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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the fourth of the 1961 series of nine telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the sixth 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 Weather conditions and progress with seeding throughout the Maritime Provinces have been variable during the past two weeks. Continued wet, cool weather in Prince Edward Island has hampered work on the land, although the bulk of the potato planting and other seeding has been completed. In Nova Scotia planting operations have resumed due to recent good weather. New Brunswick farmers have been able to start seeding on heavy soils but conditions are backward as a result of flooding. Early-sown grain has been damaged by excessive water, and potatoes are emerging slowly. Grass growth is good in all areas and hay and pasture prospects are promising.

Quebec During the last two weeks weather conditions have been somewhat warmer in Quebec. Seeding has now been completed, except in low-lying areas and poorly drained soils. Grains generally appear promising but growth is slow. In southern parts of the province farmers are expected to commence silage making operations this week. Hay yields will be no better than average on new meadows but somewhat heavier on old haylands. Livestock are benefitting from good pastures and although milk production has risen it is still below normal. Horticultural crops are recovering from the adverse effect of late frosts and the damage will be less severe than had been anticipated earlier. Certain acreages of fodder corn have yet to be sown as well as some sweet corn for canning. In the St. Hyacinthe district farmers are thinning sugar beets and in Joliette County growers have completed cigarette tobacco planting. Progress with other tobaccos is not as far advanced. Picking of a reduced strawberry crop has started in the Montreal region with the onset of higher temperatures.

Ontario Adequate moisture and warm weather in Ontario during the past two weeks have been favourable for excellent growth of pastures and all field crops. Fall wheat and fall rye are heading and developing well while spring grains are also showing good growth. Haying operations have commenced but curing is very slow due to

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1961

catchy weather. Harvesting of grass silage is underway throughout Old Ontario. Haying operations generally will be about two weeks later than normal this year. Tobacco planting is practically completed with more than the usual amount of re-planting necessary because of frost damage. Tomatoes and tobacco have both developed well but would benefit from higher temperatures. Sugar beet blocking is nearly completed. Most corn and dry beans have been seeded although some acreage still remains. Marketing of strawberries, lettuce and cabbage has commenced.

Prairie Provinces Serious deterioration in crop prospects has occurred over wide areas of the Prairie Provinces during the past two weeks due to high temperatures and lack of moisture. The situation is most serious in the eastern parts of Saskatchewan, most of Manitoba and in parts of central and southeastern Alberta. If rains come soon summerfallow crops, even in the worst affected areas, could make a recovery. Stubble crops in the drier areas have germinated poorly and are generally in poor condition. Hay prospects are poor in all areas and pastures have deteriorated badly, especially in the dry areas. Damage from grasshoppers has been held to a minimum due to an extensive control campaign carried out by farmers. More than usual damage was caused by cutworms this year.

The first Report on Rust Development in Western Canada in 1961 issued by the Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station at Winnipeg, Manitoba, on June 12 states that --

"The amount of rust that may develop on susceptible varieties in Western Canada cannot be predicted at this early date. Rust development will depend on several unpredictable factors such as the amount of inoculum carried into the area and weather conditions. Reports from the United States, which are summarized below, indicate that inoculum, which could move northwards into Western Canada, may still be produced in quantity in northern parts of the winter wheat area, but a continuation of the present dry weather would be unfavourable to infection even though inoculum was carried into Western Canada.

Although it is too early for rust to appear in Western Canada, the northward movement of rust from its overwintering areas in southern United States is well advanced. Conditions were unfavourable for stem rust development in Texas and Oklahoma early in the season and infections were light. This rust has spread northwards somewhat earlier than in 1960, however, and by May 25 trace amounts were present in more than half the fields in eastern Kansas and by June 1 it was found at Brookings, South Dakota. Much of the United States winter wheat crop is late and there is time, if weather conditions are favourable, for a considerable increase of stem rust in late fields. Stem rust of oats has not been reported north of Texas except in eastern barberry areas. The amount of leaf rust in the southern United States was greatly reduced by unfavourable winter and spring weather and infections to the north are generally light. By the end of May wheat leaf rust had been reported in southern Nebraska and by June 6 it had appeared in southern South Dakota. Leaf rust of oats (crown rust) was reported as far north as Kansas City by June 6 but it is scarce in Kansas and Oklahoma."

British Columbia Continued warm and dry weather has hastened maturity of all early crops in British Columbia. At the coast, strawberry picking is in full swing and the blueberry harvest has started. The first early potatoes will be lifted this week with a normal yield anticipated. In the Okanagan Valley thinning of apricots is completed, while other fruits are progressing well despite some slight

wind damage. The crop outlook is generally good, with only peaches expected to show a decline in production from last year. Vegetables in all areas show excellent growth with the carrot and lettuce harvest well underway. In the Peace River district grain crops are making satisfactory progress. In the Creston area some losses are showing up as a result of high water and seepage damage.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Wet, cool weather during the past two weeks delayed farm operations in Prince Edward Island. However, farmers have 85 per cent of the potato crop planted and 75 per cent of the grain acreage seeded. Strawberry weevils are reported but no serious damage is yet apparent. Flea beetles are appearing in early potato fields and cutworms are causing some damage in gardens.

