and quality excellent. Swathing of fall rye has commenced and early-sown fields of spring cereals are changing colour, with some swathing expected to begin next week.

British Columbia: Weather conditions changed suddenly in early July, from cool and moist to warm and dry and as a result the general condition of crops has changed in most sections of the province. At the coast, harvesting of strawberries and raspberries is completed while loganberries are now at their peak. The canning pea harvest is well underway and harvesting of early potatoes is nearly finished. Haying is mostly completed. Pastures are showing the effects of the hot, dry weather. In the Okanagan, an excellent cherry crop is at its peak and harvesting of apricots and early apples is in full swing. Harvesting of some cucumbers and fall planted onions is also underway. Grain crops are showing average progress, but dried peas appear disappointing as a result of previous unfavourable growing weather. Elsewhere, all major crops are reported to be in fair to good condition and in most cases average yields are expected.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island haying is well advanced in many sections and, in general, the crop was heavier than last year. Rainfall has varied in the different sections of the province with some areas having received heavy rains and others suffering from a lack of moisture. However, growing conditions were greatly improved where rain fell. Showers have delayed haymaking. Potatoes and other root crops are showing excellent growth and early potatoes are now being dug. Tubers are of good size and the crop is generally described as promising. Traces of late blight are reported from widely separated areas. Grain crops are normal and fields are beginning to turn in many areas.

In the northeastern section, however, where conditions were very dry until recently, grain, hay and pastures are very short and below average cereal yields are anticipated. Strawberry harvesting is almost finished and raspberries and blueberries are now on the market. In drier sections blueberry yields are light. Insect infestation is generally normal but Colorado potato beetles and tarnished plant bugs are more numerous than usual on potatoes this season. Aphids have also increased during the past week.

At Amherst in Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, haying is well advanced with average yields reported. Early-sown cereals are beginning to turn colour with a considerably better than average crop in prospect. Pastures are excellent. At Truro, farmers have completed about 90 per cent of the haying with an average crop of good quality reported. The weather has been very dry except for local thunder storms. As a result after-growth on hay fields is poor and pastures are short. Grain and vegetable crops need rain. Grain is in head with short straw and filling slowly. Growers are digging early potatoes for market, with a light average crop reported. Reports from Kentville in the Annapolis Valley indicate that light rain has partly relieved dry soil conditions but more moisture is still needed. Potato, blueberry, and hay crops have been moderately affected by lack of moisture in some areas. Early potato yields are below average and the late crop needs more moisture. Haying is about 75 per cent completed, with good yields obtained. Winter grains are golden but none have been cut as yet. Spring grain conditions are still above average. Corn and vine crops are also showing good average development and the moisture shortage has not appeared to have affected tree fruits. Apples are continuing to size well. Insects and diseases are under good control. However, miticide resistant European Red Mite and Lecanium scale increased in some orchards following chemical control programmes.

In New Brunswick frequent thunder storms and showers have seriously hampered hay-making operations during the past three weeks. This unfavourable weather has resulted in losses and damage to the hay crop from spoilage. Haying is now about half completed. Grain, potato and root crops are very good and considerable quantities of early potatoes have already been marketed. Some heavy grain crops are in prospect with maturity being advanced by hot weather. Pastures are good. No serious disease epidemic has been noted. Potatoes are well developed although some blight has been reported. Pastures and aftermath on hay meadows are well above average and field corn and beans are also promising. Garden crops are good but weeding is difficult because of the rain. Pea harvest is in progress but exceptionally high yields and good quality reported.

QUEBEC

Reports from the L'Assomption area indicate that pastures are fair and haying is general. Both flue-cured and cigar tobacco crops are very good. The harvest of canning peas is underway. Canning and silage corn are most promising. Vegetable and small fruit crops are good. At St. John the harvest of canning peas has been completed and farmers have nearly finished haying. Very good yields and quality are reported in both these crops. Picking of string beans has just started. Vegetables, apples and cereal crops are in good condition but in many areas rain is needed. In the Lennoxville district 75 per cent of the hay has now been stored. Cereal crops are described as poor to fair while corn is rather short. Pastures and aftermath have been growing only slowly but recent rains will be helpful. At Ste. Anne de la Pocatière frequent showers have delayed haymaking and reduced the quality of the crop. Yields, however, are high. Wheat, barley, oats, sweet corn and potatoes all look promising and pastures are good. The weather at Normandin in the Lake St. John area was very showery last week which affected the quality of the hay harvested. Good yields, however, are reported. Pastures are fair to good and grain crops excellent. However, mostly all of the headed barley and peas

are badly affected with loose smut, and aphids and septoria leaf spot are appearing on barley. Potatoes and blueberries are promising. Reports from Caplan indicate that 10 per cent of the hay crop has been stored so far with operations having been hindered by frequent rains during the past two weeks. Oats are headed. Pasture production is still very good due to cool weather and good supplies of moisture. Vegetables which thrive at lower temperatures such as potatoes, carrots and peas are now ready for market whereas corn and tomatoes have been considerably retarded due to cool weather.

