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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the sixth 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 tenth of a series of thirteen telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, private crop observers and grain men supply the information on which these reports are based. The weather data included in this release are furnished by the Meteorological Division, Department of Transport.

S U M M A R Y

Maritime Provinces Haying is well advanced throughout the Maritime Provinces with average or better than average yields reported in most areas. Some districts report that damp weather has hindered operations. Pastures are good, although rain would be helpful in some sections. Grain crops are doing well and now heading in some areas. Potato development is generally promising as a result of recent good growing weather. Strawberry harvesting is in progress with the peak passed in some districts. Early potatoes and early vegetables are on the market in Nova Scotia. A good apple crop is in prospect in Nova Scotia where prospective blueberry yields also look promising.

Quebec Weather conditions in Quebec during the past two weeks have been hot and humid with frequent showers. These conditions have helped pastures and horticultural crops, but haymaking has been seriously hampered in several districts. Farmers have almost completed putting up grass silage. Hay yields vary from poor to good with the quality reduced due to advanced maturity and poor drying conditions. Abundant pastures are reported and milk production continues heavy. Grain crops appear good. Cereals are heading on short straw and good yields are in prospect. Forage corn is improving except in the Ottawa Valley where conditions are less promising for this crop. Potatoes and other horticultural crops are doing well in spite of being two weeks later than normal this year. In the Montreal district growers are now harvesting early potatoes, peas and beans with good yields reported. Flue-cured tobacco is doing well. Strawberry picking is almost over, with yields varying from poor to good. Raspberries have appeared on the markets and a good crop is expected. Blueberry picking will be later than last year. Reports indicate the presence of cabbage butterflies, tent caterpillars, grasshoppers and an abundance of weeds.

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

Ontario In Western Ontario haying operations are either completed or nearing completion, despite delays due to poor weather. Yields were excellent and there will be a good supply of forage in this area. Winter wheat is turning and harvesting will commence soon. Spring grains and corn are growing well and indicate good yields. Pastures vary from good to excellent. In southern areas of the province crops are making good growth especially as the result of recent rains. In some cases completion of haying has been delayed while in others second-cut hay is being harvested. Harvesting of winter wheat has commenced, with some rust damage reported. Corn, tomatoes, soybeans, tobacco and sugar beets are making good growth. Harvesting of onions, peas, potatoes and cherries is well advanced. In central Ontario hay yields have been heavy, but completion of operations has been delayed by poor weather. Spring grains look good and fall wheat is beginning to turn. In eastern Ontario haying operations have been hindered and some poor quality will result from the wet weather. Spring grains are generally making good growth, while corn is variable. Some lodging has occurred in grain crops. Pastures are good to excellent. A report from Kapuskasing indicates that haying is delayed, but crops are growing rapidly and barley and oats are heading.

Prairie Provinces Cooler temperatures and rain in the Prairie Provinces during the past two weeks have alleviated drought conditions in many areas. Rains, however, came too late to greatly improve yield prospects of cereals over wide areas of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. This is particularly true for coarse grains but prospects for wheat on summerfallow are somewhat better. Improvement has occurred throughout Alberta, with the exception of the drought-stricken east-central and southeastern sections of the province. Good to excellent crops are in prospect in scattered areas of northern Saskatchewan and in northern, northeastern and part of western Alberta and in the Peace River District. Fodder supplies and pastures will be improved by recent rains in many areas, but a considerable acreage of cereal grains is being pastured or cut for hay.

The second Report on Rust Development in Western Canada in 1961 issued by the Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station at Winnipeg, Manitoba, on July 21 states that —

"In the United States heavy infections of wheat stem rust developed in north-central and northwestern Kansas and in southern and eastern Nebraska. Rust damage may occur also in southern South Dakota west of the Missouri river. Elsewhere stem rust does not appear to seriously threaten wheat. Only small amounts are present in the southern part of the spring wheat region. Stem rust of oats is generally scarce although infections in south-central Kansas were severe by harvest time. Wheat leaf rust infections are severe along the northern edge of the winter wheat belt but infections are still light in the spring wheat area. Crown rust of oats has been light generally.

In the rust area of Western Canada a spore shower occurred between June 24 and 27 but the extremely hot, dry weather that prevailed until July 11 or 12 precluded widespread infection. The stem rusts of wheat and oats and crown rust of oats have not yet been found in Western Canada. Wheat leaf rust was observed at Morden, Manitoba on July 11 and a single pustule was found at Plum Coulee, Manitoba, on July 13. On July 20 two pustules were found in a fifteen minute search by four people in one of seven fields examined in the Red River Valley. The leaf rust pustules found on July 13 and 20 on the variety Selkirk were of the moderately resistant type.

The showery weather of the past week will favour the development of rust on susceptible varieties, but as most of the acreage in the rust area is sown to resistant

varieties, and as rust has appeared very late on an early drought-stricken crop that is already beginning to turn colour in parts of southern Manitoba, extensive rust development seems most unlikely this year."

British Columbia Good weather and favourable growing conditions are reported from all districts of British Columbia. At the coast the early potato harvest is nearing completion and threshing of processing peas is underway with good quality and average yields reported. In the interior the cherry crop is about finished, while apricots have passed their peak. First peaches are expected to commence within a few days. All the tree fruit crops are showing up well. Grain crops in the Peace River District are progressing well with ample moisture ensuring good yields. Reports from all districts indicate a good crop of hay.

MARITIME PROVINCES

During the first three weeks of July the mean temperature at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, was 3 degrees below average. Rainfall was also less than normal with only 0.7 inches falling during this period. However, crop growth is good although a general rain would help all crops. In spite of the generally dry weather, reports indicate that humid conditions have hampered haying operations. However, farmers are fairly well advanced with their haying. Yields are generally average to above, with excellent clover reported in some areas. Grain crops are making good growth although many fields are late due to retarded seeding. Slight lodging is evident. Pastures are very good. Potatoes are doing well with no indications of blight. Sebago potatoes, however, show considerable misses and uneven stands with slightly more leaf roll present than usual. Colorado potato beetle larvae are now quite general but D.D.T. control is proving effective. Insects are generally more numerous than usual. Strawberry picking is well advanced with an excellent crop being harvested. Blueberries are later than usual but are sizing well and good yields are in prospect.

