

22-002

no. 9

1961

Sept. 20

c. 2, 1961

No.



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

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. 21

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the last 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 last 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.

SUMMARY

Maritime Provinces Throughout most areas of the Maritime Provinces, grain harvesting is about half completed. Reports indicate that yields are generally about average. Potato digging is underway in New Brunswick and about one-half completed in Nova Scotia but not yet general in Prince Edward Island. Average yields are being obtained. Recent rains have greatly helped late crops and pastures. Frosts have occurred in the two mainland provinces, killing tender plants.

Quebec Unfavourable weather conditions has hampered harvesting in the Province of Quebec, increased the amount of lodging and reduced yields. However, in the south of the province farmers are well advanced with their grain cutting and yields compare favourably with average. In the Montreal area, second-cut hay is being put up and corn silage making has commenced. Good yields are reported. Throughout the province pastures and hay aftermath have grown very well due to the moist condition of the soil. As a result of the dense and lush pasture growth, cattle are doing very well with a very good milk flow for this time of the year. Market garden crops are yielding well and quality is high. Potatoes, which looked very promising earlier, were affected by the late heat. The first frosts have terminated the flue-cured tobacco harvest. Good yields and quality are reported. Apple orchards, which escaped hail damage in May and August and which were protected by regular sprays, will produce about a normal crop. Fall work is now general on farms in Quebec. Reports from Quebec City summarize the situation by saying that this has turned out to be a good season in spite of difficulties arising from a succession of adverse climatic conditions.

Ontario Harvesting of spring grains is nearing completion in southern and western Ontario while somewhat more acreage remains in eastern areas of the province. Some loss in quality will result from adverse harvesting conditions in many districts. Combined warm and damp weather aided development of both silage and grain corn, and yield prospects are generally good. In southern and western Ontario harvesting of tomatoes and processing corn is at its peak. Picking of late peaches is progressing and the apple harvest has commenced. Harvesting of tobacco is generally nearing completion. Pastures are in excellent condition in almost all districts of the province.

Note: Date for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

5502-508.21

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

Prairie Provinces Harvesting of cereal grains has been practically completed in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and nearing completion in most parts of Alberta. Recent wet weather has delayed operations in the latter province. Varying amounts of flax remain to be harvested with operations least advanced in Alberta. Good progress has been made with fall work where moisture conditions warrant cultivation. Many farmers are avoiding cultivation because the soil is too dry in their area. Shortage of water for livestock is a problem on many farms and there is considerable concern about lack of subsoil reserves for next season's crop.

British Columbia Generally good harvesting weather has prevailed in all sections of British Columbia. All major crops have been taken off in good condition. Late potato digging is well advanced and average yields are being reported. Good quality grain crops with about average yields are reported from most sections. Both pasture lands and orchards are in excellent condition for this time of the year.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Prince Edward Island reports considerable rainfall during the past two weeks which has improved growing conditions for all late crops and pastures. Farmers have harvested at least half of their grain crops with average yields being general. Potato harvesting, however, is not yet general. The crop is growing well although slight infestations of late blight are reported in some areas. It is not expected, however, that this will be severe enough to affect the crop. Early potato varieties have matured with a light crop reported. The later varieties on the other hand are expected to produce average yields. Cucumber yields so far are reported to be satisfactory. Cranberries are sizing well. Blueberry picking was completed last week with quality good and yields above average.

Farmers in the Amherst District of Nova Scotia have obtained better than average hay yields this season. Oats in that district are yielding 75 bushels per acre from the early-sown crop and 50 bushels from late seedings. Legumes are very prominent in new seeding. Silage corn is yielding 8 to 10 tons per acre and pastures are above average. The blueberry crop was reduced and quality lowered because of the mid-season drought. At Truro farmers have nearly finished harvesting an above-average grain crop, field work being favoured by fine, cool harvest weather. Root crops were helped by a very heavy rain on September 15. Aftermath is growing well and some improvement is reported on pastures. The potato crop is good. A heavy frost occurred on September 18 doing considerable damage to tender vegetables. In the Annapolis Valley soil conditions are again becoming dry and the first frost which occurred on September 17 killed all tender crops. Growers are digging potatoes with poor to average yields reported. Grain yields, however, are good but considerable areas have not yet been harvested. Picking Gravenstein apples is progressing rapidly. Wind last Friday slightly reduced the crop prospects, however. Pickling cucumbers were excellent in most areas. Tomato yields on the other hand were poor and pears which are now being picked are showing very variable yields. Pastures and aftermath grass have improved. In the northern area of the province about one-third of the grain has been harvested and good pastures and root crop growth are reported. Fall ploughing is in progress throughout Nova Scotia.

