

22-002
no. 9
1961
July 5
c. 3

LOGUE No.
-002



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Release

5, 1961
3 p.m.

Published by Authority of the Hon. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce

Price: \$4.00 for series of 23 Crop Reports

Crop Reporting Series - No. 13

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the fifth 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 eighth 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.

Preliminary Estimates of Specified Crop and Summerfallow Acreages Prairie Provinces, 1961

A preliminary estimate of acreages seeded to all wheat, durum wheat, oats, barley, rye, rapeseed and flax and acres in summerfallow in 1961 for the Prairie Provinces appears on page 2 of this report. The regular acreage report for crops seeded by provinces will be released on August 2. The acreage estimates published in the accompanying report are based on returns from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual June survey of seeded acreages and the estimates have been made in consultation with Agricultural Statisticians in each province. These are advance preliminary estimates and changes may have to be made when tabulation of all returns is completed.

The advance preliminary estimates of the 1961 crop acreages show that farmers in the Prairie Provinces seeded 23.2 million acres of all classes of wheat in 1961, some 3 per cent greater than the previous year's 22.6 million but about one per cent less than the 1950-59 ten-year average of 23.4 million. Durum wheat acreage, at 1.8 million acres, was about double the 1960 level and 73 per cent above the ten-year average. The acreage seeded to oats for grain at 8.3 million registered an increase of 5 per cent from the 1960 level and was 9 per cent larger than the ten-year average of 7.6 million acres. The acreage seeded to barley in 1961 at 5.9 million acres declined by 18 per cent from the 1960 area of 7.2 million acres and is 28 per cent below the 1950-59 average of 8.3 million. The acreage seeded to flaxseed at 2.4 million registered a decrease of 5 per cent from the 1960 acreage of 2.6 million, but was still 37 per cent above the ten-year average of 1.8 million acres. Rapeseed acreage at 746 thousand acres was about 2 per cent below the record level of 763 thousand acres established in 1960. The acreage sown to fall and spring rye combined at 429 thousand was 5 per cent below the 1960 acreage and 45 per cent below the 1950-59 average. The acreage to be summerfallowed at 24.2 million acres rose 1 per cent from the previous year, and is some 3 per cent above the recent ten-year average of 23.6 million acres.

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, 1961
with Comparisons - Prairie Provinces

Crops	Average 1950- 1959	1959	1960	1961	1961 as % of 1960
- acres -					%
<u>PRAIRIE PROVINCES</u>					
Spring wheat (incl. durum)	23,364,000	22,557,000	22,590,000	23,162,000	103
Oats for grain	7,631,000	7,882,000	7,913,000	8,289,000	105
Barley	8,255,000	8,107,000	7,196,000	5,936,000	82
Fall rye	511,200	324,000	349,000	335,200	96
Spring rye	266,400	110,900	101,000	94,200	93
All rye	777,600	434,900	450,000	429,400	95
Flaxseed	1,772,300	2,130,000	2,557,000 5/	2,425,000	95
Rapeseed	204,000 1/	213,500	763,000 5/	745,700	98
Summerfallow	23,640,000	24,525,000	23,938,000	24,247,000	101
<u>MANITOBA</u>					
Spring wheat (incl. durum)	2,294,000	2,594,000	2,659,000	2,765,000	104
Oats for grain	1,648,000	1,729,000	1,831,000	2,013,000	110
Barley	1,876,000	1,349,000	1,071,000	795,000	74
Fall rye	71,500	75,600	79,000	75,900	96
Spring rye	10,800	7,400	6,000	4,000	67
All rye	82,300	83,000	85,000	79,900	94
Flaxseed	565,200	575,000	707,000	813,000	115
Rapeseed	14,600 2/	12,000	33,000 5/	31,700	96
Summerfallow	2,944,000	2,971,000	2,886,000	2,742,000	95
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>					
Spring wheat (incl. durum)	15,215,000	14,803,000	14,871,000	15,093,000	101
Oats for grain	3,304,000	3,303,000	3,352,000	3,434,000	102
Barley	2,986,000	3,148,000	2,635,000	2,034,000	77
Fall rye	303,800	175,000	190,000	167,000	88
Spring rye	194,700	78,600	75,000	67,500	90
All rye	498,500	253,600	265,000	234,500	88
Flaxseed	887,500	975,000	1,250,000 5/	1,162,000	93
Rapeseed	171,500 3/	165,000	550,000	448,000	81
Summerfallow	13,952,000	14,816,000	14,452,000	14,905,000	103
<u>ALBERTA</u>					
Spring wheat (incl. durum)	5,854,000	5,160,000	5,060,000	5,304,000	105
Oats for grain	2,680,000	2,850,000	2,730,000	2,842,000	104
Barley	3,393,000	3,610,000	3,490,000	3,107,000	89
Fall rye	135,900	73,400	80,000	92,300	115
Spring rye	61,000	24,900	20,000	22,700	114
All rye	196,900	98,300	100,000	115,000	115
Flaxseed	319,600	580,000	600,000 5/	450,000	75
Rapeseed	42,100 4/	36,500	180,000 5/	266,000	148
Summerfallow	6,744,000	6,738,000	6,600,000	6,600,000	100

1/ Composed of 10-year 1950-59 average in Saskatchewan, 8-year 1952-59 average in Manitoba and 5-year 1955-59 average in Alberta. 2/ 1952-59 average. 3/ 1950-59 average. 4/ 1955-59 average. 5/ Revised. (See details on page 3)

Preliminary Estimate of Durum Wheat Acreages, 1961
with Comparisons - Prairie Provinces

Province	Average 1950- 1959	1959	1960	1961	1961 as % of 1960
- acres -					
Manitoba	108,700	78,400	55,000	100,000	182
Saskatchewan	773,400	901,000	775,000	1,494,000	193
Alberta	150,900	39,000	53,000	197,000	372
Prairie Provinces	1,033,000	1,018,400	883,000	1,791,000	203