ONTARIO

In the Barrie district of Simcoe County harvesting of wheat has commenced and should be general by August 1. Yields are average but some Hessian fly damage is reported. Oats and barley are heading but are extremely variable and present prospects indicate yields to be about 65 per cent of average. Haying operations are completed and quality has been fair to good. Pastures have been good but now require rain. Condition of new seedings is variable. Potatoes and tobacco indicate good yields. Ensilage corn is late and weeds are a serious problem on many farms. In Bruce County a very heavy crop of hay has been harvested. Grain crops are spotty and late-sown grain will be very short. The corn crop is backward. Harvesting will generally be late. Large acreages of hay have been left to cut for timothy seed. Scattered rains brought relief to some sections of Wellington County which has been dry for three weeks. About half the county received a good rain. About 90 per cent of haying operations have been completed, with most of the crop harvested without damage by rain. Winter wheat is ripening satisfactorily but is still two weeks from maturity. Root crops, late potatoes and corn appear to be growing well and in most cases should yield close to normal.

Haying operations are almost completed. In Waterloo County the crop was heavy. Cutting of fall wheat will probably commence this week. Prospects appear excellent for early-sown spring grains. Harvesting of first-cut hay is completed in Halton County and yields were high. Some second growth is now being cut. Pastures are in good condition. Early-sown spring grains indicate above average yields, while late-sown fields are not yet headed. Harvesting of fall wheat has not yet commenced but yields should be high. Growth of silage corn is about average.

Weather conditions have been variable in Middlesex County. Some areas of the county are very dry, while other sections have had adequate rainfall mostly in the form of thunder storms. Many crops have shown some improvement. Some wheat has been delivered to elevators and although the sample is good, yields are somewhat below previous indications. Yields of winter barley are less than normal. Spring-sown barley and early fields of oats will soon be ready for harvest. Prospects for these crops vary from excellent to poor. Corn and tobacco are growing but need heat. Pastures vary from dry to satisfactory and prospects for the fruit crop are generally good. Rainfall has been much below actual requirements in Essex County during the past three weeks. Many crops have been irrigated but general prospects remain good. The wheat harvest is about half completed and yields were good. Oats are turning and corn, soybeans and late tomatoes are improving due to warmer weather. Harvesting of early tomatoes and potatoes is continuing. Pastures and second-growth hay are growing well following recent rains.

Prospects for soybeans on Pelee Island are not too good. Owing to continued heavy rains many fields required second seeding and in some cases three seedings and as a result much of the crop is late. Even though growing weather prevails, yields of soybeans will still be far less than average. Harvesting of fall wheat is proceeding and yields are very good, in some cases 50 bushels per acre. Quality is reported to be excellent. Rains during the past several days in Kent County have substantially aided

crop growth. Replanted crops have generally made good, average growth. Wet weather during early June had necessitated replanting of a number of crops and also resulted in a portion of the soybeans, white bean and wheat crops being affected with various forms of root rot and disease. Yields of these crops will be about average. Harvesting of wheat has just commenced and yields and quality are reported to be somewhat below average. Sugar beets, while spotty in some areas, are generally making good growth. Harvesting of winter barley was completed by July 15 and yields were average. Harvesting of early potatoes is nearly completed and both yields and quality are above average.

Growing conditions in Norfolk County have been generally favourable during the past two weeks. Wheat is being harvested and good yields are reported. Early-sown oats are turning and indicate a fair crop. Later-sown oats are very uneven and the straw will be short. Some tobacco will be harvested this week. Rainfall has been spotty and some areas now need rain. Development of the fruit crop in Lincoln County is generally a few days later than normal due to the cool nights. Rainfall during July has been 0.44 inches and more is required. Harvesting of sweet cherries is now completed and picking of sour cherries is just commencing. Yields of both these crops were light. Raspberries are being harvested but berries are small because of lack of rain. Insect infestations in the fruit crops are generally not considered to be serious. There is a moderate to heavy infestation of oriental fruit moth in the eastern end of the peninsula.

In Peterborough County of Central Ontario haying operations are about completed and the crop now being harvested is low in quality. Harvesting of winter wheat has commenced where binders are being used, but combining will not start for about ten days. The crop is reported to be good. Prospects for yields of spring grains are variable. Pastures are good.

Harvesting of first-cut hay is almost completed in Renfrew County in eastern Ontario. The cutting of second growth alfalfa has commenced. Some fall wheat has been cut and stooked, and the balance of the crop is being left for combining. Spring grains are commencing to turn. All crops are reported to be above average.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that haying operations in that area commenced about July 13 and are progressing under good weather conditions. Lack of rain slowed down recovery of pastures. Grain crops are in good condition and heading is general on early-sown fields.

MANITOBA

Rain is required over the whole province of Manitoba to help fill grain crops. Late-sown crops are deteriorating due to dry, hot weather, while early-seeded crops are still holding. Fall rye harvesting is in progress. Wheat and coarse grains are turning colour and some early fields will be ready to swath in the latter part of next week. Aphids remain a threat to late-seeded barley. Some abandonment of barley and rapeseed has occurred due to this pest. Special crops such as corn and sugar beets are advancing well.