At Amherst, Nova Scotia, fine weather prevailed during the past week following a four week period of rain. These improved conditions enabled farmers to resume planting operations and about 60 per cent of the crop is now in the ground. A heavy hay crop is in prospect and pastures are very good.

Reports from Fredericton, New Brunswick, indicate that farmers have been able to start seeding on heavy soils. Early sown grain crops have been damaged by flooding and growth is generally very backwards for this reason. The hay crop is two weeks later than usual but grass growth is excellent and a heavy crop is anticipated. Potatoes are emerging slowly. Pastures are very good. Insect activity is spotty although aphids were noted on grain on June 12. Predator activity was also noted. Strawberries are in full bloom two weeks later than usual. Improved weather in the Perth district during the past two weeks has enabled most farmers to finish planting operations. However, some late crops are still being sown and it has been necessary to replant low wet spots. Generally, however, early grain is growing well. Recently planted grass is developing well but warmer weather is needed. Strawberries are in blossom.

QUEBEC

In the tobacco growing area of L'Assomption, Quebec, growers have practically completed planting the flue-cured crop and are about three-quarters finished with cigar tobacco. Meadows and pastures are growing slowly. Grains are late but appear generally good. Frosts late in May cut the strawberry crop by about 50 per cent. Temperatures are lower than usual and precipitation is normal. Cool weather in the St. John district has retarded vegetable crops which are about 15 days later than normal. However, most seeding and planting is completed. Apple growers have scab well under control. However, apple tree leaf-roller has reached epidemic status in several orchards and tent caterpillars are building up in bush and forestry habitats. Lennoxville also reports crop development about two weeks later than usual due to the generally cold, wet season experienced this year. It is estimated that about 10 per cent of the grain land has not yet been seeded. Hay and pasture prospects are good.

Reports from Ste. Anne de la Pocatière indicate generally cold, dry weather from June 5 to June 20. This helped seeding operations and grains are germinating well. Pastures and meadows are excellent. Potatoes are sprouting but flea beetle

infestation on this crop and turnips is reported. Normandin in the Lake St. John area reported frost three times during the last two weeks, with damage to potatoes and tender crops. Vegetation is generally retarded and it is noted that green ash trees are not yet fully leafed. Rain and warmer weather in the last two days will improve conditions. The grain germination is good as are pastures. Hay meadows are late but promising. Livestock was put out to pasture on June 7 and the animals are doing well.

Somewhat warmer temperatures since June 6 in the Caplan area have enabled most farmers to finish seeding. With the heat of the last few days hay growth has improved considerably and pasture grasses are doing well. At the Caplan Experimental Farm cereal test plots were seeded on June 12 and 13 while field sowing was carried out from the ninth to the fifteenth of the month. Since the beginning of June the highest temperature recorded was 78 degrees and lowest 33 degrees on the twelfth and the eleventh respectively.

ONTARIO

In the Barrie district of Simcoe County in Ontario haying commenced on a few farms last week but heavy rains will generally delay operations about one week. The crop is yielding well while pastures are making good growth. Wheat is heading and indications are that the crop will be average. Spring grains are extremely variable with about 75 per cent of the acreage giving promise of a good crop. Corn and potatoes are now getting started although some fields are later than usual. In Wellington County frequent rains combined with very warm temperatures have provided optimum growing conditions. As a result, all crops have made tremendous growth. There is a general surplus of pasture and several farmers are harvesting the excess grass for silage. Growth is now up to normal in Waterloo County. Spring grains are making good growth but some fields are beginning to show the results of cold, backward weather. Haying operations are now underway, but wet weather during the past week has left considerable hay lying in the fields. All livestock are now out and pastures are adequate. Haying has commenced in Halton County and recent rapid growth has provided a heavy crop. Pastures are ample. Fall wheat and rye are making good growth. Spring-sown grains look favourable and corn has emerged.

Seeding operations are completed in Middlesex County with the exception of some silage corn and sweet corn. With recent rains and warm weather, all crops have grown rapidly and prospects look good. Haying has just commenced. Transplanting of tobacco is completed. Cultivation of row crops and weed spraying is continuing. In Essex County crops have responded to warmer weather. Wheat is fully headed and prospects for oats look good. Sugar beets, canning peas, corn and soybeans, are making satisfactory growth although most crops are about a week behind last year. Harvesting of hay and grass silage has commenced and operations will be general this week. Early lettuce, cabbage and cauliflower are being harvested, but potatoes are slow. Canning tomatoes are making rapid growth. Tree fruits look promising. In general, more moisture is required as previous rainfalls have been spotty. Crop prospects in Kent County appear excellent. Winter wheat has headed and yield prospects are very good. Harvesting of hay and grass silage is well underway, but spotty weather has caused some delays. Heavy rains in some areas of the county on June 10, 12, 13 and 14 caused damage to some crops. Planting of white beans and soybeans is completed and warm weather is now required to promote growth. Blocking of sugar beets is nearly completed. Planting of burley tobacco is finished. Harvesting of strawberries has commenced. There is some cutworm damage appearing in tobacco in the Delhi area.