Revised Estimates, Acreage, Yield and Production of Flaxseed and Rapeseed
Prairie Provinces, 1960

Province	FLAXSEED			RAPESEED		
	Seeded Acreage	Yield per Acre	Product- ion	Seeded Acreage	Yield per Acre	Product- ion
	ac.	bu.	000 bu.	ac.	lbs.	000 lbs.
Manitoba	707,000	9.1	6,400	33,000 1/	722	24,000 1/
Saskatchewan	1,250,000 1/	8.6	10,750 1/	550,000	727	400,000
Alberta	600,000 1/	9.3	5,580 1/	180,000 1/	735	132,000 1/
Prairie Provinces	2,557,000 1/	8.9	22,730 1/	763,000 1/	729	556,000 1/

1/ Revised.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

Maritime Provinces Correspondents in the Maritime Provinces report favourable weather conditions for crop growth during the past two weeks. Farmers are putting up grass silage and haying has commenced throughout the area. Pastures are good and hay crop prospects are generally favourable although there is some variability between districts. Seeding and planting operations are practically completed and grain growth is good. Potatoes in P.E.I. look promising, while in New Brunswick development is more spotty. Strawberry picking is underway and good yields are reported.

Quebec Weather conditions during the past two weeks in Quebec have favoured crop development. Grains are doing well although development is slow in certain districts. Pastures and hay lands have made up a good deal of the lateness shown at the beginning of the season. Silage making and haying are underway in the centre and south of the province. Yields of hay vary from poor to good. Livestock are in good condition and milk production is high. Market gardens, although retarded, are promising and early vegetables are showing good yields. Forage corn and sweet corn however are progressing slowly. Growers have started to pick strawberries and lower than average yields are reported. On the other hand an excellent raspberry crop is in prospect. Reports indicate vigorous weed growth, and grasshopper and other insect activity.

Ontario Frequent rains have provided ample moisture supplies, and temperatures have warmed up considerably during the past 10 days. Night temperatures, however, continue to be cool. Fall wheat and rye are developing well and indicate average to good yields in most counties. Fields in Essex and Kent are now colouring and harvesting is expected to commence the week of July 17. Haying operations are progressing slowly due to late maturity and unsatisfactory curing weather. Quality of barn-stored hay is generally only fair due to the frequent showers. Actual spoilage to date has been quite limited, with most of this confined to eastern areas of the province. For the province as a whole an average yield is indicated at present, and there will be sufficient quantities for winter feeding. Pastures are in good to excellent condition with milk flow continuing at a high level and beef cattle making good gains. Much of the spring grain acreage was seeded late this season, but weather conditions during June have generally permitted good development. Present indications range from slightly below average to average yields. In several counties these crops show the effects of very late seeding and excessive moisture, and the outlook is far below average. Late crops such as dry beans, soybeans, corn and tobacco were planted later than usual and although early development was slow due to the cool, wet weather, recent growth is becoming more rapid with the higher temperatures now prevailing.

Prairie Provinces Good rains were received in most northern sections of Alberta and in parts of northwest Saskatchewan. Elsewhere in the Prairie Provinces only scattered showers to light rains were recorded. Grain, oilseed and special crop prospects continue to deteriorate over wide areas of all three provinces, with the western third of Manitoba, southern and eastern Saskatchewan and the greater part of southern Alberta being most adversely affected by the drought. Pasture conditions are poor in most parts of the prairies and, with some exceptions, hay yields are abnormally low. Hail damage has been light to date, but the grasshopper infestation has been heavy this season and still threatens damage despite stringent control measures.

British Columbia All major crops are progressing well as a result of warm, dry weather prevailing over the entire province of British Columbia. Scattered showers in the Peace River district have improved grain crop prospects, but hay yields have been lighter than average. All areas report considerable drying out on light soils. On the coast, the processing pea crop needs additional moisture, while warm weather hastened completion of the strawberry harvest and brought other small fruits to maturity earlier than expected. In the interior, the cherry harvest is underway and all fruits are shaping up well. In the Okanagan area early field tomatoes are replacing the greenhouse varieties, while early cucumbers are now in full volume.

MARITIME PROVINCES

During the past two weeks Prince Edward Island has had ideal weather for crop growth. Farmers have completed seeding and planting operations except for some very low areas. Grass silage cutting is general and haying has started. An about average crop is indicated with timothy yields average and clover below average. Pastures are excellent and grain crops are making good growth. Because of wet weather early in the season, weeds are a problem in many fields. Potatoes are promising. Strawberries show favourable prospects and the set of apples and plums is good. The cherry set, however, is only fair. Potato flea beetles are numerous in many fields and are causing moderate damage. Tent caterpillars are also numerous on fruit and ornamental trees, while satin moth is reported on willow and poplars. Cutworms are more abundant than usual, but Colorado potato beetles are scarce.

In Nova Scotia farmers are harvesting silage and haying is underway. Seeding has been completed and potatoes are in blossom. Growers are picking strawberries, with peak production expected about July 10. Blueberry crop prospects are good. Reports from Amherst indicate excellent pastures and good small fruit prospects. Planting has

been completed and farmers are making grass silage. With continued favourable weather, haying will get underway very soon. In the Truro district farmers are putting up the hay crop, with above average yields and quality reported. Early-cut fields are expected to produce a good second growth. Early potatoes are in bloom and the late crop is developing well. Grains, however, are making somewhat slow growth. Growers are picking strawberries. It was felt that rain on July 4 improved prospects for this crop. Reports from the Annapolis Valley report excellent pasture growth and an average hay crop. Haying has just begun. Early-seeded grain is excellent and the later crop fair. Due to the wet spring some instances of planting not yet completed on heavy soils are reported. Crop growth has been good during the past few weeks but sunny weather is wanted. Due to the effect of wet areas, overall crop conditions in the Valley are described as slightly below average.