In western Nova Scotia and the Annapolis Valley farmers have nearly completed haying with an excellent crop reported. Strawberry picking is almost finished and early potato harvesting is in full swing. Practically all early vegetables are on the market. Rains are needed to sustain pastures. In the eastern and central parts of the province haying is about 50 per cent completed. Pastures in these districts are excellent. About half of the strawberry crop has been harvested and early vegetables are coming on the market. A good blueberry crop is in prospect. Reports from Truro indicate that warm weather with high humidity and frequent showers delayed haying of an above average crop in that area. However, about one-half of the hay has now been harvested. Early-seeded grains are now in head and promise a good crop. Early potatoes and local vegetables are now on the market with average potato yields reported. Although the peak of the strawberry harvest is past some areas are still producing. Pastures are above average but rains are needed. At Amherst, dull weather and heavy fogs are delaying the harvesting of above-average hay crops. Earliest-seeded grains are heading and pastures are excellent. Reports from Kentville in the Annapolis Valley indicate that haying is about 65 per cent completed, with average yields reported. Pastures and second growth hay vary from fair to excellent. Strawberry picking is nearly over and raspberries are now coming on the market. The harvesting of an excellent pea crop has begun. All crops are showing good growth but are ten days later than usual. Rains would benefit some crops in some areas. A good apple crop is in prospect. Pests are being well controlled in commercial orchards.

In the Fredericton district of New Brunswick haying is well underway although two weeks later than usual. Hot humid weather during the last ten days has stimulated plant growth. A heavy crop of hay is being obtained where fertilized. Elsewhere yields are poor. Weather has been unfavourable for haying operations. Grain crops are promising but will be late in maturing. Potatoes have improved with good growing weather. Early-planted fields show some drowned spots and misses while late fields have good stands and are growing well. Pastures are exceptionally good. Potatoes are in bloom even in late plantings. Severe hail damage to apples in some local areas is reported. Insect activity is light.

QUEBEC

At L'Assomption, haying has been difficult due to heavy precipitation and quality is poor. Strawberry picking is nearly over with low yields reported. Tobacco is late but progressing satisfactorily. Canning peas are now being harvested. At St. John high temperatures and excessive humidity have favoured the rapid growth of vegetable crops during the past two weeks. Canning pea harvesting has been going on for ten days. Pastures are in excellent condition. Rainfall of over 4 inches accompanied by some hail and high winds was reported on July 24. Severe damage to most vegetable crops occurred although it is too early for an accurate estimate of damage.

Farther east at Lennoxville frequent heavy rains are reported. Hay is now past its prime and the heavy crop is not more than 50 per cent harvested. Grains and pastures are good and corn is fair. Some ploughed land has not been seeded. At Ste. Anne de la Pocatière on the other hand high temperatures with no rains are reported. From July 1 to July 25 only 0.50 inches of rain fell. Pastures and potatoes have been adversely affected. Wheat and coarse grains are doing well and farmers have completed about half of their haying. Yields are normal.

At Normandin in the Lake St. John area warm weather and satisfactory precipitation have considerably helped crop conditions. Haying started last week with good quality and above average yields reported. Pastures are excellent. Barley is heading and grain crops are generally very promising. Potatoes and vegetables are also doing well. Strawberry yields are good but only a very light blueberry crop is in prospect. No insects are reported.

ONTARIO

In the Barrie district of Simcoe County haying is almost completed, and although yields were excellent some damage occurred from rain. There should be a surplus of hay in this district. Cutting of winter wheat will commence next week and the crop looks good. Recent warm weather has stimulated growth of the corn crop. Oats are headed but the straw is short. Pastures and second-crop hay are making excellent growth. The potato crop looks uncertain. In Bruce County continuous rain has spoiled a large percentage of the hay crop, and delayed operations to the extent that hay which is still standing is almost useless as feed. The hay crop was abundant and there will be no shortage of forage. Pastures are excellent. Corn and grain are making good growth but wheat and early-sown grains are lodged very badly. There is a large acreage of turnips this year and the crop is making excellent growth. Haying is nearing completion in Wellington County although some sections have been

delayed by poor weather. Generally it would appear to be a bumper crop of average quality. Corn is now showing increased growth as a result of ten days of warm weather. Some corn has been thinned by wireworms. There appears to be about the normal acreage of flax and above-average yields are in prospect. Some storm damage has occurred to spring grains and late cut hay.

Haying operations are nearly completed in Waterloo County. Quality of the crop varies from fair to excellent due to catchy weather. Pastures are still adequate. Winter wheat is turning. Harvesting of first-crop hay is completed in Halton County. Yields were good and although most of the crop was harvested in satisfactory condition some poor quality did occur from frequent rains. Fall wheat is turning but harvesting has not commenced. Prospects for spring grain look good and silage corn is making normal growth. Pastures are in good condition.

Rains have varied from adequate to excessive in Middlesex County and growth has been exceptionally rapid due to the warm, humid weather. Completion of first-crop hay has been delayed by frequent rains. Some lodging of wheat and spring grains has been caused by storms. Winter barley yielded as high as 85 bushels per acre. Combining of wheat will be general by the end of this week. Land is now being ploughed for fall wheat. Pastures, tobacco, corn, beans and fruit are all progressing well. Harvesting of winter wheat has commenced in Essex County but there are reports of quite severe rust damage. Most crops are making satisfactory growth as weekend rains ended a fairly extensive dry spell in most districts. Corn and tomatoes will benefit most from the additional moisture. Soybean and tobacco prospects look very good. Vegetable crops are making normal growth. The cherry crop looks very good. Pastures and second-growth hay have improved since the recent rains. Harvesting of early-seeded oats will commence next week. There was a heavy volume of field cucumbers and potatoes harvested during the past ten days. Most tree-fruit prospects look good, especially peaches.