In southern Manitoba at Morden rain is needed badly. Late grain crops and flax are suffering especially. The canning pea harvest is progressing very rapidly and haying is practically completed. Pastures are holding out fairly well. Aphids have been reported in barley fields. In the southwest corner of the province at Melita where the conditions are also dry and hot, potential crop yields are now drastically reduced. Late crops are suffering most and they are heading poorly. Precipitation of 0.2 inches was received last week but more moisture is needed immediately to prevent further crop loss. Haying is 80 per cent complete and the rye harvest has commenced.

In the Portage la Prairie region early-sown barley is ripening fast and some will be swathed by the end of this week. Heat damage is not apparent but cooler weather and rains are needed. The condition of cereals is average to good, and peas are also good. Beet webworms are a serious problem in sugar beets, carrots and flax, and there have been a few reports of aphids.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that high temperatures continue with no precipitation to relieve the deteriorated crop situation. Forage crops are in good condition but rain is required to ensure a second cut of hay and to maintain productivity of pastures. Grain crops are reaching maturity rapidly due to heat. The condition of rapeseed is poor. There have been no reports of damage by insects or diseases. Farther west at Virden, crop conditions are excellent with prospects for an above average yield. Rye swathing is general and cereals are maturing rapidly. Moisture is generally adequate but the heavy foliage requires more moisture than usual. Haying is well advanced and pastures are good. There have been some reports of aphids in barley and of the beet webworm.

In west-central Manitoba at Neepawa, early-sown crops are in the dough stage. Late crops have stopped growing from lack of moisture. Aphid infestation is general on barley. Most of the haying has been done. Fallows are in excellent condition and pastures are fair. At Minnedosa temperatures were above normal during the past week and some crops and pastures are reported to be suffering from heat. Some wind and hail damage has occurred in the district and aphid and grasshopper damage has also been reported. Haying is being completed rapidly under dry warm weather conditions. Rain is needed in this district.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following hail storms July 12 - Oakburn, Kelwood and Arden, damage medium; July 14 - Cromer, Beresford, Portage la Prairie, damage light; July 17 - Hamiota, Mariapolis, Holland, damage light; July 18 - Brandon to Brookdale to Neepawa, damage medium to heavy; July 23 - Birdtail and July 24 - La Salle, damage light.

The Entomological Laboratory in Winnipeg reports that a minor outbreak of corn leaf aphid was general on late barley throughout Manitoba, but the outbreak has now subsided.

The average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 18 per cent below normal as compared with 16 per cent below normal a week ago, 22 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 0.4 per cent above normal at the same time a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending July 25 was 4.8 degrees above normal as compared with 1.5 below normal a week ago, 3.5 degrees above normal three weeks ago and 3.3 degrees above normal for the week ending July 27, 1959.

SASKATCHEWAN

Hot, dry weather and high winds of the past two weeks have resulted in a decline in crop conditions over the entire province of Saskatchewan with the exception of the North Battleford-Biggar area where good rains were received. With surface moisture supplies poor and subsoil supplies only fair, immediate rains are required to ensure filling. It is still too early to evaluate the effect of the recent hot, dry weather on yields, and while burning is not yet too evident, prospects are definitely reduced from two weeks ago. Swathing of fall rye is general in southern districts and haying operations are nearing completion with good yields reported. Aphid damage is occurring in barley crops in the southern, central and northern areas.

At Yellow Grass in the southeast part of the province continued hot, dry weather has reduced yield prospects but with favourable weather from now on a 25 bushel per acre wheat crop is still possible. The hay crop was excellent. Early crops are beginning to turn and it is expected that swathing will start in about ten days time on the lighter land. Flax is only fair. In the Fillmore district another week of hot, dry weather caused considerable deterioration in crops and stubble crops especially are showing signs of burning. Haying is well advanced and the quantity and quality are good. Pastures are very dry and grasshoppers are numerous. Rain is needed immediately to prevent very serious damage to all crops. The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports continued hot, dry weather with only 0.1 inches of moisture in the past two weeks. The heavy crop is standing up remarkably well on the heavier land, but crops on lighter land are deteriorating and showing signs of burning. Wheat fields are now all fully headed but will require additional moisture for proper filling. Haying operations are progressing well with favourable weather.

Hot, dry weather during the past three weeks has depleted reserve moisture supplies in the Swift Current district in the southwest part of the province. Crops are showing definite signs of burning, particularly to the south and west of Swift Current. Rain is urgently needed to prevent further deterioration. Fall rye is being harvested at present and yields are average. Boll worms are starting to appear on flax, stands of which range from poor to good.

At Big Beaver the weather has been hot and dry with temperatures in the nineties every day this month. Hay crops are very good and swathing of rye began this week, with yields of 20 bushels to the acre expected. There has been little grasshopper damage. Prospects for wheat yields dropped to 15 bushels per acre. The flax crop is in bloom.