In the Fredericton area of New Brunswick, pastures are generally productive and haying operations are now underway with an above average crop being harvested. Throughout the province some variation in hay yields is reported; conditions are good in the south and east, but only fair in the west and north. There has been a general improvement in most crops. Although grain growth is late on low lands, development is good. However, the crop will be somewhat patchy. Potatoes vary, with uneven emergence and growth reported. Recent dry weather is retarding growth of this crop, and early planted fields are poor. Strawberries are being harvested and yields are good. Other small fruits and apples are promising. Although vegetable crops are late, growth is rapid and conditions appear favourable. Reports indicate that aphid numbers are low but caterpillars are destructive. Fine weather in the Perth district is aiding crop growth. Early potatoes are five to six inches high and the late crop is breaking ground in some fields. Development however is very variable. Hay is starting to head, with a good crop in prospect. Haying is expected in about 10 days' time, with farmers now cutting grass silage. Grain crops are from five to six inches in height and some peas are in blossom.

QUEBEC

In the St. John district of Quebec all vegetable crops are growing slowly although development has been a little better during the past two weeks. Warmer weather is urgently needed. Insects have been troublesome during the past month on several crops. Damage from flea beetles and stalk borers on tomatoes; cabbage maggot on turnips, cabbages and radishes; leaf-miner on beets, swiss chard and spinach, and aphids on peas are all reported. In some areas root rot on peas has also been severe. It is now becoming evident that frosts late in May did significant damage in many apple orchards. Hail on June 13 brought severe damage in six orchards in Frelighsburg. Several orchards report increased population of apple tree leaf roller. However, in general, apple scab and insect pests are well under control.

At Lennoxville, hay and pastures have gained rapidly with the few days of warm weather. Cereals are good but hoed crops are poor. Farmers are encountering a great deal of difficulty with silage making as the wet land is too soft to carry the necessary machinery.

At Ste. Anne de la Pocatière four inches of rain fell during the last two weeks. Meadows and pastures look promising and farmers are expected to commence hay making this week. Grains, as well as potatoes and other row crops, are described as promising. Reports from Normandin indicate that, although warmer weather would be welcome, growing conditions have been favourable. June rainfall was normal. Grains, hay meadows and pastures have improved considerably but growth is still slow. Haying will be about two weeks later than usual. Garden crops and potatoes are doing well.

At Caplan, weather during June was relatively cool and moist. Frequent showers for 17 days hindered the completion of seeding of small areas until June 28. Pastures are excellent, but not more than 5 per cent of the legume hay is in flower and millet is not yet in head. Gardens are very retarded due to cold nights. Silage making will start about July 10. On July 4 there was heavy rain as well as hail, with hailstones measuring up to one inch in diameter.

ONTARIO

In Simcoe county of Western Ontario fairly good haying progress was made between showers last week. Quality of the crop is excellent where rain damage did not occur. Pastures are in good condition. Fall-sown wheat is well headed and varies from fair to good. Ninety per cent of the spring grain crop is variable, but is now growing fairly well. Poor germination, root rot, and insect damage have resulted in about a 10 per cent failure. Corn is late and uncertain with stands variable due to considerable re-planting. Growth of early potatoes is poor, while the main crop was planted late and some fields are just emerging. As a result, prospects for this crop are very uncertain. In Bruce county, harvesting of the hay crop is lagging because of poor weather. The crop is particularly heavy. Grain crops are ten days later than normal, but give promise of satisfactory yields. Corn is also backward for this time of year, but is making good growth. A large acreage of table turnips is being sown. In Wellington county several farmers have commenced haying, but the weather has not been very cooperative. On most farms, hay is an average crop, with new seedings being generally better than older stands. Corn started well, but cool, wet weather has slowed growth. Spring grains are doing very well, with the exception of fields damaged by wireworms and nematodes. New seedings have been favoured with ideal weather and are making excellent progress. Hay harvesting is well under way in Waterloo county. Quality is somewhat reduced as most of the hay cut during the past two weeks has been rained on for an average of five days. However, growth is above average and moisture supplies are adequate.

Fall wheat and spring grains in Middlesex county look very promising. Corn is an even stand, but somewhat backward due to late planting and cool weather. Hay is an average crop and harvesting is about two-thirds completed. Pastures are excellent. Fruit, potatoes and tobacco indicate good prospects. Rains over the weekend were general and heavy enough in some areas to cause lodging of wheat and some run-off damage to row crops. Haying is practically completed in Essex county and the crop was excellent. Wheat is starting to turn and prospects look very good. Early canning peas have been harvested. Corn, soybeans, late tomatoes and tobacco are showing improved growth following warmer weather and rain. More moisture is needed, however, in some districts. Harvesting of the first early potatoes commenced this week and picking of early field tomatoes should start about the week of July 10. The field cucumber harvest is underway. Tree fruits look promising. Crops on Pelee Island are fair to good. Fall wheat is well headed and indications are for a good yield. Soybeans are showing a good stand and are making normal growth. Moisture conditions are fair.

Warmer weather has increased growth of all crops in Kent county. Spotty weather has delayed haying operations and in some cases has caused spoilage. Most farmers, however, have completed this operation. Winter wheat is beginning to turn. The recent hot weather and rain was excellent for corn, tobacco and beans. Sugar beets are showing a good stand. Canning crops are making up for earlier delays. The strawberry harvest is well underway and picking of cherries is commencing. Hail in some areas of the county on June 24 caused damage to tobacco and fruit. There are no serious insect problems at present. Warmer weather and frequent showers have promoted more rapid growth in Norfolk county. Haying is progressing favourably and the crop is heavy. Tobacco is uneven. Strawberry yields have been fair to good. Pastures are excellent. Yield prospects for grain and corn are good. Some hail fell

in the district, but although crop injury was slight, several greenhouses were heavily damaged. Harvesting of a light asparagus crop is almost over in Lincoln county. The strawberry crop is also nearing completion and the quality is good. Vigor of concord grapes is poor and crop prospects are light due to the dry fall and the cold winter. Damage from pear psylla is moderate to heavy on poorly sprayed orchards. Development of the Oriental fruit moth is a week or more behind normal and infestation is light in well-sprayed orchards.