Haying operations are now general in Norfolk County and the stand is excellent. Tobacco, corn and other row crops are being cultivated, but growth has been relatively slow due to cool nights. Spring grains are in excellent condition and fall wheat is commencing to head. Moisture conditions are adequate. Harvesting of strawberries is about to commence and yield prospects are good. In Lincoln County development of fruits and vegetables is a week to ten days behind normal due to the cool spring. Cutting of asparagus is about two-thirds completed and the crop was both light and irregular. Harvesting of strawberries is underway. There has been a good set of peaches, pears, apples, sour cherries and Stanley prunes; Japanese plums are fair, sweet cherries light and Italian prunes very light. Injury from Oriental fruit moth is light while plum curculio is abundant. Canker worms are troublesome in some orchards. Many orchards are unsprayed. Apple scab is light while brown rot in stone fruits is average. Peach leaf curl varies from moderate to heavy.

In York County of central Ontario haying operations have commenced. The crop is heavy except on low fields where legumes are light. Fall wheat is heading and yield prospects are good. Pastures and spring grains are growing well. Moisture supplies are abundant. Plentiful moisture and some warm weather has produced strong growth of field crops in Peterborough County. Haying operations have commenced and drier weather is now desirable. Pastures are in excellent condition. Warmer weather in Leeds County is now offsetting what had been a late season. Planting of corn is completed. Grass silage is being harvested and haying operations in general have now commenced. The hay crop is rather short, but growth is dense. Spring grains are progressing well and pastures are in good condition. With the exception of few very wet fields seeding operations are completed in Dundas County and most grains are now showing above ground. Grass silage is being harvested and haying operations have commenced on some farms. Prospects for the hay crop are excellent, but weather conditions to date have been variable. Pastures are lush on well drained land. A week of dry weather has enabled farmers in Renfrew County to complete the last of seeding operations. There is a wide variation in spring-sown grains. Haying operations commenced on June 12.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that the spring has been late and abnormally cold. A killing frost occurred on June 14. There has been little growth of cereals, hay and pasture due to the cold nights. Moisture is adequate.

MANITOBA

No significant amount of rain was received in Manitoba during the past week and precipitation since April 1 is now well below normal. Summerfallow crops are withstanding the drought remarkably well, but some heat damage is evident. Germination of late-seeded crops is unsatisfactory and crops on second-crop land have been seriously damaged. Early-seeded crops are in the shot blade and fall rye is in head. Pastures are in serious condition and hayland is being used for pasturing. Upland hay is a near failure; slough hay is somewhat better, but light, while tame hay is short. Some pastured cattle are on feed. Shortage of water for stock is reported from many areas. Spraying for grasshoppers is underway. Some marginal damage has occurred to crops and cutworm damage has been reported from many areas. Special crops are generally satisfactory but needing rain. Thinning of sugar beets is underway. Frost damage on June 15 and 18 occurred in a number of districts but it has been confined mostly to gardens.

No precipitation of any consequence has been received during the past week at Vita in the southeast part of the province. Late-seeded crops are deteriorating. Most pastures range from fair to poor in condition. Clover and alfalfa fields are only fair. In the Morden district a few scattered showers were received last week. Field crops are growing slowly and pastures and hay crops are suffering from the drought. Tame hay is in head and is a short crop. Field spraying for weeds is general but it may be more limited this year due to dry conditions. There have been a few reports of grasshopper and cutworm damage. Crops are deteriorating at Altona due to lack of rain. From 10 to 15 per cent of the sugar beets have been worked down and the soil has been too hot and dry to seed flax as a substitute crop. Insect attacks are being checked by widespread spraying, but damage from grasshoppers, cutworms and heat canker has been considerable. The hay crop is less than half normal and pastures are very poor. Supplementary feeding of livestock is now required.

Farther west at Pilot Mound showers have been received in localized areas but a general rain is urgently needed. Hay crops are poor, pastures are fading and cereal crops are at a standstill, with some heat damage evident. Grasshoppers are still active in the Cartwright area. Conditions are also very dry at Melita and farmers have commenced to use hay land and some crop land to pasture livestock. Rye is being cut for pasture. Crops are seriously hit by the heat and drought and prospects for hay supplies are very poor. General agricultural conditions in this area face serious difficulty unless moisture is received immediately.

East of Winnipeg at Beauséjour, crops are suffering from dry conditions, especially on second-crop land. Moisture is fairly adequate in the northern part of the district but it becomes drier towards the centre and in the south. Hay prospects are poor. At Stonewall, north of Winnipeg, extremely dry conditions still prevail in most parts of the district. Pastures are severely affected and hay crops are starting to head. In most cases the rain showers received have caused crusting of the soil and prevented seedling flax from breaking through. Poor germination and sun scald of cereals have also been reported. Wild oats and foxtail are causing concern and grasshoppers are causing considerable damage.

No rain has fallen at Portage la Prairie and our correspondent reports that uneven germination of crops and some heat damage has occurred. Some grasshopper damage and serious losses from cutworms has also taken place. Prospective crop yields are below average and hay and pasture conditions are poor.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that heat and drought are affecting all crops. Stubble crops are suffering while summerfallow crops are fair. The condition of pastures and haylands is critical. Recent cool weather is alleviating injury from heat, but rain is needed badly. Grasshoppers are severe in local areas. Farther west at Virden the extended hot, dry weather is causing some permanent crop damage. All areas report damage, especially around Pipestone and Two Creeks, where grasshoppers are also severe. Some fall rye is being baled for hay. Field crops generally are standing the heat better than expected but hay prospects are poor. Water levels in wells and dugouts are low. Crop spraying for weeds continues.

