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Crop Reporting Series - No. 9

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the third of the 1962 series of nine telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the fifth 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 Up until June 2 when there was a heavy rainfall, weather conditions in Prince Edward Island were dry and cold. Grasses are doing fairly well, but very little clover is showing in new meadows. More than half of the grain and potatoes have been planted with the grain crops coming up in many areas. Warmer weather is needed for crop development. Farmers in Nova Scotia have almost completed seeding operations with the exception of those on extremely heavy soils. Most areas report very dry weather and quite low night temperatures. As a result growth is slow. Rain is very definitely required. Strawberries are in blossom throughout the province with a fairly good crop in prospect. Dry weather in New Brunswick during the past three weeks has enabled farmers to proceed with seeding and planting which are now nearing completion. Hay development is slow with a much below average crop now in prospect. Severe winter damage of legumes is reported. Pastures are backward due to the lack of rain.

Quebec Weather has been rather variable since mid-May in the Province of Quebec, but farmers have been able to complete seeding in the south of the province. Elsewhere field work is now progressing rapidly. Cereal crops showing above ground have a good stand. Pastures are good, and meadows promising except first-year seedings in some areas which have been damaged by frost. Milk production is increasing and in some regions is even greater than normal for this time of year. Early-seeded potatoes are growing rapidly. Seeding of fodder corn is completed in the Montreal district. In general, market garden crops promise well although growth is somewhat uneven. Fruit trees have a heavy bloom. Strawberry planting is completed

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

the regions of Quebec, La Mauricie and Montreal. Thinning of sugar beets has commenced. Planting of flue-cured tobacco is well advanced in the Three Rivers and Joliette areas, but setting out of cigar tobacco has only begun. Cabbage butterflies have been noted in the Montreal district. Given favourable climatic conditions seeding should shortly be completed throughout the province.

Ontario Although crop conditions are reasonably good in central and eastern Ontario, rain would be helpful in most areas of the province, especially in southern and western counties. Most winter wheat is heading on short straw. Recent rains did occur in some counties of southwestern Ontario and crops in local areas have shown improvement, but more rain is needed soon. The hay crop in this area is maturing earlier than usual, but yields will not be heavy. The strawberry crop will most likely be reduced. The set of tree fruits was irregular. In central and eastern counties seeding operations are generally completed and most crops are reported to be in reasonably good condition. Additional moisture, however, would be welcome. In northern districts seeding has been interrupted by rain in some areas.

Prairie Provinces Seeding of all crops is nearing completion in Saskatchewan, in southern and central areas of Alberta and in the northwest portion of Manitoba. Wet weather continues to delay seeding in much of the western and northern sections of Alberta and the greater part of Manitoba. Very little seeding has been accomplished in the Red River Valley of Manitoba. Moisture conditions have improved markedly over most of the Prairie Provinces and as a result, growth of crops, hay and pastures has been generally good. In general the weather has been cool and cloudy and grasshopper activity has been retarded. Heavy infestations of grasshoppers, however, are still in prospect and control measures will be required. Some local damage from cutworms has occurred. More rain will be required soon, in southern areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan but warm, dry weather is the major requirement in most other districts to permit completion of seeding and to allow for appropriate control measures for weeds and insects.

British Columbia Seeding operations are now virtually completed in all areas of British Columbia, but crop growth has been retarded as unsettled weather and abnormally low temperatures continue over the entire province. Pasture growth, in particular, has been disappointing, although hay and silage stands appear promising. At the coast the first harvesting of strawberries has commenced and the raspberries are in blossom. Early potato seedings are showing up well, with first digging expected in two weeks. In the southern interior area fruit prospects are variable, as sets on most varieties have fallen below earlier blossom indications. Vegetable crops are progressing satisfactorily in most areas, although peas, beans and corn have had spotty germination.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Dry, cold weather prevailed in Prince Edward Island until June 2 when there was a heavy rainfall of over one inch. Grasses are doing fairly well, but very little clover is showing in new meadows. With the recent rain, pastures are making satisfactory gains. Farmers are making good progress with their grain seeding which is now at least 65 per cent finished. A somewhat smaller portion of the potato crop has been planted. Grains are coming up in many areas. However, warmer weather is required for the growth of all crops. Tobacco planting is well advanced. Some injury in some strawberry plantations is reported.