Reports from Fredericton, New Brunswick, indicate heavy frosts in the north and central parts of the province on September 16 and 17 as well as light frosts elsewhere which killed most tender plants. In the Fredericton areas farmers are making good progress with the grain harvest, with 50 per cent or more of this work now done. Yields, however, are below average to average with late grain darkened

by weather. Pastures are holding well in most areas and aftermath growth is good following the warm weather and sufficient rain of the past three weeks. Silage corn is nearly ready for cutting. Potato digging is underway with an average crop in prospect. The timothy seed crop is expected to be very much below that of last year but clover seed production prospects are very much better. Hail and wind have reduced apple crop prospects by about 10 per cent, with an average crop still expected. Considerable fall ploughing has been done. Reports from Andover indicate showers and wet weather during the past week have held up grain harvesting. However, about 50 per cent of the crop has been cut. With dry weather, potato harvesting will be general this week but as the ground is now wet more rain could seriously hamper activity.

QUEBEC

At L'Assomption in the province of Quebec farmers have completed harvesting flue-cured and cigar tobacco. Silage corn is very good and canneries are processing sweet corn. Sugar beets are quite promising, and pastures and aftermath growth are described as good. St. John's reports no frost yet. Harvesting of canning crops has been completed. Tomatoes are plentiful but quality is low. Corn on the other hand has yielded well with high quality. Growers are beginning to pick McIntosh apples this week.

Farther east at Lennoxville cereal crops are described as poor. Corn is fair and silage making started on September 15. Pastures are good and aftermath growth normal. Heavy rains of 1.9 inches last week delayed grain harvesting at Ste. Anne de la Pocatière. However, 75 per cent of the crop has been harvested with about average yields and somewhat below average quality reported. Pastures, aftermath growth, fodder corn and rutabagas are all very good.

At Normandin heavy precipitation during the last two weeks has made field work difficult. Where grains are not badly lodged, 50 per cent of the crop is in the stook or swath. Little damage has occurred as yet. Pastures and aftermath growth are excellent. Frost on September 17 killed all tender crops, potato tops and ended the blueberry harvest. At Caplan cool weather during the last part of August and early September delayed grain maturity. In the western part of the area, harvesting is well advanced but little has been done from Caplan east. At the Experimental Farm no grain has yet been cut although the first white frost was reported on September 17. Milk production is still good because of the heavy re-growth in hay fields. As a result of the cool summer, sweet corn and tomato yields were low. Potato digging is just commencing and lower than average yields are anticipated as a result of excess moisture.

ONTARIO

Harvesting of spring grains was generally completed in Simcoe County last week. Operations were difficult and some low-lying fields remained uncut or unthreshed. The combination of lodged grain and wet harvesting conditions may result in a yield loss of from 15 to 20 per cent. Silage corn is late, but the tonnage appears high. The tobacco harvest is progressing well and there has been no frost to date. Potato growers are discouraged by the worst blight outbreak in years. Some fields are a total loss, but many producers hope to save the tubers by killing the tops early. The Lafontaine seed area is less affected than commercial areas. In Bruce County farmers had a good week of harvesting the first week of September, but there was

almost no harvesting done during the second week. Harvesting is now progressing rapidly, with about 80 per cent of the spring grain harvest completed. The grain is high in moisture and there has been considerable waste. Turnip yields will be heavy, with the turnips too large for shipping. Corn and pastures are in excellent condition.

The week of September 4 saw excellent progress in the harvesting of spring grains in Wellington County. During the following week, however, operations were slowed by scattered showers. Approximately 40 per cent of the crop remains to be handled. Pasture conditions are excellent and forage corn should yield above average. Some ploughing has been done. This week should see the completion of harvesting in Waterloo County. Seeding of wheat is underway, but due to the lateness of the season it is expected that the acreage will be reduced somewhat. Moisture conditions are becoming dry in areas of light land. Pastures remain adequate.

Harvesting of oats is being completed in Middlesex County, although wet weather and excessive lodging have slowed operations. Yields were normal, but considerable loss occurred in harvesting and some of the grain is discoloured. Tobacco priming is nearly completed. Some fall wheat has been seeded. Silo filling is becoming general and husking corn has matured rapidly. The last of the canning corn crop is being processed. Some areas are becoming dry as there have been only light showers during the past two weeks. Seeding of fall wheat has commenced in Essex County. Soybeans are maturing and yield prospects look good. Corn is showing some leaf blight damage but yield prospects remain generally good. Silo filling is continuing. Harvesting of burley tobacco is nearing completion. Picking of processing tomatoes is continuing, with both yields and quality reported to be excellent. Processors are unable to cope with the supply and most growers are on delivery quotas of 24 to 38 baskets per acre per day. Sugar beets are making good growth. Later varieties of peaches and apples are being harvested.