In the southwestern part of the province at Val Marie temperatures during the last two weeks rose to 104 degrees with hot winds. Crops suffered considerably and all stubble fields are unprofitable to harvest. The best summerfallow fields are not expected to yield 10 bushels per acre. Grazing is also getting very short. At Eastend hot, dry weather is maturing crops fast. Rain is needed to fill crops if maximum potential is to be realized. Some isolated hail damage is reported. The hay crop is adequate and swathing of rye has commenced. Extremely hot, dry weather prevailed over the past two weeks at Leader. Some crops have deteriorated while others are just hanging on. Early crops are beginning to turn colour.

Drought dominates the crop situation over the entire Togo district of east-central Saskatchewan. With immediate good rains some summerfallow fields could produce reasonable yields but the bulk of the second crop and crops sown on light soils are burned. Some farmers have started to plough down these crops. Pastures have dried up and rains are critically needed to revive them. At Willowbrook rain is also badly needed. Crops are burning up and most damage has occurred to late stands which are headed out on very short straw. Early crops now have a full kernel. Haying is about 75 per cent completed and the best crop in years was put up. The weather remains very hot and dry. To the north at Sturgis early wheat crops are setting kernels and summerfallow fields are standing the heat very well. However, crops on stubble are deteriorating under the ninety degree temperatures coupled with no rainfall.

In the west-central part of the province at Rosetown the continued hot weather has started to affect the potential yield of the heavy stands, and rain is needed. Farmers in the district are still anticipating heavy yields and are preparing storage space accordingly. There are indications of moth infestation in flax fields and some spraying will likely be needed. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports that shower activity

during the past week temporarily relieved the depleted soil moisture situation in west-central Saskatchewan. Forage feed harvesting has started with above normal yields expected. Early-sown grain is filling and some grasshopper damage has been reported. To the north at Meota seven and one-quarter inches of rain have been received since April 1. Crops are excellent although some fields are lodging because of the heavy stand. There has been no crop loss from any source in this district.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort in the northeast part of the province reports only local showers during the past two weeks and with continuous high temperatures rain will be needed very soon if present heavy stands are to be maintained. Aphids are reported on many fields but damage is confined mainly to late-seeded barley. Haying is almost completed and pastures are only fair. At Nipawin the very good crops are maturing quickly under excellent moisture conditions. Some areas have had excessive amounts of rain and there has been the odd local hail storm. Hay and grass crops are very good. Rain in this district has totalled 7.25 inches to date compared with 6.44 inches a year earlier.

The Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports that diamond back moth larvae are injuring rape blossoms and seed pods in the Dinsmore, Delisle, Melfort and Tisdale areas, and are numerous on leaves in other areas but injury is not expected to be serious. The corn leaf aphid is present in most fields of late barley in central and northern areas but spraying is preventing damage on the heavily infested fields. Beet webworm larvae are reported on rape fields at Cutknife. Flax boll worm moths are less abundant in western Saskatchewan than last year but the indications are that economic infestation will occur.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports the following hail storms: July 11 - Ponteix, Ferland, Gull Lake, Sceptre, Eatonia, Laporte; July 12 - Carnduff, Carievale, Alida; July 14 - Rosetown, Zealandia; July 16 - Coronach, Frontier, Ferland, Fir Mountain, Mankota, McCord, Simmie; July 19 - Flaxcombe, Kindersley, Marengo, Harris, Dodsland, Kerrobert, Ruthilda; July 20 - Kenaston, Davidson, Bladworth, Sceptre, Lemsford; July 21 - Bengough, Simmie, Shaunavon, Abbey, Cabri, Portreeve, Eatonia, Glidden; July 22 - Avonlea, Bayard, Dummer, Central Butte; July 23 - Dewar Lake, Superb, Coleville, Dodsland, Kerrobert, Unity, Macklin, North Battleford. The Secretary of the Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following storms: July 11 - Sceptre area (medium to heavy), Verlo to Gull Lake to Simmie (medium to heavy), Ponteix-Aneroid area (medium to heavy); July 12 - Wawota to Manor to Alida to Carievale (medium), Bangor to Marchwell (medium), Mikado area (light); July 14 - Finnie to Neudorf to Grenfell to Oakshela (light), Esterhazy area (light), Leask to Blaine Lake to Laird (light); July 16 - Loomis area (light), Mankota to Fir Mountain (medium), Harptree area (light); July 18 - Meskanaw, Aylsham area (light); July 19 - Kerrobert to Ava to Zealandia (medium), Merid to Kindersley (medium), Ethelton, Steen, Shipman areas (light); July 20 - Hanley to Kenaston to Davidson (medium to heavy); July 21 - Dankin to Abbey to Cabri to Pennant (medium), Simmie area (medium); July 22 - Riverhurst to Thunder Creek to Mortlach to Buttress to Claybank to Dummer (medium); July 23 - Major area (medium), Palo to Biggar to Valley Centre (medium).

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 7 per cent below normal as compared with 5 per cent below normal a week ago, 1 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 16 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 25 was 6.0 degrees above normal compared with 1.7 degrees above normal a week ago, 2.0 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 6.2 degrees above normal for the week ending July 27, 1959.