Cool, rainy weather which has persisted all season in Prince Edward county has hampered haying operations. About 15 per cent of the intended acreage was not seeded. Seeding of corn has just been completed and all stands are spotty and up to ten days late. Hay is abundant, and the crop is about one-third harvested. Quality, however, is lower. Oats are late and spotty. Winter grains look promising but it will be late July before harvesting will commence. Yields of strawberries were good and raspberries are developing well. Apple scab is well under control. Haying operations are progressing slowly in York county due to the rainy, humid weather. The crop is about one-half cut and about one-quarter baled. Fall-sown wheat is in head. The corn crop is late but progressing well. Pasture growth is excellent. A storm on June 28 caused some flooding and isolated hail damage. Recent rains have delayed haying operations in Peterborough county, but there is excellent growth of hay, pastures, and spring grains. Winter wheat is well headed and generally indicates a good yield. Silage corn has been slow.

The hay crop is heavy in Leeds county and quality is high. Hay harvesting operations are about twenty-five per cent completed, although delayed by catchy weather. Oats are showing a good colour and making satisfactory growth. Corn is two weeks later than normal, but prospects are improving. Pastures are excellent and milk flow is above normal. Harvesting of the heavy hay crop in Dundas county has been hindered by wet weather. Pastures are in excellent condition. Grains and corn are growing well on higher fields, but some crops are drowned out on low land. Wet weather in Renfrew county has caused considerable delay in haying operations. On most farms indications are for average hay yields. Pastures are in excellent condition for this time of year. New seedings are also excellent. Spring grains are below normal.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that growth of pastures and hay has remained slow due to the cool temperatures in June. Moisture supplies are high as a result of frequent heavy showers during the latter part of the month. Grain crops are in the rosette stage.

MANITOBA

Deterioration of field crops in Manitoba has continued except where localized showers have provided temporary relief. Pastures are the most serious problem, with shortage of water in many districts becoming serious. Haying is in progress in most areas, with farmers cutting rye and sweet clover originally designed as green manure. In some cases grain crops are being cut for hay. Given rain within the next ten days, many farmers will seed oats and millet to supplement inadequate fodder supplies. Cereal crops in the western third of the province are most critical, with drought damage somewhat less elsewhere. Wheat and oats range from 6 to 12 inches in height and are heading. The greater part of the rye crop is in head, with early flax in bloom and mostly thin. Special crops along with all others are seriously affected by dry conditions. Grasshoppers in the adult stage are beginning to fly. Beet webworms are commencing to attack sugar beets and control operations are underway.

High winds over the week-end sapped moisture and damaged some crops by soil drifting in the Vita area in the southeast. Haying has commenced, with yields running 10 per cent of normal. Some farmers have little or no hay to cut. Around Melita, in

the south-central part of the province crop prospects continue to deteriorate although a three-tenths of an inch shower last week, along with cooler temperatures, somewhat alleviated the situation. Sunflowers and beets are doing quite well although the former are stunted and just coming into bud. Haying is in full swing, but yields are only about 40 per cent of normal. Farmers are baling considerable amounts of sweet clover instead of working it down. Early flax is blooming and cereals are heading. Tips of the wheat heads and lower leaves are burned. Nearby at Morden a few scattered showers were received last week. Many late-seeded crops are beginning to lose colour while early-seeded crops are in head and very short. Cutting of a light hay crop is general. Potatoes, corn and sunflowers are doing well but canning crops are suffering.

Rain varying from two-tenths to three-quarters of an inch over the central part of the Melita district was sufficient to halt deterioration in some crops but not enough to promote growth. The condition of pastures, haylands, early and late crops is still critical but farmers are still hopeful that further moisture would produce feed supplies. Grasshoppers are numerous, with a high percentage in the winged stage and considerable damage occurring in the south half of the district. Livestock marketings are gradually increasing but so far few cows are going to market.

Crop conditions remain unchanged in the Stonewall area north of Winnipeg. The soil is very dry and crops are heading out short. Haying has commenced, with some fairly good stands of hay and clover reported in the district. However, winter fodder will be in short supply. Given rain within a week, crops would still have a good chance of pulling through. Pastures are producing poorly and farmers will soon have to begin feeding grain and tame hay. Wheat and barley are heading at 14 inches or less in the Portage la Prairie area. Haying is advancing rapidly, with fair to poor tonnage. Sugar beets are fair to poor with some fields ploughed down. Fallow crops are holding reasonably well but second crop is going back in most districts. Pastures are poor to very poor and grasshoppers are a growing problem. Our correspondent indicates that in the absence of generous rains this week crops will run from a failure to about half of normal.

There has been no relief from drought in the Brandon area and damage to crops is now extensive. Fields on light soils will probably be abandoned. Stubble crops are generally poor. Summerfallow crops will require substantial rains within a week if serious deterioration is to be averted. The hay and pasture problem is acute, with the first cut of hay fair but regrowth very slow. Farther west at Virden early-seeded grains have reached the shot blade and are heading in some areas on very short stands. A recent shower of a third of an inch improved surface moisture but much more is needed. Hay is fair to poor and native pastures have reached the stage where grass is no longer adequate for grazing. Seeded pastures are a little better. The grasshopper infestation is bad.

Light rain fell last week in the Teulon district but much more is needed. Early-seeded crops have started to head on very short straw. Sweet clover and rye fields are being sold to local farmers for hay. A hay shortage is in prospect in this area but it may not be critical. Rain by July 10 could still produce good grain and second-cut hay crops.