Fall wheat on Pelee Island is ready for harvest and considerable rust is reported. Soybeans are making normal growth and moisture conditions are excellent. A general rain on July 23 aided development and growth of most crops in Kent County. Harvesting of winter wheat has commenced but a heavy rust infestation will reduce both quality and grade. Harvesting of winter barley is completed and yields were good. Sugar beets have made excellent growth. The burley tobacco crop is spotty in some areas. Soybeans and white beans are well advanced. Second-growth hay is being harvested. Isolated storms during the week of July 12 caused some damage. Harvesting of onions, peas, potatoes and cherries is well advanced. According to a report from the Canada Department of Agriculture Laboratory at Chatham, soybeans and white beans are subject to leaf diseases this year. The corn borer flight has been extended making control measures both difficult and costly. Leafhopper populations are moderate and damage has been slight to date.

Crop conditions are good in Lincoln County and moisture supplies are adequate. Harvesting of sweet cherries is continuing, while picking of sour cherries is just commencing. Brown rot is generally light in stone fruits but downy mildew is appearing on grapes. Aphids are abundant on plums, cherries and apples. Red mites increased rapidly on fruit trees during the past few hot days. Some scorch has appeared on the leaves of Bartlett pears due to a combination of heat plus the mites. The Oriental fruit moth is reported to be light on peaches. Growth has recently been rapid in Prince Edward County due to the hot, dry weather. Although these conditions have advanced the pea crop, quality has been lowered. Tomatoes set late and harvesting

will not commence until about the end of August. However, barring an early frost, there should be a good crop. The raspberry harvest has commenced. Corn looks promising but needs rain. Oats and wheat are late. The hay crop is good and about four-fifths harvested. Haying operations will be completed in York County this week. Yields were heavy but quality suffered due to the poor curing weather. Fall wheat and spring grains are in good condition with moisture supplies abundant. Corn is late but fair yields are predicted. Rainfall has been excessive for turnips and as a result low yield is anticipated. Rain has discoloured most of an abundant hay crop in Peterborough County. Operations were delayed and many farmers finished haying about three weeks later than usual. Fall wheat is turning. Spring grains indicate good yields. Dry harvesting weather is now required.

Frequent rains and high humidity have seriously delayed harvesting of a heavy hay crop in Leeds County. At present operations are only about 60 per cent completed. Oats look good and are fully headed but much lodging is reported. Fall wheat is ripe but harvesting has not commenced as yet. Pastures are in good condition and milk flow is above normal. The hay crop is heavy in Dundas County but quality has been poor. Harvesting has been delayed two weeks by rain. Spring-sown grains are rank and some lodging has occurred. Pastures are excellent but corn is in poor condition, weedy, and suffering from excessive moisture. Continuous showers combined with storms have further delayed haying operations in Renfrew County. Rapid growth of hay, grain and corn crops is reported throughout the county. Storms have caused some lodging in oats and wheat. Pastures are excellent.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that frequent showers during the past two weeks have promoted rapid and dense growth of crops. Barley is now heading and oats are just commencing to head. Cutting of grass silage is progressing satisfactorily, but haying operations have been delayed by excessive moisture.

MANITOBA

Deterioration of field crops in Manitoba has been checked by widespread, but scattered showers. Farmers are optimistic that summerfallow land will yield between 10 to 15 bushels of wheat per acre. Wheat is practically all headed, while coarse grains and flax are 75 per cent in head. Fall rye is ripe and is being swathed. Many fields of oats and barley are being salvaged for fodder. Pastures are greatly improved but pasturing of grain fields is still required. Second-crop alfalfa is growing rapidly and late-sown crops are responding to rain and will provide much needed fodder. Mustard and rapeseed have suffered from the heat and are light crops. Sunflowers and peas are doing well, but there is some yellowing of peas. Grasshoppers are on the wing and further damage can be expected to cereal crops as they ripen. Reports from the Roblin district in the north-central part of the province indicate that a reduction in breeding cattle stock is taking place due to the drought.

Scattered showers were received over last weekend at Vita in the southeast part of the province. Pastures are improving, but hay in the north is being adversely affected by the rain. Summerfallow crops continue to show improvement, with 65 per cent of the wheat and oats 12 to 18 inches in height. Some millet has been seeded. From one-half up to two inches of rain fell at Morden during the past week and crop conditions have improved greatly. Summerfallow wheat looks good and oats are coming along well. Pastures are regaining colour and the feed situation will be improved. However, a few local areas are still quite dry. Haying is still in progress, and special crops are doing well. There has been some grasshopper damage.

All crops, except early-seeded wheat have improved remarkably at Altona since the rains. Premature harvesting of wheat is expected. Late-sown wheat and coarse grains are filling well, barley being the poorest. Peas are in full bloom, sunflowers in early bloom and sugar beets are covering the ground. Corn is now a more promising crop and a second crop of alfalfa is now likely.

Cooler weather and showers during the past week at Somerset have improved the crop outlook slightly. Wheat is filling well and may average 10 to 20 bushels per acre on summerfallow. Very few oat fields hold any promise, while flax yields will vary from 5 to 12 bushels. Half the acreage seeded to oats, barley and flax has been ploughed under. Scattered showers were received at Melita over the past week, ranging from two-tenths to 1 1/4 inches over the area. Rye is in the swath and other crops are in head with a percentage cut for feed. Yields of field crops will vary from zero to one-half of normal. Livestock will be held for a longer period than anticipated due to the recent rains.