In the Interlake area at Teulon rain is also needed, although crops still look fairly good. Tame hay is fair, but native hay stands are poor and native pastures are suffering from lack of rain. Weed spraying has commenced.

Our correspondent from Neepawa in the west-central part of the province reports that drought conditions are serious. Field crops are showing uneven germination and slow growth. Hay and pasture growth is very short. Insects, including grasshoppers, flea beetles and cutworms are doing extensive damage. Conditions are also very dry at Minnedosa, with both grain and hay crops suffering. Poor germination has occurred in grain fields. Pastures are very poor and hay only fair. Grasshoppers, cutworms and flea beetles are also active in the area. Drought conditions are becoming serious in the western part of the district at Shoal Lake. Late-seeded crops are not germinating and some early crops are showing signs of damage from the continuing heat. Prospects for hay seem very poor and pastures are not growing. Most natural sources of water have dried up and farmers are hauling water to cattle on pasture.

In the northern part of the province at Dauphin rain is also needed. Summerfallow crops are holding their own and early-seeded crops are in the shot blade. Late-seeded crops only germinated about 40 per cent. Insects are not causing serious damage. The hay situation is very serious, with wild hay almost nil and tame hay short and very light in stand. Some farmers are pasturing cattle on hay lands.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that the grasshopper hatch is now practically completed with up to 5 per cent of the eggs killed by drought. Heavy populations of grasshoppers are present in pastures and the margins of fields. Control operations are general and the kill satisfactory.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 42 per cent below normal as compared with 31 per cent below normal a week ago, 22 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 6 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 19 was 2.2 degrees above normal as compared with 8.2 degrees above normal a week ago, 8.9 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 1.7 degrees below normal for the week ending June 20, 1960.

SASKATCHEWAN

High temperatures and lack of sufficient rain continued to depress the crop outlook, particularly in the eastern areas of Saskatchewan. Scattered rains at many points in the western half of the province have eased the moisture situation somewhat. Wheat averages seven inches and coarse grains five inches in height. Damage from excessive heat has been very severe and there has been considerable heat banding. Cutworm damage has been extensive and grasshopper infestations are heavy and an extensive eradication campaign is underway in many southern, central and western districts.

At Willmar, in the southeast part of the province, crops are suffering from heat and lack of moisture. Grasshoppers are numerous and causing damage even though farmers are waging an effective campaign. Some farmers are shipping cattle because of lack of pasture while others are holding grain for reserve feed. At Fillmore moisture conditions are also very poor. Summerfallow crops are showing signs of burning while stubble crops have deteriorated badly. Wireworm and cutworm damage is evident in all crops, particularly in flax fields. There has been extensive grasshopper damage in pastures and in field borders. Considerable spraying has been done for insects and weeds. Hay crop prospects are very poor and pasture growth has been nearly depleted. Gardens are poor. At Yellow Grass early seeded

crops are in shot blade and most fields have been sprayed for weeds and grasshoppers. The odd field shows grasshopper and cutworm damage but on the whole crops look good. Summerfallows are in good shape. Moisture supplies are adequate for the present but a good rain would be welcome to bring along crops which are generally more advanced than at this time last year.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that drought conditions continue throughout the area. Rainfall for June has totalled only 0.13 inches and stubble crops have deteriorated badly, while summerfallow crops are making only little growth. Late-sown flax has been in the ground up to three weeks and has not emerged. Some early-sown wheat is in shot blade at seven to eight inches in height and hay and pasture crops are extremely poor. Some spraying for grasshoppers is underway but many farmers have delayed weed-spraying operations because of drought conditions.

At Gravelbourg in the southwest part of the province there has been deterioration of all crops because of the abnormally high temperatures. Pastures have suffered considerably. June precipitation has totalled only 0.28 inches. Damage from grasshoppers and cutworms has not been heavy. With an immediate improvement in moisture supplies this area could still produce a normal crop. The past two weeks have been very hot at Big Beaver, with the temperature ranging from 90 to 100 degrees. The excessive heat is hurting crops as the soil is getting very dry. Cutworms and grasshoppers have done considerable damage. Cooler weather and a good rain will be required shortly or crop prospects will deteriorate quickly. Pasture lands are now burning.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that hot weather during the past month has forced growth and many crops are in the shot blade stage. The stand is generally thin but uniform. Grasshoppers continue numerous in patches but control measures have been quite effective. There has been some thinning of flax fields due to heat canker. Pastures are poor to fair and rain is urgently needed. At Val Marie the weather has been mostly hot and crops are not making average progress. In some fields, the grain is only from four to six inches high and ready to head out. Stands are uneven and spotty as a result of 25 per cent cutworm and 5 per cent grasshopper damage. Rain is needed during the next five days to prevent further deterioration.

Rains from one to three inches in the Eastend district have improved field crop and pasture conditions. However, a severe hay shortage is in prospect for the district with current production only meeting about half of the total requirements. Some 75 per cent of the crops are in shot blade and most fields are expected to head out on short straw this year. There has been a severe outbreak of grasshoppers throughout the area. Recent rains have restored crop conditions somewhat in the Leader district. Grasshopper activity has slowed down and crops are recovering from the heat damage and progressing favourably.