At Nappan, Nova Scotia, farmers have completed seeding with good emergence of the earliest sown grains reported. The month of May was cooler than usual and the driest in forty-nine years. As a result pasture and hay crops are making very slow growth. Livestock, however, are all out on pasture. Our correspondent in Truro reports dry cool weather and slow plant growth. Planting and seeding have been completed except in low areas and early potatoes are showing and most of the grain is up. Grass growth is slow and pastures are poor with some winterkilling of clover reported. Strawberries are in blossom with an average to better than average crop in prospect. No winterkilling is reported on plantations which were mulched. In the Annapolis Valley moderately dry soil conditions have permitted earlier planting on the late soils. As a result planting operations are almost finished except for setting out tomatoes and tobacco. Apple and pear blossom are heavy with pollination conditions fairly good. Insect pests are under control in commercial orchards. In western Nova Scotia pastures and haylands are generally very poor as a result of the cool, dry weather.

Reports from Fredericton, New Brunswick state that planting and seeding are almost completed in that province. Dry weather during the past few weeks has enabled farmers to make good progress with these operations. Early-sown grains are emerging and appearances are good. Hay crop growth, however, is slow and much below average yields are now in prospect although favourable weather could improve the crop outlook. In some areas pastures are backward due to a lack of rain. Severe winterkilling of legumes is reported. Aphids are generally distributed in low numbers and mosquito and black fly activity is light. In the Perth district farming operations have progressed favourably during the past two weeks and seeding and planting are now 80 per cent completed. The weather has been cool with several nights close to frost. Early grain is three to four inches high and grass is growing well. Warmer weather, however, is needed. In the orchard areas of New Brunswick tree fruit bloom is heavy. Some winterkilling is reported on strawberries and growth of this crop is slow.

QUEBEC

At L'Assomption east of Montreal total rainfall for May has amounted to 1.36 inches. Transplanting of flue-cured tobacco is three-quarters completed, but planting of cigar tobacco is just starting. Seeding of oats and grasses is nearly completed. All crops are suffering from dry weather, and irrigation is being applied to tobacco, strawberries and raspberries.

South of Montreal in the St. Jean area temperatures have been slightly above normal during the past three weeks, with 2.8 inches of rain during this same period. Seeding and planting of vegetable crops is nearing completion. Crop growth is somewhat late in organic soils, but about normal in mineral soils. Apple orchards were in full bloom May 19 to 20, with setting of apples exceptionally heavy. First scab spots were observed on May 24. Five to six pesticide sprays have been applied. Pale apple leafroller and leafminer are threatening in many orchards. Farther east at Lennoxville seeding is completed. Pastures are fair. First-year hay was severely damaged by winterkilling, but second and third year hay is good except for alfalfa. Strawberries were fifty per cent damaged by winterkilling where no mulch was used.

In the Ste. Anne de la Pocatière region cool, wet weather during May and around the beginning of June was responsible for unsatisfactory soil conditions and

Seeding was delayed. Only forty per cent of the cereal crops have been seeded so far. Pastures and meadows are good, with livestock being put out to graze on May 28. Old pastures and meadows are infested with dandelions. Honey bees wintered well.

Precipitation totalled 3.25 inches in the Lake St. John area during the past two weeks. Seeding operations were delayed considerably and are now only about one-third completed. Warmer weather is now favouring excellent meadow and pasture growth. Potato planting is starting. Blueberries are in full bloom. Cattle were put out on pasture on May 25.

Seeding operations commenced on May 16 in the Baie des Chaleurs region, but were interrupted by frequent light rains and cool weather. However, most of the potato planting has been completed and about 80 per cent of the spring grains are in the ground. Dairy cattle have been put out on pasture, but growth in hay meadows is slow due to lack of warm weather. Winterkilling of clovers, birdsfoot, ladino, trefoil and alfalfa ranges from 75 to 100 per cent due to lack of snow cover, winter rains, and alternate thawing and freezing in March and April.

ONTARIO

In Simcoe County in western Ontario moderate rainfall during the past ten days has improved crop prospects by about 50 per cent, but soil moisture is still limited in central areas. Stands of grain are thin and considerable acreage has been damaged by frost, heat and drought. Germination of grasses and clovers is still uncertain. Hay and pastures have improved during the past two weeks and grazing is general. It is expected that haying operations will commence about June 18. Most corn and potatoes have been planted and prospects look good, but several hundred acres of early potatoes had to be replanted due to the seed rotting in the ground. Rain is badly needed in Bruce County. Hay is maturing earlier than normal and yields will be less than usual. Pastures are also in need of rain. A larger than usual acreage of corn was seeded under good conditions. In Wellington County all spring crops including corn, potatoes, and flax are generally seeded. Most crops have improved greatly following a general rain on May 23. However, weekly rains will be needed to maintain reasonable growth. Some farmers have commenced haying operations but the majority will likely wait in the hope of increased growth. It appears that milk flow is at its peak. Dry weather continues in Waterloo County and as a result growth is slow. Planting of corn is completed. Some farmers have commenced haying operations.