East of Winnipeg at Beauséjour recent generous rains of three to four inches over the area have greatly improved crops and pastures. Wheat prospects now range from 50 to 75 per cent of average. Oats and barley prospects are poor, but second growth is evident and some grain is being cut for hay. Flax prospects are only fair. At Stonewall, north of Winnipeg, rain has also greatly improved conditions of hay crops, pasture and late-seeded crops. Some of the poorer crops are now being cut for hay, but on the average a fairly good yield of grain is still expected, especially from late-seeded crops. Some farmers have seeded oats and millet for green feed. The Portage la Prairie area received some rain in all parts during the past two weeks, the amounts varying from less than one inch to almost four inches. Wheat on summerfallow shows fair to good prospects, coarse grains are generally fair to poor, with thin short stands while flax looks good to fair with a lot of germination occurring in mid-July. Sugar beets and peas are fair to good and will respond to moisture. Pastures have improved, and prospects for second-cut alfalfa are good in many fields. Present prospects are that Portage municipalities will harvest considerably better than half a normal grain crop.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that showers amounting to 2.72 inches have greatly benefited grain crops and improved pastures. Hay lands are also making a fair recovery. Due to the spotty nature of the precipitation some areas adjacent to Brandon received no relief from the drought and as a result, grain yields will vary widely. Farther west at Virden crop yields will also vary widely with some areas reporting good prospects on summerfallow but most of the area has little or no potential cash crops. The bulk of the cereals is being harvested for hay. Feed grains are very scarce and a severe shortage is anticipated. Pastures are still very poor and stock watering problems are developing continually.

In the Interlake area at Teulon swathing of fall rye has commenced. Crops sown on summerfallow look fair, and second growth of hay is coming along well. Some grain crops are being cut for fodder. Pastures are growing well since the rain, and gardens have improved. Flax and tame mustard crops look very good.

At Neepawa in west-central Manitoba, scattered showers have given temporary relief where redeived, but crop deterioration is still continuing where no rain occurred. Rye swathing has commenced. Considerable acreage of second crop has been turned down or pastured and about one-quarter of summerfallow wheat is being cut for green feed. Grasshoppers are doing extensive damage throughout the area. Hay is yielding less than half an average crop in the area. Spotty rains and cool weather

are helping crop conditions greatly in the Minnedosa district. Wheat, oats and barley in most cases are filling satisfactorily. First cuts of hay are now being completed and some grain crops are being cut for fodder. Pastures and gardens are in good condition.

In northern Manitoba from one-half to two inches of rain were received in the Dauphin-Ethelbert district last week. The areas receiving heavy rains show marked improvement in pastures and crops. Cereals are still being cut for fodder and stands are very light and short.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that grasshoppers are actively moving in local flights. Egg bed concentrations of the clear wing grasshopper are starting to form and surveys of egg-laying activity are now commencing.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 38 per cent below normal as compared with 42 per cent below normal a week ago, 54 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 18 per cent below normal at the same time a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending July 24, 1961 was 3.1 degrees below normal as compared with 1.7 degrees below normal a week ago, 4.2 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 4.8 degrees above normal for the week ending July 25, 1960.

SASKATCHEWAN

Cooler temperatures and scattered showers have checked deterioration of crops in some areas of Saskatchewan, but the crop outlook remains poor in many districts. With the exception of some points in southern areas where crops are maturing rapidly, immediate rains could greatly improve yields of grain and increase fodder supplies. Oats and barley have suffered considerably from drought while wheat on summerfallow has been holding surprisingly well and appears to be filling fairly well. Some fields of flax show promise but they need rain. Rapeseed prospects are fair in the northeast and good in the northwest. Grasshoppers are numerous and further damage is expected. Fodder will be in short supply in many districts. A considerable acreage of cereal grains will be cut to relieve the critical hay shortage.

A report from Arcola in southeast Saskatchewan states that 1.52 inches of rain since the last report will help feed supplies. However, some crops are not worth cutting and there will definitely be a feed shortage. Our correspondent estimates that 90 per cent of the farmers won't harvest anything. Farther west at Fillmore all crops except flax are very poor. Many fields have now been harvested for fodder and some are being pastured. Grasshopper damage has been severe. Some early crops have ripened but are not worth harvesting. Some flax fields remain good but are quite weedy. Very little coarse grains will be harvested in this area.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that only 0.1 inches of rain fell in four different showers since July 11 and crop and pasture conditions are unimproved. Temperatures up to 90 degrees for the past two days have caused further crop deterioration and many fields are being pastured or cut for hay where the stands warrant it. Yields of cereal hay on many of these fields are running one-quarter ton per acre or less. Evaporation of moisture has been high due to a combination of low humidity, high temperatures and moderate winds. Migrating

grasshoppers are appearing in increasing numbers and a few farmers have been spraying their best crops by aircraft. Pastures are very badly burned and are of little value for grazing.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that crop prospects are quite variable in that district, ranging from poor to near average. The general yield from southwestern Saskatchewan is expected to be 60 per cent of normal. Grain kernels are now filling well. Most of the fall rye and oats has been cut for fodder. Prospects for flax are fair but the crop could deteriorate rapidly if moisture supplies are not forthcoming. Grasshoppers are numerous throughout the area and may force farmers to swath grain early thus causing excessive loss in harvesting. At Big Beaver a very severe hail storm occurred on July 17 causing 100 per cent damage in a large area. There will be a very small yield in this district as most of the standing crops will be cut for feed. Farmers, however, should have enough local feed for livestock.

Farther west at Eastend weather conditions continue hot and dry with only a few scattered showers. One hundred per cent hail damage has occurred near Consul and Robsart, and the rain accompanying the hail will do little to increase yields. Estimated wheat yield will be 5 bushels per acre and fall rye 15. Fodder and feed grain are scarce in the district and up to 25 per cent of the cereal crops have been cut for fodder. Grasshoppers are becoming serious. Crops are maturing rapidly at Leader. Growth is short and spotty, and light yields are expected. Flax, however, appears to be good. Pastures have dried up but winter fodder supplies are near normal.