In the Togo district in the east-central part of the province excessive heat and no rain have severely reduced crop prospects. The district has gone for six weeks without rain. Hay and sweet clover crops have been reduced to 10 per cent of normal and the feed situation is desperate. Most of the fall rye crops have been used for pasture or have burned to a near failure. Early-sown grains are about six inches high and in shot blade. Only about 60 per cent of the late-sown crops germinated. Recent light frosts have also hurt the gardens. Unless rains come soon conditions will be worse than in 1937. The hot, dry weather is also doing severe

damage to crops and pastures in the Willowbrook district. A lot of crops have turned yellow and pastures are drying up. Early-sown fields are in shot blade, at about four inches in height, and some late crops did not germinate due to lack of moisture. Rain is urgently needed.

At Drake in the central part of the province the weather continues warm and dry and rain is urgently needed. Late-sown grain, as well as pastures have suffered moderate grasshopper damage and control has been held up by lack of poison supplies. Weed-spraying is almost completed and summerfallows are in good condition. Crops are growing well in the Saskatoon area as a result of light rain and cooler temperatures although considerable damage to flax fields from heat cankers is evident. Grasshopper damage has been light due to effective control measures and farmers are still spraying some fields. Damage from pale western cutworms is reported from Colonsay, to Viscount and northwest of Saskatoon. There has been some light flea beetle damage reported in rape crops. False-chinch bug injury is reported in a few fields of wheat and grasses. Pastures have also required grasshopper control measures.

Around Rosetown in west-central Saskatchewan the severe grasshopper infestation is under control due to the concentrated efforts of all farmers spraying chemicals throughout the past ten days. As a result damage has been light. The extreme hot weather prior to a week ago reduced flax crop prospects on many fields but subsequent rains have improved the flax situation to approximately 70 per cent of normal. Wheat prospects are rated as 90 per cent of normal. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports that over two inches of rain one week ago revived cereal and forage crop growth which now is rapid. Grasshopper spraying continues but damage has been confined to field borders. The unseasonable heat wave forced some crops into shot blade much earlier than normal and early-seeded rape crops are entering the bloom stage. Farther north at Meota an inch of rain was received this past week, and crops in general are good. Spraying for weeds is in full swing and no damage from insects is evident. Pastures are only fair.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort in the northeast part of the province reports only light isolated showers during the past two weeks. Crop growth has slowed down but cooler temperatures have prevented actual crop deterioration. Many late-seeded fields germinated poorly. Haying operations have commenced but yields will be light. There has been no rain at Nipawin for the past six weeks and wheat and coarse grains are at a standstill. Flax and rapeseed fields are not making normal progress. Pasture conditions are only fair and hay and forage crops are very poor. Potato growth is slow. Light frost was redeived on June 18. Rainfall this year to date has totalled 2.2 inches compared with 3.4 inches a year ago.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports no hail losses to date.

Average unweighted precipitation since April 1 has been 25 per cent below normal, compared with 24 per cent below normal a week ago, 9 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 14 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 19 was 4.2 degrees above normal compared with 9.7 degrees above normal a week ago, 9.2 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 2.4 degrees below normal for the week ending June 20, 1960.

ALBERTA

Except in northern Alberta and the Peace River area, precipitation in the last two weeks has been insufficient to prevent crop deterioration. Crops east and south of Coutts and Coronation have suffered the most. Most central areas are somewhat spotty and in need of rain. A band thirty miles wide from Edmonton to Lacombe is particularly dry. Pastures are dry and winter fodder supplies will be inadequate in some districts. Grasshoppers are abundant in the forecast area but adequate chemical supplies are now available. To date this year, chemicals distributed are seven times the volume of last year's total. The red turnip beetle is threatening the rapeseed crop.

At Manyberries in southeastern Alberta fall rye is headed and crops on summerfallow are growing well. Soil moisture reserves, however, are getting low and stubble crops are suffering the effects of drought. Range vegetation has dried, but livestock are still in good condition. The first operation of summerfallowing has been completed. Conditions are very dry at Medicine Hat and all crops are suffering except those on irrigation where crops are spotty. Dry land wheat is in the shot blade, six to eight inches in height and starting to head. Barley and oats are approaching a similar stage. Hay crops are poor other than those on irrigation and pastures are poor. The grasshopper situation is serious but under control. Livestock are in fair to good condition.

The Experimental Farm at Lethbridge reports that a general rain over the weekend has improved crop prospects, particularly winter wheat in the western part of southern Alberta. Very little rain was received in the eastern part and crops continue to deteriorate. Cutworm damage is generally ended as cutworms are not pupating. Damage by the pale western cutworm has been spotty but covered the most extensive area in the last ten years. Grasshopper damage has been moderate and is mostly confined to field margins. The infestations closely followed last fall's forecast and adult grasshoppers are now appearing. South of Lethbridge at Cardston good heavy showers were received over the district with some sign of hail in spots. Crop prospects are fairly good and pastures have improved. A few farmers have started haying.