Drought conditions persist in the Neepawa area northwest of Winnipeg. The rye crop is not filling and is being cut for hay. Stubble crops are a failure but there is still hope for light yields on summerfallowed crops. Hay is yielding about one-quarter of normal. Grasshoppers are doing considerable damage and water supplies are critical. Farther west around Minnedosa early crops are good, but late crops poor. Light rain relieved conditions somewhat in this area. Hot weather damaged some crops, particularly flax. About 200 tons of hay have been moved out of the district.

No rain is reported in the Dauphin district and heads are very short on early crops with tips burning. All crops are at a standstill. The hay crop is very light and drying up. Dugouts and wells are going dry. Similar conditions exist in the Swan River area where farmers are curing whatever kinds of feed they can find. Rain is required within ten days if crops are to be cut for hay.

The unweighted average precipitation since April 1 has been 49 per cent below normal as compared with 47 per cent below normal a week ago, 42 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and 9 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 3 was 3.5 degrees above normal as compared with 2.3 degrees below normal a week ago, 2.2 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 6.4 degrees below normal for the week ending July 4, 1960.

SASKATCHEWAN

Drought conditions continue over wide areas of the province, with only moderate relief at local points which received scattered showers during the weekend. General rains are urgently required to ease a critical crop and feed situation and to prevent further serious deterioration. Thin stands of wheat are heading in many areas and average only ten inches in height. Coarse grains average eight inches but, except on summerfallow, yield prospects are very poor. Grasshoppers are numerous and at the flying stage, with considerable damage occurring in some regions. Livestock continues in fair to good condition except in the driest areas. Hay prospects are generally poor and rains are required in the immediate future for fodder crops.

At Arcola in the southeast part of the province, crop prospects were slightly improved by local rains on June 30. Crops are about ten inches high and headed and most forage fields have been cut for a very light yield. Showers at Fillmore also have helped slightly. Wheat is nearly all headed and coarse grains are starting to head. All crops are very short and thin. Some flax crops in the district are reported as looking good but short. Many tame hay fields are not worth cutting and farmers have been salvaging hay from road allowances. Gardens unless irrigated are very poor.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that lack of rain accompanied by high temperatures has brought about serious deterioration of grain and hay crops. Most stubble crops are complete failures. Summerfallow crops are capable of recovery with ample rain in the next four or five days, and with good heading conditions, could still make a twelve to fifteen bushel crop. Hay crops are very light and pastures are badly burned or dried up. Shortage of water for livestock is becoming a problem with many farmers.

A report from Gravelbourg indicates that wheat on summerfallow is still holding good for a ten bushel average if rain comes soon. Despite recent light showers most farmers in this area have written off the prospects of fodder crops on stubble land. No panic-selling of livestock is evident. The Big Beaver area received little benefit from one-half inch of rain on June 28 since this was followed by very hot days with high winds. Light grain yields on summerfallow only are in prospect even with cooler and wetter weather.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that with light rain and cooler weather crops near and just north of that area are holding fairly well, but that little crop will be harvested in the southern part of the area. High winds have caused some severe soil drifting and the pasture and water situation is very serious in some parts of the district. Surface moisture is inadequate to warrant re-seeding for fodder. At Val Marie wheat and barley are heading rapidly. Stubble crops show no sign of recovery despite one-half inch of rain, but grass land is slightly improved. Grasshopper infestation is still severe at Eastend and an extreme shortage of hay and pasture is general throughout the district. In the Leader area heat and wind damage have produced white tips on crops, and the maintenance of moderately favourable prospects depends on good heading conditions.

A report from the Togo district in the east-central part of the province states that crop deterioration continues. While early crops are headed on short straw, later summerfallow stands are still capable of making a crop with favourable weather. The hay and pasture situation is extremely serious and heavy livestock marketing appears to be imminent. Complete failure of grain and feed crops faces farmers on the poorer land in the area. The better soils may produce twenty-five per cent of normal yields. The Yorkton district has also suffered rapid crop deterioration. Farmers are turning their cattle into grain fields because pastures are dried up. The water supply for livestock is critical. Forage crops are reported to be very poor around Sturgis and wheat is going into head about twelve inches high. Heads are small.

At Drake, in the central part of the province, pastures are becoming very dry and farmers are salvaging a poor hay crop. Fall rye is developing prematurely. Grasshoppers are still a threat. Crops and pastures are deteriorating rapidly in the Saskatoon area. Summerfallow crops could still produce light yields with early rain but most stubble crops are now considered to be a complete failure. Despite effective control campaigns grasshoppers are still numerous and are starting to fly. Beet webworm infestation has been noted in some grain fields and gardens but has not affected rapeseed or flax fields.

In the Rosetown area wheat is heading on short straw and present prospects indicate about a half crop for wheat and flax. Rain could still improve yields and assure filling. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports local showers up to one inch last Thursday and Friday. Grain crops are relatively good with wheat heading at fifteen to twenty inches. Grasshoppers are quite generally controlled. Hay crops are light.

The Experimental Farm at Helfort reports general crop deterioration throughout this northeastern district. Flax and rape on summerfallow are withstanding drought remarkably well but stubble-seeded crops are poor. Pastures are poor and little regrowth is expected on hay fields. Parts of the Nipawin area received about one-third inch of rain. Light grain yields are expected. Pastures are very poor.

Average unweighted precipitation since April 1 has been 34 per cent below normal compared with 34 per cent below normal a week ago, 25 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 8 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 3 was 1.5 degrees above normal compared with 1.9 degrees above normal a week ago, 4.2 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 5.2 degrees below normal for the week ending July 4, 1960.