Cooler weather has brought some relief to Kent County. Harvesting of tomatoes and processing corn is at its peak, with above average quality and yields reported. White beans have blighted badly. Soybeans look excellent although maturity is somewhat delayed. Sugar beet prospects are good, but some blight has appeared in the past week. Helminthosporium leaf blight on corn is causing some concern, but yield prospects remain excellent. There are no serious insect infestations at present. Harvesting of spring grains is now completed in Norfolk County and yields were better than expected, but quality was lower than normal. Harvesting of tobacco is rapidly nearing completion and the crop appears to be excellent with very little loss due to hail or frost. Harvesting of early McIntosh apples has commenced and cool weather has improved colour. Silage and grain corn indicate almost record crops. Harvesting of Elberta peaches, Fredonia grapes and prunes has started about a week later than usual in Lincoln County. The quality of these crops is good. Most crops appear comparatively free of major insect pests.

The past week has been cooler in Prince Edward County. Moisture supplies are variable and some leaves on grain corn are drying. Harvesting of oats is completed, yielding about 20 bushels per acre. Harvesting of tomatoes is about 40 per cent completed. Some 10 per cent of the apple crop is harvested, but colouring is 5 days later than usual. There is a very good crop of potatoes.

Harvesting of spring grains is nearing completion in Leeds County with fair yields and quality reported. The usual small acreage of fall wheat has been sown. The corn crop is much improved and yield prospects are fair to good. Silo filling has commenced. Pastures are in excellent condition and winter supplies of roughage will be sufficient. Good harvest weather during the past two weeks has enabled farmers in

Renfrew County to harvest all but about 5 per cent of the spring grains. The balance of the crop is slowly being combined. Silage corn is producing a high yield, but maturity is late and there has been some frost damage. Silo filling has commenced. There have been 100 kilns of flue-cured tobacco harvested from 137 acres and no frost damage is reported.

In Carleton County severe lodging, wet ground and occasional showers have delayed completion of the grain harvest and storing of second-cut hay. Harvesting of silage corn has commenced, but this crop is maturing well and the majority will be left until the first killing frost. Pastures continue to flourish.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that very frequent rains and cold weather have hampered harvesting of grain crops in that area. Fields are thoroughly soaked and practically all operations are impossible. Grass and legume crops, however, are making good growth due to the wet weather.

MANITOBA

Threshing of cereal grains is completed in Manitoba except for occasional fields east of the Red River and in the Swan River Valley. Flax is about 50 per cent threshed and unsettled weather is further delaying completion of harvesting. Special crops are all harvested except sugar beets and sunflowers. Potato digging is well underway, the crop being about one-half of average. Lifting of sugar beets is slated to begin next week and about 9 tons per acre are expected. Water shortage is serious in many districts. Fodder supplies on the whole are likely to be nearly adequate if distribution is made to places where need is greatest.

Except for the odd field of flax, harvesting of grain is completed at Altona in southern Manitoba and fall tillage operations are well advanced. Rain on Tuesday will soften the soil and aid in the harvesting of sugar beets which is scheduled to commence next Monday. The potato harvest is 30 per cent completed and only about a one-third crop is being taken off. Sunflowers are maturing nicely but require a frost before harvesting. Good yields are expected. Pastures are now fair and much pasture is being provided by growth in stubble fields. In the Morden district, 2.3 inches of rain were received during the last two weeks. Harvesting of wheat and coarse grains has been completed and crops were about 50 per cent of normal. Flax harvesting is 75 per cent finished and canning crops are all harvested. About 70 per cent of the fall tillage has been done and the late potato harvest has commenced. Potatoes are yielding about 60 per cent of normal. The sunflower and sugar beet harvests will begin soon. Farmers are spraying to kill Canada thistle. Water supplies are low in this area.

Farther west at Somerset cereal harvesting is completed and fall field work is well advanced. Yields were variable with wheat ranging from 8 to 20 bushels per acre with an average of 12, and oats averaging 20. Flax harvesting is 75 per cent complete and the average yield is 6 bushels. Conditions are still very dry in this area and the lack of water may be a problem in the winter. Canada thistle is more prevalent than usual in many fields. Only 0.2 inches of rain were received at Melita during the past week. Considerable fall rye is being seeded in the district. Pastures are making a recovery and livestock have been moving out of the area in a gradual flow. Some farmers are still short of feed. A few fields of late flax remain to be harvested.

East of Winnipeg at Beauséjour harvesting of wheat and barley has been completed, oats 90 per cent and flax 10 per cent completed. Yields on seeded acreage average about 20 bushels for wheat, 30 for oats, 10 for barley and 8 for flaxseed. Fall tillage is well advanced but is being hampered by extremely dry soil conditions. Pastures are quite dry. There is a good supply of baled oat and wheat straw in the district. In the Stonewall area harvesting is also completed except for a small area around the town. In all parts of the district flax harvesting has just started and an 8 bushels per acre outturn is expected. Winter feed supplies appear to be adequate and with isolated exceptions cattle are still on pasture. Some additional feeding, however, is now necessary. Fall field work has progressed rapidly and should be completed well before winter sets in. The drought continues and is making tillage difficult. Our correspondent from Portage La Prairie states that two good days should virtually complete harvesting in that area. Crop yields generally have been better than expected with some excellent yields reported by some farmers. Estimated average yields are wheat 17, barley 18, oats 20 and flax 7. Wheat is grading No. 1 and 2 Northern. Supplies of hay and straw appear adequate but shortage of water for livestock is a problem on many farms. Sugar beets are expected to average 8 to 9 tons per acre and harvesting will commence next Monday. Potato yields were much below normal in this district.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that recent rains have improved surface moisture conditions but sub-soil moisture supplies are still inadequate. Pastures are recovering from the drought. Except for an odd field of flax, harvesting is completed and fall field work is in full swing. The grain crop felled better than was anticipated earlier. Harvesting is also completed at Virden except for the odd field of flax. Crop yields range from poor to very poor in this district. Fall work is not progressing rapidly as many farmers are hesitant to work the stubble down this fall. Fall rye seeding is still underway. Pastures have improved somewhat by recent rains but reserve moisture is quite inadequate.