The weather has been dry in Middlesex County and pastures are in need of rain to make satisfactory growth. Crops generally indicate good yields if rain comes reasonably soon. In some areas spring-sown grains are at a standstill. Tobacco plants have suffered some damage from winds. In Essex County recent rains have somewhat improved soil moisture. Most crops are about a week to ten days ahead of normal. Grain is heading on short straw and present indications are for a light yield. Germination and growth of soybeans and corn has been irregular due to the dry soil at planting time. Head lettuce and cabbage have been on the market for the past ten days. Strawberries are also on the market but a short crop is indicated. Picking of early cucumbers and tomatoes will commence in about three weeks. Early potatoes are in blossom. Set of tree fruits was generally irregular. Fall wheat on Pelee Island is heading very short and prospects are for a light yield. Rain is badly needed.

Planting of soybeans is 90 per cent completed and moisture is now required. Although the stand of soybeans is fair some fields require replanting. Recent light rains have helped crop growth in Kent County, especially late peas, tomatoes and other vegetables. The corn crop is developing well. Cereals are on short straw and wheat is heading. The dry weather also stunted soybeans and in some areas this crop was attacked by seed corn maggot. Haying operations and cutting of grass silage commenced on May 28. Blocking of sugar beets is about 50 per cent completed. Some sugar beets have been ripped up due to crusting and drought conditions. Planting of white beans is proceeding. Planting of burley and flue-cured tobacco has been held up due to the dry conditions but this operation is now well underway. Planting of corn is almost completed in Norfolk County. Many farmers have finished planting tobacco but high winds last week spoiled many stands which will have to be replanted. All crops are in need of a good rain. Hay and pastures are making fair growth despite the dry conditions. Cutting of hay will commence within a week. Recent light rain was not sufficient to relieve the drought in Lincoln County. Picking of strawberries has commenced and it appears that the crop will be very light due to frost damage, drought and insects. The set of tree fruits is still in doubt.

Warm weather and recent moisture in Hastings County has resulted in good growth of pastures and meadows. Spring-seeded grains appear quite promising. Rain has also improved crop growth in York County but more rain is needed. Some of the grain is spotty and pasture growth is slow. Hay mixtures are doing fairly well and cutting will commence earlier than usual. In Peterborough County the crop situation is generally good as recent rains have improved growth. Conditions for corn planting were near-ideal. Haying will commence soon but the crop will not be as heavy as last year.

Seeding operations are completed in Leeds County and prospects are generally favourable. Pastures and meadows are in generally good condition but much of the clover was killed in old meadows. Spring grains are making rapid growth and the colour is good. Cattle are out on pasture and milk production is high. However, a general rain is needed soon in this county. Seeding of spring grains was completed in Dundas County under excellent conditions. The hay crop appears promising and pastures are good. The soil is drier than average but is not yet at a critical stage. The apple bloom was heavy and conditions for pollination were good. Seeding of spring grains was completed May 26 in Renfrew County and corn and potatoes were planted by May 31. Cutting of hay commenced on May 26. All crops are in good average condition for this time of year. The report from Kapuskasing indicates that seeding operations in the Abitibi, Cochrane and Hearst areas have been interrupted by heavy rains during the second half of May. Drier conditions have permitted operations to proceed in the Timmins and Timiskaming districts.

MANITOBA

Rain held up seeding in Manitoba on May 29 and 30. Work was resumed on June 1 in many areas but more rain fell on June 3. There is sufficient moisture now except in the northwest part of the province. Very little has been seeded in the Red River Valley, but seeding is almost completed in the northwest and the Ashern district. In the southern part of the Interlake district and areas bordering the Red River Valley less than 20 per cent has been sown. More progress has been made in western parts of the province where 50 per cent is done. Early-seeded crops, rye, hay and pastures are growing well. Weed growth is heavy and spraying has started.