ALBERTA

Hot weather coupled with only light precipitation has resulted in crop deterioration in southern districts and in the Peace River area of Alberta. With ample moisture, crop advancement has been rapid in the region north of Edmonton and around Vermilion. In the central districts the situation is variable but rain is needed at many points to maintain fairly good crop prospects. Sugar beets, vegetables and rapeseed crops are good but the yield of mustard seed will be below average. Hail storms have been widespread. Haying is well advanced and most hay was put up in good condition, and yields were above expectations. Pastures are now variable but most livestock are in good condition.

In the Manyberries district crops are burning because of the lack of the moisture and some fields to the north are being cut for feed. Rain is urgently needed to fill the grain. Range vegetation is dry but livestock are in good condition. Crops are also suffering from a lack of moisture at Medicine Hat and as a result are very spotty. Some rain and considerable hail was received last week. Yield averages, which could change if moisture is received immediately, are: wheat, 8 bushels; oats, 10 bushels; and barley, 15 bushels per acre. The first delivered wheat graded No. 2 Northern, weighed 59 pounds per bushel, and yielded three bushels per acre. Pastures are dry and constitute a fire hazard. Livestock are in good condition.

In the southwest part of the province the Experimental Farm at Lethbridge reports that south of Calgary hot dry weather continues, and east of Taber grain crops are almost a complete failure. Elsewhere, grain crops have deteriorated greatly but some fields would be helped a little by immediate rain. Irrigated crops are satisfactory and average crops of canning peas and early potatoes are being harvested. Sugar beets and canning corn are promising. At Claresholm the weather has been hot and dry with no rain for a month. All grains are burning and yields will be well below normal, especially flax. Swathing of winter wheat and fall rye will begin next week. The winter wheat yield will be close to normal. Pastures are drying up and hay crops are light.

It is still very dry around Brooks in the south-central part of the province. Widespread hail damage occurred during the evening of July 20, in the Armada, Lomond, Scandia, Rolling Hills, Tilley area. Damage ranged from 10 to 100 per cent and the storm cut a wide swath. Unhaild crops on irrigated land are fair to good, but most dry land crops and pastures are burned. In the Vulcan district about 20 per cent of the grain has been haild out and the remainder of the crop is the poorest in years due to drought. Yields are expected to average 18 bushels per acre for wheat, 30 bushels for oats, 18 bushels for barley, 8 bushels for flax and 14 bushels per acre for rye. Rainfall has been very light outside the hail area.

In the Hanna area of east-central Alberta crops are holding well as a result of light to heavy rains. A number of fields to the north and south have been haild out 100 per cent. The hay crop is very thin. It is expected that many wheat fields will turn out 15 bushels per acre. Shower activity is maintaining the moisture supplies around Calgary and hot weather is forcing crops to maturity. Heads are filling well and prospects are good, although some severe hail damage has occurred in this area. Harvesting of a good hay crop is nearing completion. At Olds, moisture conditions have been improved over the weekend and as a result of heavy rains crop growth is heavy. Nearly all fields are headed and harvesting of a good hay crop is nearing completion.

Crops are also good in the Donalda district of central Alberta, although some hail damage occurred last week. Heavy rains were received last Friday and Saturday and early-sown wheat is filling well. However, some crops are late because of early hail damage. Haying is underway and the yields range from fair to good. Crops are very good in the Stettler district where one inch of rain was received recently. Wheat and barley fields are in head and filling well on a stand which averages 20 inches in height. Haying is in full swing but because of the hot weather yields are light.

At Red Deer in the west-central part of the province rain over the past weekend coupled with hot weather is producing bumper crop conditions. Hail storms occurred at Markerville, Panhold, Pine Lake and other scattered points and the damage ranged from slight to 100 per cent. The first cutting of tame hay is nearing completion and the yields and quality are excellent. At Lacombe 0.67 inches of rain fell on July 22 and 23, coupled with a small amount of hail. Cereal crops are looking very good, but will require more moisture in the next few days. Hay and pasture growth has been very slow. Our correspondent at Eckville reports that hail fell on July 14 causing damage ranging from 25 to 100 per cent in an area one to three miles wide and twenty-five miles long running east-southeast, starting ten miles northwest of Eckville. Haying is 80 per cent completed and the quality is good. Rain is needed to help filling and summerfallows are in good condition.

At Vermilion in the northeast part of the province crops have been advancing rapidly under normal moisture conditions. Wheat is headed with medium sized head. Estimated yields per acre are as follows: wheat, 25 bushels; oats, 40 bushels; barley, 35 bushels per acre. Only slight hail damage has occurred and hay crops are very good. At Edmonton showers ranging up to one inch have maintained good moisture conditions. Growth is quite heavy and all early-seeded grain is headed. Crop prospects remain good.