At Arbog in the Interlake area, harvesting is practically completed and average yields for wheat and oats are 16 bushels, 23 for barley and 8 for flax. Fields actually harvested yielded higher than these indications but average yields per seeded acre were reduced by quantities of crops cut for feed and by frost damage on peat lands. Moisture conditions are fair and feed supplies are adequate in the district.

In west-central Manitoba at Neepawa harvesting is almost completed with some flax left to be done. Average yields were low this year with wheat at 9, oats 17, barley 12 and flax 5. Hay and fodder supplies will meet minimum requirements but the water supply is inadequate. Fall field work is difficult because of the hard, dry soil.

In northern Manitoba at Dauphin harvesting is completed and fall field work is well advanced. There has been an excellent fall weed growth on fields making it possible for farmers to obtain a kill. Pastures have improved with recent rains but many farmers are short of water and are obliged to haul water to their farms. Gardens and potato yields range from poor to fair. In the Swan River Valley the weather remains dry and harvesting is almost completed. Wheat ranged from 10 to 30 bushels per acre, barley 10 to 40 and oats 20 to 40. Rapeseed averaged about 900 pounds per acre. Some fall cultivation has been done. Water supplies are scarce in the district.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that the grasshopper egg survey in southwestern Manitoba revealed that in some areas infestation is equal to that found during the adult survey and in other areas there has been an increase in the degree of severity. The area infested has also increased. Infestations are present along roadsides, pastures and forage crop fields.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 47 per cent below normal as compared with 46 per cent below normal a week ago, 48 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 15 per cent below normal for the same time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 18 was 0.1 degrees below normal as compared with 0.5 degrees below normal a week ago and in contrast to 6.9 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 0.9 degrees above normal for the week ending September 19, 1960.

SASKATCHEWAN

Harvesting weather has been favourable in Saskatchewan during the past two weeks and this has resulted in rapid progress in the later crop areas. Operations are now practically completed in all districts with only the odd field of flax remaining to be harvested. The quality of grain is excellent and while yields are quite variable within regions, outturns were better than expected in some districts. Dry weather conditions still prevail over most of the province and water shortages are creating serious problems in many areas.

At Willmar, in the southeast part of the province harvesting is completed with wheat averaging 2, rye 5, and flax 2 bushels per acre. Oats and barley fields in this district were cut for fodder. Some 2.4 inches of rain earlier in September improved soil moisture reserves and farmers are sowing considerable quantities of fall rye. Pastures are bare and cattle are grazing on stubble fields. Grain deliveries in the district are light. With the exception of some flax the harvest is complete in the Fillmore district. Average yields were generally poor with wheat turning out 5 bushels per harvested acre, barley and oats 10, and flax 7 to 8 bushels per harvested acre. Recent rains have stimulated growth on crop lands but grazing is scarce and fodder supplies are being stretched out by using baled straw.

Cereal crops are all harvested and 75 per cent of the flax has been threshed around Indian Head. A rain of 1.27 inches on September 2 revived pastures to some extent. Considerable fall tillage has been carried out and a good growth of weeds and volunteer grain is evident. A considerable acreage of fall rye was seeded in the area following rains on September 2 and this crop is making excellent growth. Sub-soil moisture is still deficient as the last rain only penetrated from 7 to 8 inches. Cattle are going into the winter in reasonably good condition but lack of adequate water for livestock is proving a problem for some farmers.

In the southwest part of the province the Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that frosts severe enough to kill Russian thistle have occurred in some parts of the district. These weeds have been a problem on summerfallows and in some flax fields this fall. The flax harvest is now completed. The weather remains dry and sub-soil moisture supplies are very low. Increased seedings of fall rye are noted in the Big Beaver district. This crop germinated in about three days and early-seeded fields are now up about 3 inches. About half an inch of rain was received on Monday last and soil moisture supplies are now fairly good. Pasture lands are turning green.