In the south-central area east and south of Brooks dryland crops are beyond redemption due to drought. Pastures are bare. As a result of showers received in the western part fair crop conditions prevail. Grasshoppers are abundant in some areas. First cutting of alfalfa hay is underway on irrigated land. At Vulcan about half an inch of rain was received this week and it was badly needed as crops had been suffering from drought. Winter wheat and rye are headed and should make fair crops now. Grasshoppers were severe here during the past two weeks and with a shortage of poison they were hard to control.

In east-central Alberta at Hanna crops have been hit hard during the last two weeks by hot weather along with drying winds. All grains, hay and pastures show withering and yellowing from the effects of the hot sun. Grasshoppers have also been bad but poisoning has helped to control crop losses. Around Calgary three weeks of hot, dry weather has used up nearly all the surface moisture and subsoil reserves are only fair. Crops have held up fairly well but hay and pastures have suffered. However, shower relief during the past couple of days has brought some relief, but a general rain is needed to restore favourable conditions. Farther north at Olds the weather continues hot and dry. A light rain on the eighteenth of this month was received but it was not enough to do much good. Rain must come soon otherwise

serious losses to crops will occur. Crops are not in good shape now but it is difficult to estimate the damage at the present time.

In the central area at Sedgewick crops are still good but a general rain is needed. There have been a lot of showers but these are very spotty. Oats and barley crops need rain soon. Hay is only fair and pastures are getting dry. Some districts have had good showers while others have had almost no rain. Our correspondent from Donalds states that since the last report only scattered showers have been received amounting to one-quarter to one-half inch of rain. Crops are deteriorating from lack of moisture and cutworm damage has been general. Pastures are burning badly.

The Experimental Station at Lacombe reports that extremely hot weather still prevails with no rain received since May 29. Conditions are extremely dry and some burning has occurred on early spring-sown grains. Fall rye is well headed and haying is general with yields below average. Pastures are very poor. On June 19 the first rain since May 30 was received at Eckville amounting to one-half an inch. Crops were starting to deteriorate. Slight cutworm damage has occurred in this district. Haying has commenced and yields will be light amounting from one-quarter to three-quarters of a ton per acre. Weed spraying is 60 per cent completed and summerfallows are in good condition.

East of Edmonton at Vermilion all crops are now growing rapidly since last week's rainfall. Our correspondent reports that there is now ample moisture for another two weeks. Farmers have started to cut hay and are hoping for a good second crop as the previous drought has caused all hay to head on short stands. At Edmonton widely scattered showers have given some relief to the continued hot, dry spell. Surface moisture is still poor, however, and subsoil moisture is only fair. A general rain is needed to maintain present prospects which are fair to good.

In northeastern Alberta at Athabasca crops have improved since last week's rain. A total of 1.55 inches has occurred since May 1. Hay crops will be light in the district and grain crops about average. More rain will be needed in the near future.

In the Peace River area at Beaverlodge one inch of rain was received last week and the rain was general throughout the district. As a result, the moisture situation is now favourable. Crop development is two to three weeks earlier than normal with early barley heading and legumes showing bloom. Pastures are good. Brome and fescue seed crops are generally favourable but some ragged stands have been ploughed down.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports hail on June 9 at Westlock and June 19 at Conrich, High River, Blackfalds and Pincher Creek. No estimate is available on damage.

The unweighted average precipitation since April 1 has been 19 per cent below normal as compared with 23 per cent below normal a week ago, 13 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 8 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 19 was 7.1 degrees above normal as compared with 6.0 degrees above normal a week ago, 9.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 2.4 degrees below normal for the week ending June 20, 1960.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Hot summer weather prevails in the South Okanagan Valley of British Columbia, with temperatures reading 100 degrees. A good crop of apricots is sizing well, while cherries are maturing rapidly in the Oliver area, with harvest starting this week and volume shipment expected by July 1. Peach and Anjou and Bartlett pear crops look good, while prunes appear light. Cucumbers are sizing well and picking is expected around the first of July. The apple crop is expected to be ten to twelve per cent lower than last year.

Extremely hot and dry weather is reported from the Kamloops and Southern Caribou areas in the North Okanagan Valley. Haying is in full progress with very heavy cuts. Lower ranges are drying up but timber ranges are producing well. There is a serious forest fire hazard due to dry weather. Grasshoppers are increasing and bad infestations of lawn moths and leaf hoppers are reported. In the Vernon area about 8 per cent of the first-cut hay has been harvested, with yields and quality above average. Pastures are producing well especially on irrigated sites. Fall wheat is well out in head and should be ready for harvest by the middle of July. Spring seeded cereals are now in the boot stage. Field peas, now in the blossom stage, are processing well. Lower ranges are drying out rapidly and cattle are being moved to upper ranges. All crop prospects in this area are generally favourable.

Well above average temperatures and hours of sunshine are reported from the Lower Fraser Valley. Average June rainfall to date is only 1.08 inches. Harvesting of the first-cut hay is nearing completion. Grain cereals, corn, pole beans and peas are developing rapidly. Strawberry picking is general with good yields and quality.

On Vancouver Island a bumper hay crop is being harvested now under ideal weather conditions. Strawberry picking is at its peak but pickers are in short supply. Early potatoes are nearly ready to harvest and a good crop is expected. Cereals are heading out and all crops are growing well but will need irrigation soon. The cherry crop is very light.