Seeding fields after wild oat control has also started. Grasshopper hatching has been limited and there has been no insect damage. Potato plantings are 80 per cent completed at Carberry and 60 per cent in the Pembina Triangle. Sugar beet planting is finished at Portage, 35 per cent done at Morden and has commenced at Emerson, St. Jean and Carman. The continued wet weather is causing a change in farmers' plans to seed various crops. Flax, oats, barley and special crops will be substituted for wheat, but the extent of the change is uncertain. Not all the intended acreage for crops will be seeded in the areas that are now very wet.

In the southern part of the province at Altona the acreage seeded in the district varies from zero to 70 per cent complete, with an average of approximately 30 per cent. The higher proportions seeded are on farms with lighter land and medium textures. Acreages of sugar beets and sunflowers will be cut 50 per cent and changes in other seeding plans are becoming necessary. The effects of excess moisture are starting to show in early-sown wheat. Good weed kills are being obtained, but summerfallow land is mainly too wet to work. Fields of emerging peas are very weedy. In the Morden area 2.8 inches of rain were received last week. Only 20 per cent of the wheat and coarse grains have been sown but 50 per cent of the peas and 60 per cent of the potatoes have been planted. About 35 per cent of the sugar beets has been sown and a start made on seeding flax and beans. There has been a significant increase in fertilizer use in the district. Forage crops are doing well and there are no grasshoppers to date. In the southwest part of the province at Vita, 6.5 inches of rain were received during May. Some seeding has been attempted around Woodmore, and weather permitting another attempt may be made by the end of this week. Fields have a heavy growth of wild oats. Hay and pasture crops are good. Very few gardens have been planted in the area.

In the south-central part of the province at Pilot Mound cool, wet weather curtailed seeding operations last week and less than 50 per cent of the seeding has been completed. A reduction in wheat acreage will occur if warm, dry weather is not obtained this week. Pastures and hayland are showing excellent growth. Farther west at Melita 2.7 inches of rain were received and soil moisture conditions are now good. The subsoil reserves are sufficient to carry crops for at least three weeks. Pastures are recovering and are in fair to good condition. An average crop of hay should now be produced. Grasshoppers are beginning to hatch in the district.

In the Stonewall area near Winnipeg, persistent rains continue to delay seeding and less than 20 per cent has been seeded to date. Unseasonably cool weather still delays growth, with the exception of wild oats. The grasshopper hatch is still being retarded by cold weather. Most cattle are now out on pasture. Around Portage la Prairie, field work was resumed on Tuesday this week following last week's rain. The percentage seeded ranges from nil to 40 per cent and may average 25 per cent for the district. Early-seeded cereals and peas are above ground, pastures are excellent and hay crop prospects are very good. There is a heavy weed growth on land that has not yet been seeded.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that wheat seeding is practically completed in that district and seeding of coarse grains is about 50 per cent done. Given favourable weather, 90 per cent of the seeding will be finished by this weekend. Moisture conditions are excellent and crop emergence has been good. Prospects for a heavy first cut of hay are also good. Gardens are growing well. Farther west at Virden seeding is very late on valley land and on heavy clays.

Wheat is 85 per cent seeded, oats 50, barley 40 and flax 35. Cereal crops are very promising. Many farmers have fertilized their pastures this year. Hayland growth is fair, but many hay fields are very weedy. Rye prospects continue to be excellent.

In the Interlake area at Teulon, seeding has been very slow because of wet fields. Less than 10 per cent of the acreage has been sown, but the few early-seeded fields are growing very well.

In the west-central part of the province at Neepawa heavy rains have also delayed field work. Some seeding was done last week on light, sandy lands. Early-seeded crops are growing quickly and the land is quite free of weeds. About 40 per cent of the district area remains to be sown. Pastures and hay are growing rapidly. Some grasshopper hatching has commenced but cutworm appearance has been negligible. At Minnedosa, 1.10 inches of rain were received during the first part of last week and seeding operations were again stopped. May rains have greatly improved soil moisture conditions but due to the late spring there will be a decrease in the acreage of wheat in favour of flax, oats and barley. The percentage of crop acreages sown has changed very little from last week with wheat 85 per cent, oats, barley and flax 35 per cent. Pastures and forage crops are growing well. Farther west at Russell 1.06 inches of rain were received last week. Seeding is 95 per cent completed and the grain is germinating quickly. Grasshoppers are starting to hatch. Pastures are growing well in this district. Poplar trees were attacked by borers last year and many bluffs are now dead.