About half an inch of rain was received recently in the Eastend district along with several nights of freezing temperatures. The harvest is completed except for 3 per cent of the flax. Our correspondent estimates district yields as follows: wheat 4; oats 7; barley 6; fall rye 12; and flax 3 bushels per acre. Some 75 per cent of the wheat is expected to grade No. 1 Northern and the other 25 per cent is expected to grade No. 2 Northern. The winter feed supply is improving. At Leader all crops have been threshed and flax yields were light. There has been no significant fall precipitation to date.

The harvest is nearing completion in the Togo district of east-central Saskatchewan, with green second-growth retarding completion in most cases. Yields in the district are very variable. A good rain recently has improved moisture supplies but soils generally are dangerously dry. Pastures are 50 per cent of normal. Fall work is well advanced. Cool temperatures and three-quarters of an inch of rain at Willowbrook have revived plant growth and early-seeded fall rye is up and showing a nice stand. Grasslands are turning green and should make good pasture in a week or so. About half an inch of rain Monday night will further improve conditions.

In the west-central part of the province around Rosetown threshing is practically completed with wheat averaging 10 and flax 8 bushels per acre. Fall moisture is badly needed in the district but no fodder problem is expected. Harvesting is also completed in the Scott district except for some small areas in the extreme northwest. The weather remains very dry and moisture reserves are low. Some summerfallows are on the verge of drifting. Heavy frosts have stopped most weed growth.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort, in the northeast part of the province reports that the harvest is completed except for the odd field of flax. Wheat yields generally have run slightly better than expected while flax outturns have been variable with the average being about 10 or 11 bushels per acre. Due to the extremely dry soil conditions very little fall tillage has been undertaken to date. The feed situation is fair but pastures are poor. Light frosts have been recorded during several nights recently.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports two small hail storms since the last report, both on September 13. These occurred at Carlyle, and Ratcliffe. The number of claims received this year is only about 35 per cent of a year ago but a large number of farmers cancelled policies because of the poor crop outlook. Losses will be a little less than 2 per cent of the total insurance written.

The unweighted average precipitation since April 1 has been 47 per cent below normal compared with 45 per cent below normal a week ago, 44 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 13 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 18, 1961 was 1.1 degrees above normal compared with 1.9 degrees below normal a week ago, 4.2 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 4.4 degrees above normal for the week ending September 19, 1960.

ALBERTA

Showers have delayed harvesting operations in many districts of Alberta, but progress in all areas is much ahead of normal. Yields are reported to be generally better than anticipated, and grades not adversely affected by showers are good. Corn and canning crops have been harvested and sugar beet digging began last week. Threshing of about half the legume seed crops has been completed in parts of the Peace River district, but is only beginning elsewhere. Digging of late potatoes is getting under-way. Cattle are in good condition but considerable fodder and grain are moving into the areas affected by drought. Pasture grass and stubble are very short in these areas and feeding will start early regardless of weather. Dry soil will limit the amount of fall work farmers will attempt.

Harvesting is practically completed in the southeastern part of the province around Manyberries and Medicine Hat. The Research Station at Lethbridge reports the cereal harvest is almost complete in that area except for the extreme southwest where recent showers have caused delay. Flax is being swathed. Yields are generally a little better than expected. The sugar beet harvest has started and potato digging

has been underway during the past two weeks, with average yields reported. Rains have promoted good stands of winter wheat. Killing frosts have been spotty so far. Harvesting of wheat and coarse grains is nearly completed in the Claresholm area, with swathing of flax underway. Some fields of this crop are still green. Completion of harvest is delayed owing to wet weather.

Harvesting of cereals is nearly finished in the Brooks area, with wheat generally grading No. 2 Northern and flax No. 1 C.W. Forty per cent of the flax has been threshed so far. Yields on irrigated cereal crops and flax are about 60 per cent of normal due to extreme heat and drought during the growing season. The alfalfa hay crop has been excellent, with some farmers obtaining three cuttings and up to six tons per acre. Peas for seed are fair. Sunflowers and potatoes still remain for harvest. Farther west around Vulcan, harvesting is nearly completed, with about 2 per cent of the wheat and 25 per cent of the flax remaining to be threshed. Rapeseed in this district yielded about 1,000 pounds per acre, with flax also averaging better than expected. Rain on September 18 halted all harvesting.

East of Calgary in the Hanna district harvesting is completed with yields averaging about one bushel per seeded acre. Pastures are very poor and feed is being trucked in from outside districts. Feeding of milk cows and some range cattle is general. Wheat threshed in this district graded mostly 2 Northern with good weight. Harvesting is almost completed in the Calgary district except for some flax. Average yields here are reported to be as follows: wheat 16 bushels per acre; oats 31; barley 24; flax 10; and rye 18. Farther north at Olds cool damp weather has retarded harvesting during the past two weeks, although some progress has been made. Wheat is about 75 per cent completed, oats 70 per cent and barley 80 per cent, with yields placed respectively at 20, 40 and 25 bushels per acre. About half an inch of rain has fallen in the last two weeks.