Good growth of all crops continues under favourable weather conditions in the Peace River District. Some of the forage crops have been ensiled early as a precaution against possible unfavourable dry storage. Yields are reported above normal.

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. June 19, 1961	since April 1	since April 1	June 19 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA"						
1	Pierson	N.R.	4.04 2/	5.24	N.R.	62
	Bede	NIL	2.48	5.66	64	60
	Waskada	trace	2.39 2/	5.23	66	61
2	Boissevain	NIL	2.91	5.38	65	61
	Deerwood	.02	2.35	5.14	64	62
	Ninette	trace	2.60	5.79	64	62
	Pilot Mound	NIL	2.88	5.26	64	60
3	Portage la Prairie	NIL	2.56	5.06	65	63
	Graysville	.02	1.98	4.93	67	63
	Morden	.18	2.18	5.39	66	63
	Altona	trace	2.59	4.83	67	62
	Morris	.02	2.30	4.67	65	64
	Roland	.22	3.01	4.97	65	63
	Gretna	NIL	1.76	4.98	66	63
	Emerson	NIL	2.07	4.98	64	64
	Stonewall	NIL	4.36	4.85	62	62
4	Winnipeg	trace	2.17	4.83	65	62
6	Sprague	.05	2.24	5.54	62	60
	Seven Sisters Falls	NIL	1.44	4.36	63	61
	Steinbach	trace	5.09	5.21	63	62
7	Virden	NIL	2.34	4.90	65	62
	Reston	NIL	2.41	5.07,	65	62
	Rivers	trace	4.56	5.27	63	60
8	Brandon	NIL	4.26	5.42	63	62
	Cypress River	NIL	2.79	4.97	64	62
9	Neepawa	NIL	4.41	4.78	62	61
	Grass River	trace	3.11	4.94	62	61
10	Russell	.03	2.47	4.36	61	59
	Rosburn	trace	3.46	4.45	62	60
	Birtle	trace	3.01	4.45	64	60
11	Dauphin	.03	3.28	4.66	61	63
12	Gimli	trace	3.08	4.76	63	62
13	Swan River	NIL	1.89	3.95	62	61
	The Pas	trace	3.23	3.67	60	60
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.02	2.85	4.94	63.8	61.6

SASKATCHEWAN

1A	Estevan	.02	1.81	4.89	67	62
	Carlyle	NIL	4.37	4.57	65	60
	Oxbow	NIL	2.11 2/	5.06	64	62
	Willmar	N.R.	2.16 2/	4.76	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	trace	1.11	4.63	63	58
	Moosomin	NIL	2.42	5.02	65	61
2A	Yellow Grass	.92	4.07	4.31	65	61

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. June 19, 1961	since April 1	since April 1	June 19 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (continued)						
2A	Creelman	.22	2.35	4.46	65	60
	Weyburn	.97	3.35	4.44	66	61
	Midale	.35	2.69	4.53	68	61
2B	Claybank	N.R.	3.66 <u>2/</u>	4.41	N.R.	61
	Moose Jaw	.03	3.50	4.49	69	62
	Regina	.42	3.21	4.47	65	61
	Francis	.29	1.55	4.10	64	60
	Qu'Appelle	NIL	1.47	5.22	65	60
3AS	Indian Head	.11	1.68	4.66	65	61
	Wilcox	.39	3.05	4.34	67	61
	Assiniboia	.26	4.14	4.52	68	61
	Ormiston	.15	2.65	4.55	67	61
	Readlyn	.11	2.82	4.55	68	61
	Minton	.04	3.31	5.03	67	62
	Cardross	.31	4.08	4.66	66	61
	Ceylon	NIL	3.34	5.03	64	61
3AN	Chaplin	1.83	4.44	4.09	67	61
	Gravelbourg	.20	3.09	3.94	68	61
	Coderre	.04	4.99	4.32	70	61
3BS	Shaunavon	1.12	3.13	4.20	66	60
	Cadillac	1.11	2.05 <u>2/</u>	4.82	66	61
	Pambrun	.95	3.61	4.26	66	61
	Aneroid	.44	2.50	4.52	68	61
	Instow	.92	2.77	4.47	65	61
3BN	Pennant	1.06	4.72	4.20	66	61
	Swift Current	1.01	3.65	4.56	66	61
	Hodgeville	.12	3.21	4.19	67	61
	Hughton	.98	3.65	3.59	64	63
4A	Maple Creek	.86	4.23 <u>2/</u>	4.05	68	61
	Consul	.74	2.83	3.75	64	59
4B	Abbey	.97	3.85	3.64	68	61
5A,	Cupar	.38	3.02	4.13	66	60
	Melville	trace	1.57	4.11	62	60
	Yorkton	trace	2.57	4.09	62	60
	Bangor	NIL	2.04	4.32	62	60
5B	Dafoe	.02	1.44	3.79	63	61
	Foam Lake	NIL	1.90 <u>2/</u>	4.50	65	59
	Lintlaw	NIL	2.71	4.39	59	57
	Kamsack	NIL	1.86	3.77	62	60
	Arran	NIL	1.67	3.88	59	58
6A	Davidson	.06	2.45	4.00	66	61
	Imperial	N.R.	2.16 <u>2/</u>	4.25	N.R.	60
	Semans	.78	2.90	3.69	63	60
	Strasbourg	.78	3.24	4.37	63	59