In northern Manitoba at Dauphin all the wheat and 75 per cent of the coarse grains are now seeded. Approximately 2 inches of rain fell last week and the surface moisture supply is now excellent. Hay and pastures are improving but gardens are making slow growth. Warm weather is now needed. Wheat seeding is nearly completed at Swan River and oats and barley are 80 per cent seeded. About 50 per cent of the rapeseed has been sown. Fall rye is making good progress and pastures and hayland are in fairly good condition. More moisture will be required soon. Early-seeded crops are progressing satisfactorily.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that little change has taken place in the grasshopper picture during the past week. Cool, wet weather has held up grasshopper egg development and delayed the general hatch. Light hatching of grasshoppers has taken place in Lyleton, Deloraine, Waskada, Melita, Reston, Mather, Altona, Carman, Gladstone, Bagot, Norgate, Starbuck and St. Pierre districts. Hatching of grasshoppers is most advanced in the Swan River Valley and Kelwood and McCreary districts. Control measures will be necessary following two or three days of warm weather. The immediate threat of damage of early-sown crops has been reduced, however, but the threat still exists to the later-sown crops.

The unweighted average precipitation since April 1 has been 65 per cent above normal as compared with 45 per cent above normal a week ago and 46 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast with 22 per cent below normal for the same week a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending June 4 was 5.6 degrees below normal as compared to 0.2 degrees below normal a week ago and 0.6 degrees below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 8.9 degrees above normal for the week ending June 5, 1961.

SASKATCHEWAN

Recent rains have improved the moisture situation in most districts of Saskatchewan. Seeding is practically completed and germination is fairly even, with about 80 per cent of the wheat fields showing green. Seeding trends throughout the province indicate an increase in wheat and oat acreage with decreases in other grains. Cool temperatures have delayed hatching of grasshoppers but severe infestations of cutworms are being experienced in south-central and west-central districts. Extensive spraying operations are underway to control damage from this source. Pastures have improved and livestock have responded to the better feed supply.

Seeding has been completed in the Willmar district in the southeast part of the province except for some late oats and flax. Crops are growing vigorously but some are weedy and need spraying. Fall rye is in shot blade and eighteen inches high while pastures and forage crops look good. No grasshopper damage is reported. Just over three inches of rain were received during the past week and the total since April 1 is 4.86 inches. Crop conditions are excellent around Yellow Grass and moisture supplies are ample. Hot, dry weather for the next few weeks would be welcome to allow farmers to finish summerfallowing and spraying. Some spraying has been undertaken for wild oats and weeds, but these operations are being hampered by the wet weather. Germination and growth of all grains are good with early crops up six to ten inches. Excellent rains have provided ideal crop conditions in the Fillmore district where seeding is all but completed. Some cutworms are appearing in gardens but no crop damage is apparent. The cool weather is retarding grasshopper hatching. All crops are growing vigorously and pastures and haylands have improved greatly.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports 1.67 inches of rain during a 40-hour period on May 28 and 29 which provided excellent growing conditions for the newly emerged crop. Hay and pasture fields are also making excellent growth but weeds are growing vigorously and farmers are just getting underway with spraying operations. Tillage on summerfallow fields is progressing. No grasshopper or cutworm damage is evident yet in this area. Livestock are in excellent condition on lush pasture.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current in the southwest part of the province reports germination of crops as being fairly uniform and growth is fair to good. However, heavy rain will be needed soon to maintain this growth. Hay and pasture land are showing definite signs of lack of moisture. Cutworms are appearing in a number of areas but chemical control is proving quite effective. Grasshoppers are also hatching in considerable numbers. Farmers are now busy spraying for weed and insect control. In the south-central part of the province at Big Beaver seeding is completed. Some three and one-half inches of rain have been received since April 1 and it has been rainy and cloudy during the past ten days. Very little cutworm damage is evident in the district but farmers are ready to spray if outbreaks do occur. Crops are making very good growth. Progress on summerfallowing has been slow due to wet ground.

At Val Marie seeding is nearing completion and the weather has been cool and cloudy with a trace of rain. Good rains will be required within a week in the central portion of the district but moisture supplies are fair in the extreme southern and northern parts. Grass growth is fair. Cutworm damage is widespread and increasing and spraying is underway to control these pests. Surface moisture

supplies are fair but subsoil reserves are poor in the Eastend district. Seeding has been completed and 75 per cent of the summerfallows have been worked at least once. Cutworm damage is fairly extensive and scattered grasshopper hatches are reported. Pasture conditions have shown improvement. Farther north at Leader growing conditions continue very favourable because of the recent rains and cool weather. Only minor grasshopper outbreaks have been noted and these have been held in check with chemical sprays.