Around Sedgewick in central Alberta, threshing is 95 per cent completed, with wheat averaging 20 bushels per acre and grading mostly No. 2 and 3 Northern. Oats are averaging about 35 bushels per acre and barley 30 bushels. Feed is plentiful. The potato crop is very good. Harvesting is well underway in the Donalda district, with about 80 per cent completed. Wheat is averaging around 10 bushels, oats 20 and barley 15 bushels per acre. Wheat is grading No. 2 and 3 Northern. Pastures are still holding well and the feed situation is fair to good in this area. The potato crop is turning out fairly well. Harvest is reported to be 90 per cent completed at Stettler with wheat averaging about 10 bushels and coarse grains 15 bushels per acre. Crops were taken off in dry condition, with wheat grading 2 and 3 Northern. A shortage of feed oats is evident.

In the west-central part of the province around Red Deer and Lacombe weather conditions improved somewhat last week and harvesting resumed. Given favourable weather harvesting should be completed within the next few days.

Ninety per cent of the harvest is completed in the Vermilion area east of Edmonton. Scattered showers early in the week were expected to delay completion of harvest for two or three days. All crops yielded well in this area and fall field work will start immediately. West of Edmonton around Stony Plain some 80 per cent of the grain is harvested and it is about 50 per cent done in areas farther west. Most of the unthreshed grain is in swath or stooks. Yields and quality have been better than expected in most cases. Harvesting was getting underway over the past weekend following earlier rains in the northeastern part of the province. With continued favourable weather, operations should be completed shortly.

In the Beaverlodge area south of the Peace River harvesting is approaching completion. Cereal crops are mature but operations were stopped by a weekend rain. The Experimental Farm estimates that 10 per cent of the wheat, 40 per cent of the flax and 50 per cent of the alsike are still standing. In the Fort Vermilion area in the far north of the province showery weather, with morning dews and fogs, has delayed completion of threshing operations. However, about two more days of dry weather should see completion of harvest. Yields of flax and rapeseed have been good despite lack of summer precipitation. Flax is estimated at 10 bushels and rapeseed at 800 pounds per acre. Potatoes are poor and a shortage is anticipated.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports light damage from a storm on September 3 at North Star. Spotty claims were reported from Greisbach, Morinville, Bon Accord and Fort Saskatchewan on September 5. Scattered light damage occurred at Manning, Spirit River and North Star on September 8 with some hail activity in the Mundare district on September 11.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has averaged 12 per cent below normal compared with 11 per cent below normal a week ago, 8 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 9 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 18 was 2.0 degrees above normal in contrast to 3.0 degrees below normal a week ago and compared with 2.0 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 6.0 degrees above normal for the week ending September 19, 1960.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The peach harvest is completed in the South Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. Picking of McIntosh apples has passed its peak, while harvesting of the Bosc and Anjou varieties of pears is just starting. Picking of Italian prunes is almost completed while harvesting of the Red Delicious Variety of apples is commencing now. The grape harvest is at its peak.

In the North Okanagan Valley all harvesting except a few fields of fourth-cut alfalfa is completed. The weather remains dry. Fall seeding is underway with the occasional field of fall wheat showing green. In spite of the record temperatures the crop season was generally good. In the Kamloops and southern Caribou regions cattle are descending from the higher ranges. Frost at higher elevations is curing vegetation. Some late hay is being cut now. Harvesting of tomatoes and apples is nearly completed. The main crop of potatoes is being dug.

Very dry weather with almost no rainfall from September 5 to date is reported from the Lower Fraser Valley. However, soil moisture is adequate for current needs. Pastures are showing a good recovery. The canning corn harvest is near completion with good yields reported. Silage corn is being harvested now with excellent quality and yields. Cruciferous crops are generally satisfactory. The fall clean-up on berry plantations is in progress.

On Vancouver Island harvesting of second-early potatoes is in full progress, with good yields reported. The late potato crop is expected to be average or above. Dryland pastures are bare and supplementary feeding of dairy herds is extensive. The harvest of McIntosh apples is complete and yields are reported poor. In the Skeena Region harvesting of cereal and seed crops is about 60 per cent complete with good quality and above average yields. Digging of the potato crop has just begun.

Harvesting in the Peace River Block is about 85 per cent completed. Some clover seed, oats and wheat remain in fields on account of rains. The quality of grain crops is good.