At Beaverlodge in the Peace River area, dry weather is hastening the development of cereal crops. Some early barley fields are turning. At Berwyn harvesting of a good yielding high quality hay crop is almost completed. Grass seed crops are fair and almost ready for swathing. Rapeseed and barley crops are good while wheat fields are fair and oats are very short. Crops are burning badly in some areas but hail damage has been light. Pastures are fair and a general rain is needed. Farther north at Fort Vermilion showers coupled with warm weather during the past two weeks has speeded growth of all crops. Barley, flax and wheat fields look exceptionally good and some early-seeded barley and rape fields are ripening. There has been no insect damage or flax rust damage to date. Haying is nearing completion with good yields reported and pastures are good.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following storms: July 14 - Rochester to Thorhild to Radway to Wostok to Willingdon to Two Hills (light to medium), Gull Lake, Red Deer, Ardley areas (medium); July 18 - Busby to Morinville to Elk Island (light to medium), Whitecourt, Mayerthorpe (light to medium); July 19 - Evansburg, Stoney Plain areas (light); July 20 - Farrow to Vulcan to Champion to Retlaw (medium to heavy). Lomond to Tilley (medium to heavy), Grassy Lake to Bow Island to Seven Persons (medium to heavy), Irvine to Walsh (medium to heavy); July 22 - Radway, Warspite, Andrew areas (light), Girouxville areas (medium) Hythe area (medium). Hail storms were reported by the Alberta Hail Insurance Board at the following points: July 14 - Rochester, Thorhild, Waskatenau, Andrew, Norma and Myrnam from Rimbey and Eckville through Red Deer, at Haynes and Ardley probably four hundred square miles, average damage 25 per cent; July 19 - from Rocky Mountain House hit and miss pattern to Lovern with concentrations at Benalto, Penhold, Big Valley, Endiang, Hemaruka and Esther, five to seven miles wide with 50 to 100 per cent damage. July 20 - very heavy damage from Cremona, Dog Pound through Airdrie, Balzac to Lyalta, from Indus through Carseland to east of Milo, from Midnapore through Blackie, Vulcan, Lomond, Rainier to South Tilley branching at Lomond to Rolling Hills and from Northwest Champion through Vauxhall, Grassy Lake to Seven Persons and at Irvine probably 1,200 square miles with much damaged 100 per cent. Every other day from July 14 brought storms of varying extent with July 23 bringing hail and heavy wind doing great damage from North Chinook through Sedalia to Compeer.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 7 per cent below normal as compared with 9 per cent below normal a week ago, 4 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 13 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperatures for the week ending July 25 was 3.3 degrees above normal as compared with 4.9 degrees above normal a week ago, 1.4 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 5.4 degrees above normal for the week ending July 27, 1959.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

High temperatures and no precipitation in the Kootenay region for the past ten to fourteen days has hastened maturity of crops and caused a reduction in yields. Seed peas are being swathed and lower than average yields are anticipated. All cereal grains are headed and winter wheat is almost ready for cutting. Strawberry yields were down but average yields of cherries and raspberries are being obtained. Harvesting of sweet cherries is almost completed in the Okanagan. Apricots for the fresh market are at their peak, while harvesting of canning apricots is just starting with volume production expected by the end of the week. Harvesting of summer apples is at its peak, but the crop is somewhat less than earlier anticipated. Extremely hot, dry weather around Kamloops and in the North Okanagan area has been excellent for harvesting second crop alfalfa. Ranges are very dry and the fire hazard in forest ranges is very serious, with many large fires destroying both timber and grazing areas. Sun-loving crops are in excellent condition.

Hot, dry weather is continuing around Prince George for the fourth week. Half an inch of rain fell last weekend. Haying operations are mostly completed, with yields slightly better than average. Cereal crops are recovering slowly from the cold, excessively wet spring. Yields, however, will be somewhat reduced. Newly seeded forage crops are developing favourably. Pastures are good. Good weather in the Peace River area has promoted crop growth tremendously. Most crops are in the ripening stage and harvesting will commence in about two weeks. About half the hay crop is harvested. Rain will be required to fill heads of cereal crops properly. Severe hail damage is reported, but from only one localized area.

In the Lower Fraser Valley to the present date there have been thirty-one days without measurable rainfall. Temperatures have been normal. Drought effects have appeared in pastures and grain crops on lighter soils. Sprinkler irrigation is widespread. Non-irrigated, heavier soils are just beginning to show the effects of drought. Corn crops are showing marked improvement but canning beans are spotty depending on available moisture. Harvesting of peas is well advanced. Later-maturing crops are ripening too rapidly and as a result quality will be lowered. Early-planted peas have produced good yields of exceptional quality. Second-growth hay is excellent for both quality and yield. The strawberry harvest is completed and the crop is reported to have been fair. Picking of raspberries is expected to be completed in about two weeks.

On Vancouver Island the weather has continued bright and very warm. Where available, irrigation is being applied to the fullest extent. Drought is expected to adversely affect the marketability of the second-early and main crop potatoes on mineral soil. Cereal crops are reported to be near normal. Loganberries are being harvested. Tomatoes and corn are growing rapidly but will mature somewhat later than usual.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