In the west-central part of the province around Rosetown wheat averages three inches in height and is making good growth. Cutworm and grasshopper damage is negligible as yet, but farmers are ready to spray if necessary. Summerfallowing operations are general now that seeding is completed. Approximately 1.6 inches of rain fell at Scott during the past week, and as a result the crop outlook is much improved. Considerable grasshopper activity is reported between Kerrobert and Loverna, a district which had been very dry until June 4. All crops in the Scott area are showing green and chemical weed control is getting started.

In the northwest part of the province around Meota crop conditions are good with no damage reported. Pastures have improved due to recent rain. At Paradise Hill three and one-half inches of rain have fallen in the past two weeks and moisture supplies are now abundant. Seeding has been completed and wheat is up an average of four inches with no damage reported. Pastures are good.

In the central part of the province around Saskatoon over one and one-quarter inches of rain fell during the past ten days and this greatly improved moisture conditions. Crops are up and growing well; pastures are still poor but showing improvement. Grasshoppers are abundant in some pastures and along roadsides but very few have invaded crops. Light cutworm infestations are noted in scattered fields.

In the northeast part of the province around Melfort all seeding operations will likely be completed by the end of the week. Germination has been uniform and stands appear healthy and progressing satisfactorily. Reports indicate an increase in wheat acreage and a reduction in rape and flax sowings. Precipitation since the last report has been light and rain is needed to stimulate pastures. No insect damage is reported. Some 90 per cent of the seeding has been completed in the Nipawin area. Moisture supplies are still fair but rain will be needed soon. Grass crops seeded last year are poor and pastures are only fair. Rainfall so far this year has been below average. Our correspondent expects wheat acreage in the district to be up 20 per cent, barley up 15 per cent, oats up 5 per cent, flax down 20 per cent and rapeseed down 50 per cent. All of the wheat and 95 per cent of the coarse grains have been seeded around Sturgis in the east-central part of the province. Moisture conditions are favourable and forage crops are making good growth.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports no hail storms to date.

Average unweighted precipitation since April 1 has been 10 per cent below normal compared with 38 per cent below normal 2 weeks ago, 30 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 9 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 4 was 1.6 degrees below normal unchanged from 2 weeks ago and compared with 2.0 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 9.2 degrees above normal for the week ending June 5, 1961.

ALBERTA

Seeding operations are nearing completion in the southern and central areas of Alberta. In much of the western and northern areas and in parts of the Peace River district wet weather continues to delay seeding. Many farmers in some of these districts have little or no seed in the ground. Precipitation has been above normal during the last four weeks in nearly all of the province except for the east-central region. East of Lethbridge the rain has also been very spotty. Crops and pastures have responded to the few warm days. Farmers who have completed seeding have started cultivation of summerfallow.

Early wheat is up ten inches in the Manyberries district in the southeast and is beginning to stool. Fall rye is heading and other grains are up six inches. Soil moisture is now fairly good, with ranges making fairly satisfactory growth. Fall rye is also headed in the Medicine Hat area, with early-seeded grains up six inches. Scattered showers have given temporary relief, but grass and cattle are only in fair condition.

Spotty showers occurred last week in the Lethbridge area, and cereal germination and growth are generally satisfactory. Crops east of Taber are completely dependent on seasonal rainfall. Irrigated and dry land pastures are now satisfactory, particularly in the extreme southwest. Sugar beet thinning has started and stands are good, although a little uneven. Potato planting has been completed. Seeding of canning peas, beets and corn is completed and stands are good. Seeding is completed and fall rye is heading in the Claresholm area. About 25 per cent of the winter wheat was ploughed down due to winterkill. Scattered showers have aided the moisture situation, but a general rain will soon be needed. The weather has been cool for this time of year. Pastures and hay crops are making good growth.

Farmers are irrigating in the Brooks area. Some cutworm damage is reported on dry land crops and gardens, and considerable numbers of grasshoppers are hatching in some areas. Only a few light scattered showers have fallen and a general rain is urgently needed. Farther west at Vulcan seeding is completed and moisture supplies are adequate for the present. Most of the winter wheat and fall rye was ploughed under due to winterkill. Some farmers have begun spraying for grasshoppers, but our correspondent does not consider that the situation will be too serious. Growth on meadows and pastures is very slow.