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.	
		Sept.18,1961	April 1	April 1	Sept.18 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.22	7.35	12.09	53	54
	Bede	.22	6.27	13.19	54	53
	Waskada	.72	5.17 ^{2/}	12.39	54	55
2	Boissevain	.33	7.53	12.53	55	54
	Deerwood	.31	4.81	12.59	56	54
	Ninette	.13	6.05	13.00	54	54
	Pilot Mound	.31	5.47	13.05	54	56
3	Portage la Prairie	Trace	6.97	12.72	56	55
	Graysville	.22	4.73 ^{2/}	12.07	52	55
	Morden	.25	5.96	12.86	56	56
	Altona	.14	6.99	12.53	57	56
	Morris	.58	7.02	11.86	55	56
	Roland	.43	6.13	12.51	54	55
	Gretna	.20	6.18	12.73	55	56
	Emerson	.30	9.89	12.67	53	56
	Stonewall	NIL	8.68	12.54	52	55
4	Winnipeg	Trace	6.31	12.49	55	55
6	Sprague	.19	8.14	14.26	50	52
	Seven Sisters Falls	Trace	6.08	12.14	52	53
	Steinbach	.21	9.33	12.96	52	56
7	Virden	.21	5.67	11.79	53	54
	Reston	N.R.	4.96 ^{2/}	12.19	N.R.	54
	Rivers	.13	8.19	13.31	55	54
8	Brandon	.23	8.62	13.39	54	53
	Cypress River	.07	4.82	12.26	54	54
9	Neepawa	.03	6.97	12.49	56	54
	Grass River	Trace	5.22	12.88	55	55
10	Russell	.13	4.70	11.29	52	51
	Rosburn	.11	5.14 ^{2/}	11.62	55	52
	Birtle	.26	5.74	12.15	54	52
11	Dauphin	NIL	6.39	11.61	54	55
12	Gimli	NIL	7.49	12.52	54	54
13	Swan River	NIL	3.54	11.57	54	51
	The Pas	.23	6.59	10.59	52	51
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.19	6.64	12.44	54.0	54.1
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.18	5.38	12.09	55	55
	Carlyle	.40	9.52	11.38	N.R.	52
	Oxbow	N.R.	3.70 ^{2/}	11.84	N.R.	54
	Willmar	.24	6.51	11.33	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.04	3.85	12.40	54	51
	Moosomin	.19	6.01	12.49	56	53
2A	Yellow Grass	N.R.	8.26 ^{2/}	10.68	N.R.	54
	Creelman	.02	5.86	10.95	54	53
	Weyburn	.03	6.54	10.88	55	54
	Midale	.16	5.27	10.59	56	54
	Claybank	N.R.	4.93 ^{2/}	10.38	N.R.	53

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. Sept.18,1961	since April 1	since April 1	Sept.18 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
2B	Moose Jaw	Trace	5.47	9.83	57	55
	Regina	Trace	4.58	10.28	55	53
	Francis	N.R.	3.78 ^{2/}	10.02	N.R.	53
	Qu'Appelle	.04	4.22	11.40	54	53
	Indian Head	.08	4.27	10.60	56	53
	Wilcox	NIL	6.17	10.41	54	53
3AS	Assiniboia	NIL	5.92	10.12	56	54
	Ormiston	NIL	5.65	10.52	55	54
	Readlyn	N.R.	4.19 ^{2/}	10.52	N.R.	53
	Minton	.02	7.03	11.46	52	54
	Cardross	NIL	6.06	10.35	53	54
	Ceylon	.06	6.18	11.82	52	54
3AN	Chaplin	.03	5.58	9.14	55	53
	Gravelbourg	.02	4.66	9.81	53	54
	Coderre	NIL	7.06	9.87	54	54
3BS	Shaunavon	.16	5.03	8.95	53	54
	Cadillac	N.R.	2.68 ^{2/}	10.08	N.R.	53
	Pambrun	.02	4.60	10.28	52	54
	Aneroid	.02	3.87	9.18	52	54
3EN	Instow	.15	5.13	9.39	52	54
	Pennant	.08	5.76 ^{2/}	8.98	56	54
	Swift Current	.04	5.91	10.28	55	54
	Hodgeville	NIL	4.19 ^{2/}	10.18	54	54
	Hughton	NIL	4.65 ^{2/}	8.53	54	54
4A	Maple Creek	NIL	7.53 ^{2/}	8.96	54	54
	Consul	NIL	5.31 ^{2/}	8.03	54	52
4B	Abbey	NIL	5.54 ^{2/}	8.23	54	54
5A	Cupar	NIL	4.86	9.77	54	53
	Melville	.09	3.14	10.66	53	52
	Yorkton	NIL	4.39	10.94	55	52
	Bangor	Trace	3.17	10.98	55	52
5B	Dafoe	NIL	2.50	11.96	54	52
	Foam Lake	N.R.	2.76 ^{2/}	11.16	N.R.	52
	Lintlaw	N.R.	4.72 ^{2/}	11.06	N.R.	50
	Kamsack	NIL	3.22	10.79	54	52
	Arran	NIL	5.22	10.96	50	51
6A	Davidson	Trace	4.89	8.82	51	53
	Imperial	Trace	4.74	9.17	55	53
	Semans	.08	4.07	8.67	55	53
	Strasbourg	Trace	4.87	9.74	55	53
	Watrous	NIL	5.61	8.83	54	53
6B	Harris	NIL	5.22 ^{2/}	8.67	54	52
	Outlook	NIL	4.27	8.12	56	54
	Saskatoon	Trace	8.15	9.84	55	53
	Elbow	NIL	5.47	8.11	54	53
	Tugaske	.11	5.42	9.18	53	53
7A	Dundurn	.02	4.47	8.96	55	53
	Alsask	NIL	3.47	7.85	53	52
	Kindersley	Trace	5.35	8.32	54	52
	Rosetown	.45	4.82	9.45	52	53