Two inches of rain were received on the 17th in the Togo district in east-central Saskatchewan. This rain plus other showers has improved pasture and feed situations and will also fill the cereal crop. Some hail damage has occurred. Second-crop fields have been mostly ploughed down or pastured, and rains have come too late to save or improve most of the remaining fields. Livestock shipping has slowed down due to improved pasture, but winter feed prospects are still serious. In the Yorkton area farmers are cutting down early-sown crops for feed. Late crops are too short for cutting and are being used for pasture. Chances for harvesting much crop is about nil. The burning has been so bad that rain would not likely do any good. The weather remains hot and dry. Farther north at Sturgis wheat is in bloom and averages about 18 inches in height. Crops on heavy land have improved but on sandy soils are very poor and need rain to fill. All barley crops are very poor.

Our correspondent from Drake in the central part of the province reports hot, dry weather still continues and grain fields are being forced to maturity. Wheat is filling fairly well. The rye crop is in swath and a poor hay crop has been harvested. Water supplies are diminishing and grasshoppers are on the wing.

The Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon states that no significant rainfall has occurred since the last report two weeks ago. Summerfallow crops should produce light yields but stubble crops are being cut for feed. Grasshoppers are very numerous in many areas of southern and western Saskatchewan and are injuring some crops by stripping leaves and cutting off the heads. Diamond back moth larvae are present in rape but no significant damage has been reported.

Wheat and flax crops will come through to an estimated 7 bushels at Rosetown in west-central Saskatchewan in spite of the drought. An odd field of oats is being

cut for feed but a good rain could still improve filling of kernels. Crops in the Scott and Wilkie areas are deteriorating according to the Experimental Station at Scott. The half inch of rain received since the last report has not been sufficient to fill the crop. Early oats and barley are nearing maturity and the brome grass seed harvest is in progress. Rape crops are fair and nearing maturity.

In northeastern Saskatchewan at Nipawin no rain has been received and our correspondent estimates that wheat will yield from nil to 12 bushels; oats and barley nil to some feed; flax 5 to 8 bushels; and rapeseed poor. Hay crops are very poor and pastures are bare. At the opposite side of the province at Meota summer-fallow crop yields of wheat from 12 to 15 bushels per acre are anticipated if rains occur within a week. Other crops are poor especially oats. Pastures are also very poor.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters' Association reports hail storms on July 17 at Rockglen (heavy); Torquay (medium); Pense (light to medium); Zehner and Wroxton (light); Sturgis (medium). Storms reported by the Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association include East Poplar on the 8th and on the 16th, Consul, south of Shaunavon and Admiral and also south of Kincaid and Woodrow. On the 17th storms occurred at Drinkwater, Pense, Zehner and Edenwold and from Rockglen to Big Beaver, Minton to Estevan and south of Glentworth. On the 19th storms occurred at Wood Mountain and Burnham.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 41 per cent below normal as compared with 39 per cent below normal a week ago, 40 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 7 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 24 was 2.4 degrees below normal as compared with 1.4 degrees below normal a week ago, 6.8 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 6.0 degrees above normal for the week ending July 25, 1960.

ALBERTA

Precipitation during the past ten days has improved drought-damaged crops in many parts of Alberta. Areas west of a line from Foremost in the south, through Drumheller and Sedgewick to the north will benefit most, with the feed situation in particular being helped. The rains further enhanced the good crop prospects in northern, northeastern and Peace River areas. The first hay cut is about completed in the south and more than half completed in the north. Livestock continue in generally good condition.

Crops are maturing rapidly in the Manyberries district in the southeast. Considerable acreages of the better stands are being cut for hay. Livestock are still in good condition although water supplies are critical. Conditions are still dry in the Medicine Hat district, with wheat yields expected to range from 0 to 10 bushels per acre, depending on locality. The first wheat delivered to Bow Island averaged 2 bushels per acre of No. 1 Northern weighing 63 pounds to the bushel. Irrigated crops are fair to good, but range pastures are poor. Livestock are in good condition.

Scattered showers occurred south of Calgary during the past two weeks, with three-quarters of an inch of precipitation at Lethbridge and increasing towards the Foothills. Many crops in this area on summerfallow will produce average yields and a few good stands of flax are in evidence. Swathing of winter wheat has started and

all irrigated crops are satisfactory. Some hail damage is reported. In the Cardston area 90 per cent hail damage is reported on 12 to 15 per cent of the crops. Swathing of fall crops has commenced, with winter wheat yielding from 25 to 50 bushels per acre. Combining is now delayed on account of rain. Harvesting of fall grains will be general by July 31. Spring crops are filling well but some parts of the district have too much moisture. Pastures and livestock are in good condition.

Rain in the south-central part of the province around Vulcan varied during the past week from showers to one inch. Flax appears to be the healthiest crop and is blooming well in the present cool weather. Spring wheat is expected to yield 10 to 12 bushels per acre in this district, with oats and barley at about 15. Rapeseed crops are poor.

Only a few light showers have fallen in the Hanna area in the past two weeks. The moisture received was insufficient to help crops. Haying is general, with wheat crops being cut for feed. Some parts of this area have suffered hail damage. With many farmers unable to obtain feed near their farms, it is expected that a number of cattle will be sold due to the feed shortage.

Frequent heavy showers during the past week have greatly improved general conditions in the Calgary district. Improved growth in pastures and green feed stands will ease feed problems. Cereal grains are practically all headed, and while stubble crops will be poor, summerfallow crops will now have moisture for filling and should produce fair yields. Moisture conditions are also much improved around Olds. Pastures should now improve and grains should fill well. Cool weather during the past several days has aided crop development. Some barley fields are turning colour and cutting of barley may begin in about two weeks' time.