A few showers during the past two weeks have been of some help in the Hanna area east of Calgary. Germination appears satisfactory, but fields are patchy and conditions are not too good. Grasshoppers are hatching in great numbers all through the district, and the real extent of the infestation and damage will become clear during the next two weeks. Seeding is almost completed in the Calgary area, with cool, showery weather maintaining satisfactory moisture conditions. Germination is good, but wild oats are a problem in some areas. The present crop outlook is promising. Some grasshoppers have been reported in the eastern part of the district. Farther north at Olds, showery weather has prevailed during the past week, with good rains in some sections. Seeding of coarse grains is almost completed and present prospects throughout the district are good.

An inch of rain fell on June 4 and 5 in the Sedgewick area where crop conditions are very good. Seeding is completed except for green feed, and early-sown

crops are doing very well. Pastures are good. With the exception of about 10 per cent of the oats and barley acreages, cereal seeding is completed in the Donalda district. Moisture conditions have been greatly improved by recent rains, and crop and pasture growth is very good. Farther south at Stettler cool, showery weather has prevailed. Germination is good, with wheat up to an average height of two inches. Topsoil moisture is very good, but subsoil reserves are low. Pastures are now growing well and an increased acreage is being seeded to hay crops.

Around Red Deer in the west-central part of the province, seeding is completed, with the exception of late barley and green feed. Recent rains have promoted good germination and growth, and hay and pastures are much improved. Farther west at Eckville surface subsoil moisture is in fair supply. Seeding is nearly completed, with fertilizer application up twenty-five per cent. Early seedings are up four to six inches and weed spraying will commence in a week. Summerfallow acreages will be reduced. Pastures and gardens are in good condition.

Around Vermilion east of Edmonton 0.55 inches of rain fell over the weekend. Wheat is all seeded and up to an average height of three inches. Seventy-five per cent of the coarse grains is in the ground. Prospects are very good for crops in this area again this season. Pasture and hay crops are in normal condition. Heavy showers and cool weather have retarded growth in the Edmonton area. Moisture conditions are good and warm weather is now needed. From one to two inches of rain have fallen in the Stony Plain area in the last two weeks. Seeding of grain has been delayed in areas west from Entwistle due to wet conditions. Prospects are good for hay and pasture crops. Warmer weather is now needed.

In the northeast of the province around Bonnyville heavy rains are delaying seeding, but providing excellent moisture supplies for crops already seeded and for forage crops. It is anticipated that an increased acreage will be seeded to barley in this area. Fields have germinated very evenly and are making rapid growth, with some wheat up five inches. The response to fertilizers has been spectacular. However, weeds, and particularly wild oats, are causing concern due to difficult spraying conditions. An inch of rain this last week is holding up seeding of coarse grains in the Athabasca area. However, wheat seeding is completed and the crop is growing vigorously. Pasture and hay crops are excellent. Two and one-half inches of rain have fallen in the Colinton area since May 1. Eighty-five per cent of the wheat, and 65 per cent of the coarse grains have been seeded. Crops are growing well as a result of plentiful moisture, but recent heavy rains will retard completion of field work for the next few days. Very little rapeseed has been sown here this season.

Cereal seeding is completed in the southwest half of the Beaverlodge region in the Peace River district. In this sector crops are emerging and developing well under moderately cool showery conditions. In the remainder of the Beaverlodge district seeding is only 60 per cent completed due to excess moisture. Forage crops for both hay and seed are developing normally. Our correspondent at Berwyn reports that showery weather has delayed seeding in the Manning district. Wheat acreage will be reduced, with oats and barley being substituted. Moisture conditions are satisfactory around Berwyn, with wheat up from two to three inches and seeding of oats and barley 50 per cent completed. The wild oat problem is serious. Forage crops are doing very well, but warm weather is required to promote crop development. In the far north of the province around Fort Vermilion, 1.6 inches of rain during the past two weeks

have held up seeding operations. About 60 per cent of the coarse grain acreage remains to be seeded. A small portion of the wheat and flax intended acreage has not been sown and this acreage will likely be diverted to rapeseed. Pastures and hay crops are excellent.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports hail damage on May 30 to sugar beets in an area six miles northwest of Lethbridge. Average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 1 per cent below normal as compared with 6 per cent below normal a week ago, 14 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 13 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 4 was 0.4 degrees below normal compared with 0.5 degrees above normal a week ago, 0.6 degrees below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 9.7 degrees above normal for the week ending June 5, 1961.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Continued cool weather on Vancouver Island has delayed the strawberry harvest for another week or so. Demand for strawberries and loganberries is good and all crops have been contracted at prices one to two cents higher than last year. Over one-third of the strawberries certified as virus-free and planted early this year was destroyed by low temperatures. Hay, pasture and cereal crop prospects are good.