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. June 19, 1961	since April 1	since April 1	June 19 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (concluded)						
6A	Watrous	.38	4.10	3.91	63	59
6B	Harris	1.25	4.70	3.59	64	60
	Outlook	1.41	3.70	3.53	66	62
	Saskatoon	1.23	4.97	3.72	64	61
	Elbow	.89	3.99	3.90	65	62
	Tugaske	.35	3.70	4.39	65	60
	Dundurn	.88	3.13	3.93	63	61
7A	Alsask	.64	2.45	3.36	67	61
	Kindersley	1.63	3.94	3.21	65	60
	Rosetown	.82	3.57	3.91	63	59
7B	Macklin	1.55	4.33	3.81	63	58
	Denzil	1.20	3.68	3.81	63	58
	Scott	2.17	5.05	3.85	63	58
	Biggar	1.24	4.06	3.81	64	61
8A	Hudson Bay	NIL	2.41	4.07	59	57
	Porcupine Plain	NIL	3.36	4.38	60	56
	Prairie River	NIL	2.77	4.22	57	56
	Armit	trace	3.03	4.07	59	56
8B,	Humboldt	.05	2.09	3.90	62	58
	Melfort	NIL	2.55	3.89	60	60
9A	North Battleford	1.06	2.99	3.61	62	61
	Victoire	.22	2.23	3.16	62	58
	Prince Albert	.05	4.47	4.22	61	59
	Island Falls	NIL	2.34	3.80	57	55
9B	Waseca	1.44	3.79	3.94	59	57
	St. Walburg	1.08	2.52	3.80	59	57
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.52	3.13	4.19	64.2	60.0

ALBERTA

1	Empress	N.R.	.69 2/	2.78	N.R.	61
	Foremost	.13	1.56	4.78	69	61
	Hanna	NIL	2.39	3.67	67	60
	Manyberries	.25	2.12	3.49	69	61
	Medicine Hat	.20	1.79	3.99	73	63
	Naco	.74	2.25	3.43	65	60
	Winnifred	N.R.	1.46 2/	4.14	N.R.	62
2	Brooks	.01	2.91	3.80	N.R.	61
	Drumheller	NIL	2.29	3.50	N.R.	61
	Gleichen	trace	3.12	4.27	67	58
	Hays	.04	1.27	3.77	71	61
	Hussar	.10	3.09	4.05	N.R.	58
	Raymond	1.19	4.56	5.16	68	60



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

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week Ending 8 a.m.		
		8 a.m. June 19, 1961	Since April 1	Since April 1	June 19 1961	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
ALBERTA (concluded)							
2	Lethbridge	1.25	4.22	5.24	69	59	
	Strathmore	.15	2.87 2/	4.77	67	57	
	Taber	NIL	2.24	4.36	68	57	
	Three Hills	.16	5.67	4.33	68	57	
	Trochu	.11	4.71	4.73	66	58	
3	Vulcan	.49	3.36	4.74	69	59	
	Calgary	.37	3.54	5.27	65	56	
	Cardston	.49	4.87	5.75	67	58	
	Pincher Creek	.47	8.51	6.73	66	55	
	Fort MacLeod	2.13	5.84	5.50	70	60	
	High River	.23	5.30	6.58	63	55	
	Jasper	.17	3.06	2.78	63	56	
	Magrath	.31	4.55	5.56	69	58	
	Olds	.23	2.60	5.29	64	55	
	4	Alliance	.50	3.04 2/	4.10	69	57
Camrose		.43	2.39	3.94	64	57	
Coronation		.11	3.27	3.30	65	58	
Hughenden		1.08	4.06	3.69	62	58	
Lloydminster		1.56	4.08	3.64	61	58	
Stettler		.19	2.88	4.61	65	57	
Vegreville		.82	2.22	3.78	64	58	
Vermilion		1.70	4.17	3.72	60	57	
5		Edmonton	.53	2.27	4.61	65	59
		Lacombe	.02	3.07	5.24	65	57
	Red Deer	.33	3.38	4.76	67	56	
	Rocky Mountain House	.14	4.74	6.08	63	56	
	Wetaskiwin	.64	2.44	4.66	66	57	
6	Athabasca	.17	2.66	3.94	59	56	
	Campsie	N.R.	1.61 2/	4.49	N.R.	56	
	Edson	.49	4.94	4.83	63	54	
	Elk Point	2.49	3.34	3.82	59	55	
	Embarras	trace	1.04	2.85	61	58	
	Lac la Biche	1.34	2.85	4.03	61	58	
	Whitecourt	1.18	5.44	4.93	63	55	
	7	Beaverlodge	.56	3.50	3.47	62	56
		Fairview	.80	4.54	3.74	62	56
		Ft. Vermilion	NIL	1.43	2.99	63	57
Grande Prairie		.77	3.49	3.42	63	56	
High Prairie		1.25	3.54	3.92	62	57	
Rycroft		.46	3.24	3.28	59	57	
Wagner		3.08	6.07	3.64	59	57	
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.59	3.49	4.30	6.49	57.8	

N.R. - No report.

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