All crops are in fairly good condition in the Sedgewick area of central Alberta, with up to 2 inches of rain being received last week. Wheat is filling well and has enough moisture to see it through. Prospects for oats and barley are good and the second hay crop should be very satisfactory. Pastures are improved. Since July 15, two and a half inches of rain have been received in the Donalds area. The rainfall has improved the prospects for late crops of coarse grains and will help fill wheat heads. Pastures are improving and feed supplies for cattle should be adequate. Farther south around Stettler a general rain of one inch has improved the feed situation and filling of wheat. Crop prospects range from very poor to fair, with the probable average yield of wheat placed at 10 bushels per acre.

General rain throughout the Red Deer district has improved crop prospects, particularly for hay and pasture. The grain crops are still much below average, but the rain should result in filling of early crops and increase growth of late-sown crops. The Lacombe area received 1.75 inches of rain during the past two weeks. This should be sufficient to fill cereals but may cause considerable second growth. Hay and pastures are somewhat improved but still require considerable moisture. Two inches of rain on July 16 and three-quarters of an inch on July 23 will greatly improve crop prospects in the Eckville area. Early barley is turning well and swathing will commence in ten days. The second cutting of alfalfa will begin soon, with fair yields anticipated. Pastures are improving and summerfallows are in fair condition.

A good rain last week in the Vermilion area east of Edmonton advanced crops rapidly. All wheat is headed with a possible average of 25 bushels to the acre.

Swathing of rapeseed will commence in about three weeks, with average yields expected. Approximately two and a half inches of rain over the past week end in the Edmonton area has assured sufficient moisture for complete maturing of crops. Cereal grains are now filling and prospects are for better than average yields. Warmer weather is now needed in this area. Heavy general rains also occurred throughout the Stony Plain area west of Edmonton, with crops and pastures benefiting from the moisture. Several farms south of Stony Plain were hailed July 23 with some fields a complete loss.

Abundant rains have provided excellent growing conditions in the Bonnyville area northeast of Edmonton. Present prospects are for good crops of grain and fodder. Good rains have been received in the Athabasca area where grain crops are heading on good stands. A very good hay crop has been harvested. Nearby at Colinton rainfall since May 1 has amounted to 8.6 inches. Most crops are good with wheat expected to average 23 bushels to the acre, oats 50 and barley 28. Hay crops have averaged two and a half tons to the acre. Clover seed is setting well and there should be an average crop in the district.

Recurrent rains have ensured sufficient moisture for filling of cereal crops in the Beaverlodge area of the Peace River District where all crops are well advanced. Haying and the fescue seed harvest have been hampered by rain. North of the Peace around Berwyn wheat and barley crop prospects are good, but oats are light in some areas. Rain on July 24 provided sufficient moisture to hold crops through the filling stage. Some barley fields are turning colour rapidly. The fescue and brome seed harvests are nearly completed. Brome yields were low, with fescue averaging 250 pounds per acre. The recent heavy rain caused considerable lodging of wheat, barley and rape.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports hailstorms as follows: July 14 - storm from Greencourt through Sangudo to north of Onoway then west to St. Albert ending at Fort Saskatchewan; July 15 and 16 - very severe storm, extending 60 miles, started west of Hillspring to Raley with heavy concentration four miles wide north of Cardston and Woolford and at Spring Coulee tapering off south to Milk River and Coutts. Windows were broken and poultry were killed by large jagged hail stones the size of golf balls. July 16 - spotty damage in the Airdrie district from a storm 4 miles wide and 6 miles long; July 18 - a storm commencing at Warspite caused damage up to 80 per cent to crops south of the North Saskatchewan river ranging through Andrew as far south as Wostok. Preliminary reports have been received of damage on July 21 at Cremona, Didsbury, Carstairs, Balzac and Airdrie, with a new storm reported July 22 at Cardston. The Canadian Hail Insurance Underwriters' Association reports medium hailstorms on July 14 in the Onoway-St. Albert area, and on July 16 in the Coaldale and Milk River areas. A medium to heavy storm was reported on July 17 in the Cardston area.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 10 per cent below normal as compared with 15 per cent below normal a week ago, 16 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 7 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 24 was 2.6 degrees above normal as compared with 0.2 degrees above normal a week ago, 3.8 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 3.3 degrees above normal for the week ending July 25, 1960.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Medium and late potato varieties are advancing rapidly on Vancouver Island and promise good yields. Winter cereals are being harvested now. The second crop of hay is light in the southern areas on account of drought conditions, but is good in northern areas where rainfall has been more adequate. The loganberry harvest is excellent. Harvesting of Close and Yellow Transparent varieties of apples has just started.

The large crop of cherries in the South Okanagan Valley is practically finished. The apricot harvest is nearing completion, with quality and size generally good. Picking of early peaches started this week while harvesting of the Red Haven variety is expected to commence around the first of August. A large peach crop of good quality is maturing nicely. Bartlett pears are sizing very well and there should be plenty of large fruit for the select dessert trade. The Anjou variety also promises a fine crop. Early summer cooking apples are being harvested now but are a little short of previous estimates.

The mid-July temperature in the North Okanagan Valley reached a high of one hundred degrees. Second-cut hay is expected to be light, except on irrigated locations. Very warm weather has reduced the field pea crop to one-half to three-quarters tons per acre. Combining of peas and fall wheat has been in progress since July 15. Cereal crop yields are expected to be slightly below average. Irrigated pastures are good, while non-irrigated ones and ranges are only fair.

Haying in the central interior region has been completed in good condition. Yields range from fair to poor due to lack of moisture and above normal temperatures. Cereal grains are in generally good condition.

Dry weather and above average temperatures are reported from the Lower Fraser Valley. The soil moisture deficiency calculated on July 24 was 1.32 inches greater than for the comparable date last year. The pea harvest has reached its peak while beans have just started, with satisfactory yields in prospect. Pastures are suffering from drought but the second crop of hay is of excellent quality.