ALBERTA

Crop prospects remain poor in southeastern Alberta where an undetermined amount of crops will be pastured, fallowed or not considered worth harvesting. Crops have further deteriorated around Lethbridge and Vulcan and in some other central and eastern areas. However, rains have improved prospects in all regions north of Olds, Drumheller and Coronation, and moisture is in abundant supply north of a line east and west through Wainwright and Edmonton and extending throughout the Peace River country. Prospects for feed grain and fodder, including second growth in grain fields, are much improved. Hail has been relatively light to date and the grasshopper situation is well in hand.

Dry-land crops are still suffering from drought in the Medicine Hat area. Pastures are poor, but livestock are still in fairly good condition. Irrigated crops are fairly good. The Lethbridge Research Station reports no rain in their area last

week and dry-land crops continue to deteriorate. Many late-sown crops would still benefit from rain. Winter wheat in the southwest part of the district is in the soft dough stage and promises an average yield. Fall grain is holding well in the Cardston district but spring crops are only fair. The hay crop is light and rain is urgently needed. Hot, dry, windy weather has prevailed in the Claresholm district and all grain, hay and pastures are burning from lack of moisture. Some farmers are cutting winter wheat for feed.

Most dry-land crops in the Brooks area are considered beyond redemption and ranchers are concerned about winter feed supplies. However, in sections which were irrigated early in the season, good wheat, pea and barley crops are in prospect. An excellent first cut of alfalfa has also been harvested. Some 2,000 acres of potatoes are doing well on irrigated land and are two weeks ahead of normal. Farther west at Vulcan the past two weeks have been dry. Rye crops are being swathed and baled for feed. Wheat is heading at about 10 inches. Flax is up about 7 inches and blooming. Our correspondent estimates that, regardless of moisture received in the future, crops will only yield half of normal in this district.

Hot, dry weather still persists in the Hanna area of east-central Alberta. Pastures are poor and water supplies low. Many grain crops are too far gone to recover, even for feed. Crop prospects are steadily deteriorating in the Calgary district as the result of the continuing hot, dry weather. Cereals are being forced to early heading with small heads on short straw. Immediate rain is needed to produce even a light crop.

Crops improved during the past week in the Sedgewick area of central Alberta following up to two and one-half inches of rain. Late-sown oats and barley are now improving and will help the feed situation. Harvesting of a fair hay crop is in prospect. Pastures have improved and prospects for the rapeseed crop are fairly good. A little farther south at Donalda crops are still deteriorating due to hot weather and lack of moisture. Haying is well underway but yields are very light. Pastures have turned brown. A good general rain could still improve conditions in this district.

Rain of an inch or more in the Red Deer area has reduced crop deterioration and improved crop prospects slightly. Early-sown crops are headed on short straw. Haying is nearing completion, but production is well below normal requirements. Pastures are very thin. Rainfall at Lacombe June 29 and 30 of .68 inches brought the total for June to .96 inches and the total since April 1 to 4.01 inches. The mean maximum temperature for June was a record 79.1 degrees compared with the 1953 average of 67.7 and the previous record of 74.1 degrees set in 1937. The recent rain will help some cereal crops to hold for a while longer but it was of little use to hay and pasture. The first cut of hay is now completed, with yields about half of normal. No regrowth is expected without considerable rain. Rapeseed fields are in full bloom but very short. The pasture situation is critical. One-half to one inch of rain fell on June 30 in the Eckville area and greatly improved crop prospects, at least for the time being. Haying is 60 per cent completed and green feed is now being sown to alleviate the feed shortage. Barley is 20 per cent headed and oats are coming into head. Pastures are poor to fair and another good rain will be needed soon.

Extensive rain in the Stony Plain and Edmonton areas has made prospects good for late-seeded grain crops and second-cut alfalfa. Pastures are rapidly improving. North of Edmonton at Athabasca three inches of rain last week improved the crop outlook. Wheat and barley are heading and the hay crop is fair. Second-cut hay will be good. Feed for cattle and hogs will be plentiful.

Further extensive precipitation in the Beaverlodge area of the Peace River district assures normal completion of development of all crops. Moderate to high temperatures are sustaining rapid growth. Haying is commencing with average yields and quality in prospect. North of the Peace at Berwyn crop conditions are also good following two and one-half inches of rain in the past week. Wheat and barley are headed, but straw is somewhat shorter than normal. The rapeseed bloom appears spotty and uneven. Haying is underway, with yields somewhat light.

In the far north of the province around Fort Vermillion severe drought conditions prevail. A few local showers have fallen but total precipitation is less than one inch since May 1. All crops are generally short and thin, with light yields anticipated.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports a storm on June 26 between Ponoka and Lacombe centering on Chigwell. A small storm occurred the same day at Provost. Hail was also reported on June 28 at Taber and June 29 at Ryley and Bulwark.

The average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 12 per cent below normal as compared with 23 per cent below normal a week ago, 19 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 2 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 3 was 1.3 degrees below normal as compared with 5.4 degrees above normal a week ago, 7.1 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 2.5 degrees below normal for the week ending July 4, 1960.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

In the south Okanagan valley of British Columbia sweet cherries are now in volume and of good size and quality. No splitting has been observed, but some damage resulted from wind whipping. Apricots started this week and are expected to be in volume about mid-month. All tree-fruit crops are sizing very well. Thinning of Bartlett pears is practically completed and crop prospects continue to improve. The apple crop is expected to be smaller than last year.

Very warm weather and scattered rain showers are reported from the North Okanagan. The hay crop is now completed and grain is ripening. Peas suffered some losses due to excessive heat. Cattle are now on forest ranges, which are producing well. Grasshoppers are increasing on the south-central range land necessitating moderate control activity. In the Vernon area recorded sunshine was thirty per cent above the June average and the rainfall, at 1.8 inches, just about normal. Growing conditions are excellent. First-cut hay has all been harvested with good quality and yields. Cereal and field pea crops look promising and harvest is expected to commence about mid-month. Pastures and ranges are in average condition.