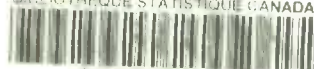
Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 25, 1960	since April 1	since April 1	July 25	
					1960	Normal
			- inches -		- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.11	6.81	8.51	75	68
	Waskada	.19	5.48	8.89	75	68
2	Boissevain	.40	7.65	8.50	74	67
	Deerwood	N.R.	6.82 ^{2/}	8.67	N.R.	68
	Ninette	.35	6.80	9.10	73	68
	Pilot Mound	.94	7.74	8.71	74	68
3	Portage la Prairie	.10	7.01	8.69	73	70
	Graysville	.64	7.69 ^{2/}	8.42	72	69
	Morden	.25	6.50	8.91	73	70
	Altona	.43	5.94	8.24	74	70
	Morris	.46	7.12	7.69	74	70
	Roland	.19	6.52	8.42	74	69
	Gretna	.73	6.48	8.24	75	70
	Emerson	.42	7.44	8.24	73	70
	Stonewall	.13	6.43	8.28	71	69
4	Winnipeg	.05	5.61	8.05	73	69
6	Sprague	.96	9.48	8.98	70	66
	Seven Sisters Falls	.36	6.15	7.52	70	66
	Steinbach	.31	6.88	8.42	71	69
7	Virden	.30	7.79	8.07	73	69
	Reston	.01	5.23	8.58	75	69
	Rivers	.61	8.06	9.70	74	68
8	Brandon	Trace	8.03	9.19	75	67
	Cypress River	.32	7.18	8.48	75	69
9	Neepawa	.33	6.14	8.33	73	68
	Grass River	.11	4.14	8.78	70	68
10	Russell	Nil	6.18 ^{2/}	7.72	73	66
	Rosburn	N.R.	7.87 ^{2/}	7.81	N.R.	65
	Birtle	.55	9.35	8.20	71	65
11	Dauphin	.11	5.51	7.97	72	68
12	Gimli	.83	8.27	8.52	70	68
13	Swan River	1.59	7.06	7.60	72	64
	The Pas	.74	6.57	6.50	70	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.40	6.85	8.36	72.8	68.0
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.08	6.90	8.42	77	69
	Carlyle	.04	7.08	8.10	73	66
	Oxbow	.21	5.76 ^{2/}	8.47	71	67
	Willmar	Nil	7.43	7.93	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	Nil	6.20	8.13	73	65
	Moosomin	Trace	7.56	8.69	74	68
2A	Yellow Grass	.08	6.73	7.64	74	68
	Creelman	Trace	7.83	7.61	73	67
	Weyburn	Trace	6.30	7.73	76	68
	Midale	Nil	5.52	7.43	75	68

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 25, 1960	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 25 1960	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
2B	Moose Jaw	.38	7.00	7.01	77	69
	Regina	.08	9.56	7.35	74	68
	Francis	N.R.	6.24 ^{2/}	6.72	N.R.	67
	Qu'Appelle	Nil	7.60	8.00	73	67
	Indian Head	.01	5.45	7.37	73	67
	Wilcox	.31	9.51	7.49	73	68
3AS	Assiniboia	.87	8.19	7.35	74	69
	Ormiston	.24	7.10	7.59	75	69
	Readlyn	.36	6.57	7.59	76	68
	Minton	.05	7.95	8.22	74	68
	Cardross	.18	10.86	7.59	74	69
	Ceylon	.17	5.27	8.42	74	68
3AN	Chaplin	.16	6.07	6.38	75	68
	Gravelbourg	.24	9.35	7.25	76	69
	Coderre	.58	7.92	7.04	77	69
3BS	Shaunavon	.29	6.29	6.68	75	68
	Cadillac	N.R.	3.88 ^{2/}	7.08	N.R.	68
	Pambrun	.61	8.37	7.43	75	68
3BN	Aneroid	.63	4.90	6.70	75	68
	Instow	.07	5.09	6.70	75	68
	Pennant	.15	6.10	6.56	74	69
	Swift Current	.52	7.37	7.16	74	68
	Hodgeville	N.R.	7.54 ^{2/}	7.31	N.R.	68
	Hughton	.01	4.89	6.00	74	68
4A	Maple Creek	N.R.	3.93 ^{2/}	6.55	N.R.	68
	Consul	Nil	3.44 ^{2/}	5.89	74	66
4B	Abbey	N.R.	4.85 ^{2/}	5.77	N.R.	68
5A	Cupar	Nil	8.39	6.79	75	67
	Leross	N.R.	3.41 ^{2/}	7.33	N.R.	63
	Lorlie	Nil	7.36	7.33	73	63
	Melville	Nil	4.47	7.25	73	66
	Yorkton	Trace	4.29	7.50	73	67
	Bangor	.04	3.95	7.51	75	67
	Dafoe	.02	6.53	7.54	73	67
	Foam Lake	Nil	6.66	7.61	73	66
	Lintlaw	.20	9.02	7.63	70	64
	Kamsack	.02	4.05	7.26	73	66
5B	Arran	.35	4.60	7.44	70	65
	Dilke	Nil	6.40	6.04	N.R.	N.R.
	Imperial	Trace	4.77	6.64	76	67
	Semans	Nil	6.32	6.02	74	67
	Strasbourg	Nil	7.38	6.89	74	66
	Watrous	Trace	6.21	6.35	72	67