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

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept.18,1961	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. Sept.18 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
7B	Macklin	NIL	9.37	9.17	51	52
	Denzil	Trace	6.47	9.17	54	52
	Scott	NIL	7.80	9.27	52	51
	Biggar	.18	6.25	9.32	55	53
8A	Hudson Bay	.01	4.59	11.05	53	50
	Porcupine Plain	N.R.	4.50 ^{2/}	10.86	N.R.	52
	Prairie River	NIL	4.66 ^{2/}	10.75	53	52
	Armit	N.R.	6.19 ^{2/}	11.05	N.R.	52
8B	Humboldt	NIL	3.84	8.97	56	52
	Melfort	NIL	4.10	10.47	53	51
9A	North Battleford	Trace	4.94	9.09	55	53
	Victoire	.03	5.75	9.78	53	49
	Prince Albert	Trace	6.16	10.45	50	51
	Island Falls	.02	7.94	11.79	49	49
9B	Waseca	.17	7.09	9.52	54	50
	St. Walburg	N.R.	7.10 ^{2/}	10.03	N.R.	49
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.05	5.38	10.06	53.8	52.7
ALBERTA						
1	Empress	Trace	3.06	6.60	53	55
	Foremost	.02	4.81	9.40	53	54
	Hanna	NIL	5.52	8.88	51	51
	Manyberries	N.R.	4.15 ^{2/}	7.10	N.R.	55
	Medicine Hat	Trace	5.18	8.56	56	56
	Naco	.06	4.74 ^{2/}	8.30	51	52
	Winnifred	N.R.	2.51 ^{2/}	7.78	N.R.	N.R.
	2	Brooks	NIL	5.14	8.58	52
Drumheller		.07	4.99	8.67	N.R.	54
Gleichen		NIL	6.25	9.58	54	52
Hays		NIL	4.21	8.27	55	56
Hussar		N.R.	4.79 ^{2/}	9.24	N.R.	N.R.
Raymond		NIL	10.13	10.03	55	52
Lethbridge		.01	9.27	10.36	55	54
Strathmore		NIL	6.07	10.53	52	51
Taber		.36	5.88	8.99	55	50
Three Hills		Trace	10.43	10.51	51	50
3	Trochu	Trace	8.93	11.26	51	53
	Vulcan	Trace	6.86	9.76	53	51
	Calgary	.02	11.27	12.12	52	52
	Cardston	.10	11.00	11.04	52	52
	Pincher Creek	.22	13.51	12.59	53	49
	Fort MacLeod	.01	11.04	11.12	53	55
	High River	.31	12.80	12.94	50	50
	Jasper	.38	8.12	8.06	55	50
4	Magrath	NIL	11.04	10.74	58	54
	Olds	NIL	11.55 ^{2/}	12.47	53	50
	Alliance	N.R.	7.11 ^{2/}	10.86	N.R.	49
	Camrose	.25	9.04	10.57	53	50



1010505157

- IV -

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

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept.18,1961	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. Sept.18 1961	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F.	
ALBERTA (concluded)						
4	Coronation	Trace	5.46	10.80	54	51
	Hughenden	N.R.	7.76 ^{2/}	10.07	N.R.	51
	Lloydminster	.09	7.98	9.54	53	51
	Stettler	.03	8.14	11.56	54	49
	Vegreville	.33	9.66	10.66	53	53
5	Vermilion	.08	9.53	11.65	52	50
	Edmonton	.40	10.07	12.01	55	51
	Lacombe	.09	8.75	12.94	52	50
	Red Deer	.10	10.25	11.91	53	50
	Rocky Mountain House	.21	12.74	16.42	52	49
6	Wetaskiwin	.26	9.56	12.00	53	50
	Athabasca	.20	10.67	10.95	51	49
	Campsie	N.R.	11.09 ^{2/}	12.53	N.R.	49
	Edson	.38	12.85	13.79	51	49
	Elk Point	.55	11.08	10.34	50	48
7	Embarras	.03	9.90	9.03	53	48
	Lac la Biche	.28	9.85	11.27	51	51
	Whitecourt	.47	14.61	14.30	51	48
	Beaverlodge	.93	10.78	9.74	54	50
	Fairview	.06	11.87	9.84	56	50
	Ft. Vermilion	.06	5.55	7.95	53	48
	Grande Prairie	.96	12.21	9.25	55	50
	High Prairie	.15	10.90	11.13	53	50
	Rycroft	.35	10.68	9.28	53	50
	Wagner	.18	17.08	10.86	54	49
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.17	9.19	10.46	53.0	51.0

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