Harvesting of first-cut hay has been completed in the Creston area, with yields reported above average. Winter wheat is being harvested now, and higher than average yields are expected. Harvesting of field peas has also started but yields are below average. All spring grains are headed and good yields are expected. Picking of small fruits is almost finished. Tree fruits are sizing well.

A hay crop of good quality has been harvested in the Peace River district. Forage seed crops are average. Cereal yields are expected to be 10 per cent above average. Barley is ripening fast. Wheat acreage is considerably larger than last year. Although moisture supplies are adequate more rains are needed for grain filling.

and otherwise good yields. The amount of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

The large crop of cereals in the district is estimated at 100,000 tons. The amount of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

The district is estimated to have a surplus of one hundred thousand tons of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

Yields range from 100 to 150 tons per acre. The district is estimated to have a surplus of one hundred thousand tons of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

Big weather and snow have caused a great deal of damage to the crops. The district is estimated to have a surplus of one hundred thousand tons of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

Harvesting of winter crops is well advanced. The district is estimated to have a surplus of one hundred thousand tons of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

A big crop of potatoes is expected. The district is estimated to have a surplus of one hundred thousand tons of hay to light in the combined area is estimated at 100,000 tons in northern areas where rainfall has been excellent, averaging 100 inches, just started.

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 24	
		July 24, 1961	April 1	April 1	1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.75	5.34	8.42	65	68
	Bede	1.01	5.01 ^{2/}	9.24	64	67
	Waskada	.30	3.04 ^{2/}	8.79	63	68
2	Boissevain	.35	5.78	8.41	63	67
	Deerwood	N.R.	2.96 ^{2/}	8.59	N.R.	68
	Ninette	.96	4.54	9.02	64	68
3	Pilot Mound	.77	4.13	8.62	64	68
	Portage la Prairie	.60	5.72	8.61	66	70
	Graysville	.48	3.51 ^{2/}	8.34	67	69
	Morden	1.23	4.29	8.83	65	70
	Altona	.74	5.34	8.16	64	70
	Morris	.93	5.11	7.62	66	70
	Roland	1.03	5.02	8.34	65	69
	Gretna	.89	4.91	8.16	66	70
	Emerson	.60	7.69	8.15	65	70
	Stonewall	.73	7.07	8.00	64	69
4	Winnipeg	.64	5.24	7.96	67	69
6	Sprague	1.29	4.46	8.88	66	66
	Seven Sisters Falls	.15	4.70	7.44	66	66
	Steinbach	.64	7.82	8.34	64	69
7	Virden	.14	3.38	7.99	66	69
	Reston	.15	4.82	8.49	64	69
	Rivers	.20	6.72	9.60	65	68
8	Brandon	.60	7.26	9.10	66	67
	Cypress River	.62	3.64	8.48	65	69
9	Neepawa	.39	5.55	8.25	66	68
	Grass River	.74	4.52	8.69	66	68
10	Russell	.29	3.40	7.64	64	66
	Rossburn	.68	4.88	7.73	65	65
	Birtle	.08	3.97	8.10	64	65
11	Dauphin	.67	4.50	7.89	64	68
12	Gimli	.65	5.56	8.44	66	68
13	Swan River	.54	2.99	7.50	64	64
	The Pas	.78	5.38	6.42	60	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.62	5.12	8.30	64.8	67.9
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.16	3.28	8.34	65	69
	Carlyle	.14	7.50	8.01	63	66
	Oxbow	Trace	2.34 ^{2/}	8.38	63	67
	Willmar	.31	2.47 ^{2/}	7.85	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.16	2.07	8.06	62	65
	Moosomin	.11	4.28	8.61	65	68

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 24	
		July 24, 1961	April 1	April 1	1961	Normal
		- inches -	- degrees F. -			
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
2A	Yellow Grass	.04	5.61	7.57	65	68
	Creelman	NIL	4.34	7.53	64	67
	Weyburn	.02	4.72	7.66	66	68
	Midale	NIL	4.09	7.36	66	68
	Claybank	.06	4.15	7.40	68	68
2B	Moose Jaw	.15	4.74	6.95	67	69
	Regina	.30	4.12	7.29	65	68
	Francis	.06	1.94	6.66	64	67
	Qu'Appelle	.12	2.13	7.92	64	67
	Indian Head	.01	2.25	7.30	64	67
3AS	Wilcox	N.R.	3.98 ^{2/}	7.43	N.R.	68
	Assiniboia	Trace	4.77	7.30	68	69
	Ormiston	.14	3.41	7.53	71	69
	Readlyn	.06	3.70	7.53	67	68
	Minton	.01	4.37	8.14	64	68
3AN	Cardross	NIL	4.72	7.53	64	69
	Ceylon	Trace	4.22	8.34	64	68
	Chaplin	.09	5.34	6.33	67	68
	Gravelbourg	.11	4.01	7.18	66	69
	Coderre	.15	5.86	6.98	64	69
3BS	Shaunavon	.01	3.80	6.63	67	68
	Cadillac	N.R.	2.05 ^{2/}	7.02	N.R.	68
	Pambrun	.04	4.24	7.36	70	68
	Aeroid	.19	3.41	6.65	67	68
	Instow	.02	3.45	6.64	61	68
3BN	Pennant	.20	5.48	6.51	67	69
	Swift Current	.66	5.25	7.09	66	68
	Hodgeville	.05	3.67	7.23	64	68
	Hughton	.01	4.28	5.94	67	68
	Maple Creek	.39	5.84	6.50	70	68
4A	Consul	.05	4.11	5.84	66	66
	Abbey	.15	4.69	5.73	68	68
5A	Cupar	.14	3.62	6.73	65	67
	Melville	.07	2.02	7.19	62	66
	Yorkton	.18	3.23	7.42	62	67
	Bangor	N.R.	2.31 ^{2/}	7.43	N.R.	67
	Defoe	.03	2.06	7.46	63	67
5B	Poam Lake	.07	2.53	7.55	62	66
	Lintlaw	.02	4.02	7.56	62	64
	Kamsack	.34	2.81	7.18	64	66
	Arran	.53	4.86	7.35	62	65
	Davidson	Trace	2.87	6.69	64	67
6A	Imperial	Trace	3.30	6.59	64	67
	Semans	NIL	3.41	5.97	64	67
	Strasbourg	.03	5.57	6.83	65	66