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 2 a.m.	
		July 25, 1960	April 1	April 1	July 25 1960	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
6B	Harris	N.R.	5.72 ^{2/}	6.26	N.R.	67
	Outlook	Trace	4.43	5.91	67	69
	Saskatoon	.04	5.72	7.03	73	67
	Elbow	Nil	6.52	6.10	69	68
	Tugaske	Trace	5.58	6.71	75	67
	Dundurn	.29	5.75	6.35	73	67
7A	Rosthern	.08	7.55	6.92	70	67
	Alsask	.27	3.77	5.89	74	67
	Kindersley	.21	4.98	5.79	73	67
7B	Rosetown	.04	8.13	6.81	70	67
	Macklin	.63	4.27	6.44	72	66
	Scott	1.09	4.95	6.43	71	65
8A	Biggar	.62	6.23	6.52	73	68
	Hudson Bay	.50	7.59	7.57	70	65
	Porcupine Plain	1.90	8.81	7.53	68	66
8B	Prairie River	1.42	8.17	7.33	68	66
	Humboldt	.12	5.33	6.57	72	66
	Melfort	.03	5.67	6.88	70	66
9A	North Battleford	1.10	6.65	6.28	71	67
	Victoire	N.R.	7.91 ^{2/}	6.42	67	63
	Prince Albert	.12	7.19	7.13	68	66
9B	Island Falls	.15	6.77	6.78	69	64
	Waseca	.57	7.16	6.59	68	64
	St. Walburg	.43	8.17	6.77	65	63
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.24	6.56	7.06	72.8	66.9
ALBERTA						
1	Empress	Trace	2.91	4.56	77	71
	Foremost	Trace	4.03	6.81	76	70
	Hanna	.17	5.60	6.58	70	65
	Manyberries	Nil	5.48	5.54	76	70
	Medicine Hat	.74	4.42 ^{2/}	5.92	76	71
	Naco	N.R.	7.23 ^{2/}	5.67	N.R.	66
	Winnifred	N.R.	3.96 ^{2/}	5.82	N.R.	N.R.
	Brooks	.07	4.10	5.73	74	69
	Drumheller	.71	5.43	6.38	68	68
	Gleichen	.33	4.01	6.91	71	65
2	Hays	.08	2.70	5.90	75	71
	Hussar	.83	5.45	6.74	N.R.	N.R.
	Raymond	Nil	6.35	7.64	75	67
	Lethbridge	Nil	5.51	7.74	74	66
	Strathmore	N.R.	4.29 ^{2/}	7.49	N.R.	64
	Taber	.01	5.11	6.52	74	64
	Three Hills	N.R.	4.60 ^{2/}	7.23	N.R.	64
	Trochu	1.08	4.95	7.83	67	64
	Vulcan	.40	5.30 ^{2/}	7.12	71	66



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 25, 1960	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 25 1960	Normal
			- inches -			- degrees F. -
ALBERTA (concluded)						
3	Calgary	.89	8.32	8.61	67	62
	Cardston	Nil	4.86	8.43	72	66
	Cowley	Nil	3.23	8.48	68	62
	Fort MacLeod	Nil	4.90	8.36	72	68
	High River	Nil	5.80	9.44	65	61
	Jasper	.10	8.01	4.94	63	61
	Magrath	Nil	6.71	8.24	72	66
	Olds	1.18	7.78	8.53	65	62
4	Alliance	Nil	7.31	7.69	68	64
	Camrose	.61	6.53 ^{2/}	7.20	67	64
	Coronation	.71	5.19	6.90	68	64
	Hardisty	.54	3.06	6.67	N.R.	N.R.
	Hughenden	N.R.	4.43 ^{2/}	6.79	N.R.	64
	Lloydminster	.59	7.23	6.58	67	65
	Stettler	.73	4.89	8.10	67	64
	Vegreville	.52	5.56	6.86	66	65
5	Vermilion	.43	7.24	7.10	66	63
	Edmonton	1.80	8.59	8.32	64	64
	Lacombe	.69	6.76	8.78	64	63
	Red Deer	1.70	9.25	8.28	66	61
	Rocky Mountain House	.43	7.91	10.81	64	61
	Wetaskiwin	.50	9.66	8.21	66	63
	Athabasca	N.R.	10.85 ^{2/}	7.25	N.R.	61
	Campsie	3.98	10.79	8.57	62	62
6	Edson	.20	10.12	8.99	62	60
	Elk Point	3.36	13.06	7.10	64	62
	Embarras	.44	5.88	4.92	66	64
	Lac la Biche	2.63	9.27	7.32	63	64
	Whitecourt	2.75	10.92	9.14	61	60
	Beaverlodge	.16	11.38	6.25	60	61
	Berwyn	N.R.	5.70 ^{2/}	5.96	N.R.	61
	Fairview	.50	6.24	6.49	62	61
7	Ft. Vermilion	.64	5.18	5.09	63	63
	Grande Prairie	.38	9.47	6.37	62	62
	High Prairie	.26	6.27	7.47	62	62
	Rycroft	.76	9.59 ^{2/}	6.18	58	62
	Wagner	1.07	9.26	6.58	62	60
ALBERTA AVERAGE						
		.67	6.66	7.16	67.4	64.1

N.R. - No Report.

1/ - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ - Incomplete; not included in average.