In the Lower Fraser valley, June precipitation was only one third of normal, while above average sunshine and mean temperatures have been recorded for the same period. Sprinkler irrigation of pastures and cash crops is now general. The strawberry harvest is nearly over now, with yields reported fair to good. Raspberry picking is general and both yield and quality are satisfactory. Early potato yields are good. Corn crops are growing rapidly while grain crops are already fully headed.

On Vancouver Island, although hot, dry weather has reduced soil moisture and caused drought conditions restricting pasture production, excellent hay crops have been harvested. Fall cereals are turning colour and promise good crops. Strawberry picking is nearly completed, while the loganberry and raspberry picking has just started. Early potato harvesting has already commenced, with fair yields reported. Late potato yields are expected to be good.

A heavy rain which broke the hot, dry spell and brought cooler weather is reported from the Central Interior district. Early grain crops, already in head, are very short. Late grains may improve with additional moisture. Haying operations are two to three weeks earlier than usual.

In the Peace River district heavy rains have provided ample moisture and the general growth is three weeks earlier than last year. Grain crops are excellent, but forage and hay crops only fair. Neither hail damage, serious diseases nor pests have been reported so far.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 3, 1961	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 3 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.49	4.53	6.64	69	65
	Bede	.32	2.98	7.18	69	64
	Waskada	N.R.	2.39 <u>2/</u>	6.84	N.R.	65
2	Boissevain	.29	4.21	6.73	68	65
	Deerwood	N.R.	2.43 <u>2/</u>	6.61	N.R.	65
	Ninette	.38	3.17	7.26	67	65
	Pilot Mound	.22	3.32	6.72	70	65
3	Portage la Prairie	.04	2.60	6.68	70	67
	Graysville	N.R.	2.08 <u>2/</u>	6.40	N.R.	66
	Morden	.20	2.51	6.85	73	67
	Altona	.18	2.82	6.30	72	67
	Morris	.15	2.46	5.97	70	67
	Roland	.10	3.18	6.40	70	67
	Gretna	.16	1.97	6.31	71	68
	Emerson	.11	2.23	6.32	70	67
	Stonewall	.03	4.39	6.12	69	66
4	Winnipeg	.05	2.22	6.09	70	66
6	Sprague	.05	2.29	6.95	71	64
	Seven Sisters Falls	.08	1.52	5.68	69	65
	Steinbach	.04	5.18	6.57	69	67
7	Virden	.33	3.17	6.30	68	66
	Reston	.42	3.64	6.60	70	66
	Rivers	.16	4.82	7.14	70	65
8	Brandon	.13	4.54	6.99	70	65
	Cypress River	.10	3.02	6.48	68	66
9	Neepawa	.03	4.55	6.42	68	65
	Grass River	N.R.	3.11 <u>2/</u>	6.62	N.R.	65
10	Russell	.10	2.74	5.87	67	63
	Rosburn	.12	3.77	5.89	67	63
	Birtle	.12	3.27	6.07	67	63
11	Dauphin	.02	3.30	6.15	66	67
12	Gimli	.03	3.11	6.45	68	66
13	Swan River	.06	1.95	5.38	67	63
	The Pas	1.31	4.59	4.77	63	64
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.19	3.27	6.40	68.9	65.4

SASKATCHEWAN

1A	Estevan	.43	2.28	6.58	71	66
	Carlyle	.51	5.06	6.13	66	64
	Oxbow	N.R.	2.11 2/	6.59	N.R.	65
	Willmar	N.R.	2.16 2/	6.16	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.26	1.70	6.62	65	62
	Moosomin	.33	3.15	6.71	68	65
2A	Yellow Grass	.66	4.73	5.84	64	65

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 3, 1961	since April 1	since April 1	July 3 1961	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
2A	Creelman	.54	2.95	5.88	66	64
	Weyburn	.53	3.88	5.90	68	65
	Midale	.56	3.27	5.76	67	65
2B	Claybank	N.R.	3.68 <u>2/</u>	5.84	N.R.	65
	Moose Jaw	.44	3.94	5.65	69	66
	Regina	.12	3.33	5.81	67	65
	Francis	.21	1.76	5.33	66	64
	Qu'Appelle	.18	1.91	6.47	68	64
	Indian Head	.27	2.01	5.91	67	64
	Wilcox	.21	3.26	5.88	67	65
3AS	Assiniboia	.42	4.56	5.92	68	65
	Ormiston	.37	3.05	5.98	68	65
	Readlyn	.48	3.30	5.98	67	65
	Minton	.90	4.22	6.48	67	65
	Cardross	.49	4.65	6.06	67	65
	Ceylon	.68	4.02	6.56	66	65
	Chaplin	.53	5.07	5.14	67	65
3AN	Gravelbourg	.38	3.47	5.44	68	66
	Coderre	.54	5.65	5.56	N.R.	65
	Shaunavon	.49	3.64	5.40	65	65
3BS	Cadillac	N.R.	2.05 <u>2/</u>	5.88	N.R.	66
	Pambrun	.45	4.06	5.68	67	65
	Aneroid	.65	3.15	5.55	68	65
	Instow	.61	3.39	5.49	66	65
	Pennant	.44	5.16	5.39	65	66
3BN	Swift Current	.39	4.04	5.64	65	65
	Hodgeville	.35	3.56	5.58	65	65
	Hughton	.20	3.85	4.63	63	66
	Maple Creek	.58	4.81 <u>2/</u>	5.23	66	64
4A	Consul	.49	3.32	4.74	67	63
4B	Abbey	.51	4.36	4.62	66	65
5A	Cupar	.17	3.25	5.34	68	64
	Melville	.15	1.72	5.58	65	63
	Yorkton	.13	2.94	5.53	67	64
	Bangor	.13	2.19	5.78	66	64
	Dafoe	.34	2.02	5.41	66	64
5B	Foam Lake	.23	2.21 <u>2/</u>	6.11	67	63
	Lintlaw	.25	3.68	5.91	63	60
	Kamsack	.05	2.14	5.26	65	63
	Arran	.03	1.74	5.30	64	62
	Davidson	.42	2.87	5.34	67	64
6A	Imperial	N.R.	2.93 <u>2/</u>	5.34	N.R.	64
	Semans	.30	3.41	4.72	66	64
	Strasbourg	.20	3.56	5.54	66	63