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 24, 1961	since April 1	since April 1	July 24	
			- inches -		1961	Normal
- degrees F. -						
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
6A	Watrous	NIL	4.75	6.30	63	67
6B	Harris	.21	5.06	6.21	64	67
	Outlook	.03	4.05	5.87	65	69
	Saskatoon	.01	5.36	6.97	65	67
	Elbow	NIL	4.46	6.06	66	68
	Tugaske	NIL	4.47	6.65	65	67
	Dundurn	.01	3.51	6.30	65	67
7A	Alsask	.03	3.20	5.84	67	67
	Kindersley	.12	4.89	5.73	68	67
	Rosetown	Trace	4.15	6.76	64	67
7B	Macklin	.25	7.25	6.38	66	66
	Denzil	.11	5.56	6.38	66	66
	Scott	.42	6.89	6.36	63	65
	Biggar	.26	4.88	6.46	67	68
8A	Hudson Bay	.19	3.14	7.50	59	65
	Porcupine Plain	Trace	3.57	7.46	64	66
	Prairie River	.02	3.15	7.26	58	66
	Armit	.54	4.34	7.50	60	66
8B	Humboldt	NIL	3.32	6.52	63	66
	Melfort	Trace	2.93	6.81	62	66
9A	North Battleford	.52	4.01	6.21	65	67
	Victoire	.10	3.27	6.35	62	63
	Prince Albert	.01	4.87	7.06	62	66
	Island Falls	1.43	5.27	6.69	59	64
9B	Waseca	.11	5.62	6.52	65	64
	St. Walburg	NIL	4.99	6.69	63	63
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.13	4.13	7.00	64.6	67.0
ALBERTA						
1	Empress	.13	2.53	4.51	70	71
	Foremost	.03	2.25	6.77	68	70
	Hanna	.05	3.82	6.52	68	65
	Manyberries	.09	2.85	5.50	70	70
	Medicine Hat	.51	3.52	5.88	72	71
	Naco	.11	3.56	5.62	65	66
	Winnifred	N.R.	1.46 ^{2/}	5.78	N.R.	N.R.
2	Brooks	.04	3.95	5.67	69	69
	Drumheller	.28	3.40	6.32	71	68
	Gleichen	.50	4.58	6.85	68	65
	Hays	.04	1.57	5.85	71	71
	Hussar	.21	3.94	6.69	N.R.	N.R.
	Raymond	.23	6.30	7.59	68	67
	Lethbridge	.45	5.86	7.62	70	66

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 24		
		July 24,1961	April 1	April 1	1961	Normal	
		- inches -	- degrees F. -				
ALBERTA (concluded)							
2	Strathmore	N.R.	3.26 ^{2/}	7.42	N.R.	64	
	Taber	Trace	3.24	6.48	68	64	
	Three Hills	1.08	7.91	7.17	65	64	
	Trochu	N.R.	5.58 ^{2/}	7.76	N.R.	64	
	Vulcan	.13	4.18	7.06	69	66	
3	Calgary	2.39	6.73	8.53	65	62	
	Cardston	.56	7.26	8.38	66	66	
	Pincher Creek	.19	10.09	9.34	66	62	
	Fort MacLeod	.52	7.36	8.32	69	68	
	High River	.78	7.10	9.37	64	61	
	Jasper	.73	5.92	4.88	65	61	
	Magrath	.30	7.40	8.20	69	66	
	Olds	.74	5.64 ^{2/}	8.45	64	62	
	4	Alliance	.42	5.64 ^{2/}	7.61	66	64
		Camrose	1.91	6.40	7.12	67	64
Coronation		.07	4.32	6.80	68	64	
Hughenden		.26	6.20	6.71	66	64	
Lloydminster		.05	6.67	6.50	67	65	
Stettler		.91	5.34	8.01	66	64	
Vegreville		1.03	7.02	6.77	67	65	
Vermilion		.15	7.55	7.00	66	63	
5		Edmonton	2.05	6.78	8.22	67	64
		Lacombe	.72	5.82	8.68	66	63
	Red Deer	.55	6.28	8.19	66	61	
	Rocky Mountain House	.28	7.55	10.69	64	61	
	Wetaskiwin	2.17	6.68	8.13	67	63	
6	Athabasca	1.15	7.99	7.16	65	61	
	Campsie	.69	9.15	8.46	64	62	
	Edson	1.74	9.41	8.88	65	60	
	Elk Point	.20	8.57	7.02	67	62	
	Embarras	.11	5.18	4.85	68	64	
	Lac la Biche	.97	6.97	7.22	66	64	
	Whitecourt	1.47	11.62	9.00	64	60	
7	Beaverlodge	1.66	7.69	6.19	66	61	
	Fairview	1.33	10.05 ^{2/}	6.42	67	61	
	Ft. Vermilion	N.R.	2.65 ^{2/}	5.03	N.R.	63	
	Grande Prairie	1.20	9.11	6.30	68	62	
	High Prairie	.75	8.31	7.38	63	62	
	Rycroft	1.45	8.53	6.12	65	62	
	Wagner	1.47	15.59	6.48	63	60	
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.70	6.43	7.14	66.8	64.2	

N.R. - No report.

^{1/} Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

^{2/} Incomplete; not included in average.