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

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since	Normal since	Week ending 8 a.m.	July 3
		July 3, 1961	April 1	April 1	1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
6A	Watrous	.37	4.69	5.04	65	63
6B	Harris	N.R.	4.70 ^{2/}	4.87	N.R.	64
	Outlook	.22	3.92	4.66	67	66
	Saskatoon	.29	5.26	5.13	68	65
	Elbow	.30	4.29	4.95	67	65
	Tugaske	.47	4.17	5.41	66	64
	Dundurn	.18	3.31 ^{2/}	5.05	66	65
7A	Alsask	N.R.	2.46 ^{2/}	4.35	N.R.	64
	Kindersley	.58	4.57	4.30	64	64
	Rosetown	.30	3.87	5.24	65	64
7B	Macklin	1.97	6.60	4.88	61	63
	Denzil	1.04	5.02	4.88	62	63
	Scott	1.06	6.42	4.94	61	62
	Biggar	.29	4.35	5.03	65	65
8A	Hudson Bay	.22	2.67	5.58	64	62
	Porcupine Plain	.16	3.55	5.79	63	62
	Prairie River	.17	2.98	5.58	62	62
	Armit	.09	3.21	5.58	63	62
8B	Humboldt	.33	2.89	5.19	65	63
	Melfort	.12	2.88	5.22	64	64
9A	North Battleford	.19	3.18	4.73	64	65
	Victoire	.23	3.11	4.70	62	61
	Prince Albert	.12	4.85	5.55	65	63
	Island Falls	.26	2.85	4.92	61	60
9B	Waseca	1.18	4.97	5.05	59	61
	St. Walburg	1.63	4.56	4.98	58	61
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.42	3.64	5.49	65.5	64.0
ALBERTA						
1	Empress	NIL	1.52	3.56	68	66
	Foremost	.21	1.77	5.80	64	66
	Hanna	.54	3.12 ^{2/}	4.96	64	63
	Manyberries	N.R.	2.13 ^{2/}	4.52	N.R.	66
	Medicine Hat	.35	2.56	4.91	69	68
	Naco	.88	3.13 ^{2/}	4.42	62	63
	Winnifred	N.R.	1.46 ^{2/}	4.96	N.R.	N.R.
2	Brooks	NIL	2.91	4.62	65	66
	Drumheller	.33	2.69	4.69	66	65
	Gleichen	NIL	3.18	5.40	63	62
	Hays	N.R.	1.27 ^{2/}	4.72	N.R.	67
	Hussar	.07	3.19	5.26	N.R.	N.R.
	Raymond	NIL	4.56	6.35	64	64
	Lethbridge	.01	4.23 ^{2/}	6.48	66	63
	Strathmore	NIL	2.93 ^{2/}	6.07	62	61
	Taber	.07	2.58	5.43	65	61
	Three Hills	.48	6.33	5.66	60	61
	Trochu	.38	5.19	6.18	59	62
	Vulcan	Trace	3.63	5.83	63	63



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

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	July 3	
		July 3,1961	April 1	April 1	1961	Normal
			- inches -	- degrees F. -		
ALBERTA (concluded)						
3	Calgary	Trace	3.56	6.86	60	60
	Cardston	NIL	4.87	7.15	62	63
	Pincher Creek	.01	8.54	8.14	60	58
	Fort MacLeod	NIL	5.84	6.98	64	65
	High River	.02	5.32	7.95	59	59
	Jasper	.06	3.38	3.62	55	59
	Magrath	NIL	5.88	6.95	64	63
	Olds	1.25	4.01	6.67	61	59
4	Alliance	.77	4.00 ^{2/}	5.62	56	61
	Camrose	.82	3.31	5.18	61	61
	Coronation	.63	3.90	4.58	62	62
	Hughenden	1.25	5.35	4.90	60	62
	Lloydminster	1.76	5.91	4.77	60	62
	Stettler	.75	3.78	6.08	63	61
	Vegreville	1.15	3.70	5.03	60	62
	Vermilion	1.88	6.20	5.01	59	60
5	Edmonton	1.59	4.05	6.10	58	62
	Lacombe	.86	4.01	6.66	58	61
	Red Deer	1.17	4.78	6.31	59	58
	Rocky Mountain House	.93	5.68	8.02	56	59
	Wetaskiwin	.86	3.56	6.07	59	61
6	Athabasca	2.92	6.18	5.21	58	59
	Campsie	2.72	7.23	6.01	56	60
	Edson	1.12	6.14	6.47	54	58
	Elk Point	1.99	6.85	5.26	58	59
	Embarras	.85	3.67	3.60	63	61
	Lac la Biche	1.63	5.37	5.25	58	62
	Whitecourt	1.77	8.84	6.40	59	58
	Beaverlodge	1.89	5.69	4.56	54	59
7	Fairview	2.87	7.91	4.87	56	59
	Ft. Vermilion	N.R.	1.56 ^{2/}	3.76	N.R.	61
	Grande Prairie	3.32	7.13	4.52	55	59
	High Prairie	2.89	6.79	5.30	55	60
	Rycroft	3.04	6.28 ^{2/}	4.48	55	60
	Wagner	4.63	11.25	4.63	55	59
ALBERTA AVERAGE		1.01	4.88	5.53	60.2	61.5

N.R. - No report.
^{1/} - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.
^{2/} - Incomplete; not included in average.