Unseasonably low temperatures continue in the Lower Fraser Valley. The mean temperature for May was almost four degrees below the 70 year average, while sunshine hours were 60 per cent below normal. Grass and legume growth has been quite good and milk production continues on a high level. Grain crops appear promising but some difficulty has been encountered in corn and peas seeding. The pea crop already seeded is showing well, however, corn growth is slow on account of low temperatures. The strawberry harvest is not expected to start before June 13.

Cooler than normal temperatures persist in the South Okanagan Valley. The set of fruit crops is generally good, with apricots, apples, sweet cherries, peaches and prunes promising better crops than last year. The Anjou and Flemish Beauty varieties of pears are fairly good, but the Bartlett are light. Fruit in most districts is sizing well.

Relatively cool and dry weather, with general slowing of plant growth is reported from the North Okanagan Valley. Forage crops are satisfactory with alfalfa approaching the early bud stage. Pastures and lower ranges look good. Fall wheat is variable and entering the boot stage. Spring-seeded cereals show up generally well. Weed spraying is underway.

Seeding of spring cereals and seed peas is completed in the Creston area. Winter wheat shows some evidence of winter injury, but is making rapid growth now. Spring precipitation has been adequate and hay and pasture crops are making favourable growth.

Dull, cool and showery weather prevails over the Kootenays and the Southern Cariboo areas. Pasture and hay crops show near normal growth and some hay has already been cut for silage. The grassland and lower forest ranges are producing abundantly, but growth is slow on the higher summer ranges. Water flow in streams appears to have passed its peak.

A slow season resulting from low temperatures is reported in the Smithers area. Spring seeding is 75 per cent completed. Germination is satisfactory, but growth is slow for most crops. Recent rains assure adequate moisture supplies for the time being.

Seeding of cereal grains is almost completed in the Dawson Creek area, with 95 per cent of the barley and all wheat and oats seeded. Moisture conditions are good. Growth is two weeks late on account of cooler than average weather. The alsike clover fields suffered heavy winter damage. North of Fort St. John 95 per cent of the wheat, oats and barley has been seeded. Moisture reserves are good and pasture and hay crops are growing well. Extensive winterkilling is reported in alsike and red clover.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 4, 1962	since April 1	since April 1	June 4 1962	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	2.36	6.62	3.62	51	57
	Pierson	2.05	5.54	3.55	51	58
	Waskada	1.61	6.35	3.28	50	57
2	Ninette	2.72	6.62	3.92	51	57
	Pilot Mound	1.63	6.29	3.53	51	56
3	Altona	.62	5.64	3.36	54	59
	Deerwood	1.97	6.79	3.59	52	57
	Graysville	n.r.	4.29 2/	3.39	n.r.	58
	Gretna	1.26	6.42	3.41	53	59
	Morden	2.87	8.57	3.91	52	59
	Morris	1.09	5.88	3.10	54	60
	Portage la Prairie	2.21	6.80	3.41	53	59
	Roland	1.58	6.11	3.47	52	58
4	Stonewall	2.30	6.29	3.31	52	57
5	Emerson	.62	5.98	3.42	54	60
	St. Genevieve	.71	5.94	3.27	52	57
	Steinbach	.64	4.49	3.60	53	58
	Winnipeg	1.82	6.14	3.53	53	58
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.97	6.81	2.94	53	57
	Sprague	.56	6.45	3.88	54	56
7	Reston	3.31	6.65	3.40	51	58
	Rivers	.72	4.36	3.41	52	56
	Virden	1.68	4.34	3.09	52	58
8	Brandon	1.25	5.37	3.74	n.r.	58
	Cypress River	1.41	4.86	3.33	51	58
9	Kelwood	2.66	5.30	3.19	52	57
	Minnedosa	1.10	3.99	3.39	49	57
	Neepawa	2.05	5.57	3.02	51	57
10	Birtle	.95	2.72	2.78	49	56
	Rosburn	1.08	3.90	2.79	50	56
	Russell	1.08	3.13	2.72	48	55
11	Dauphin	1.80	4.64	3.07	52	58
	Gilbert Plains	.90	3.21	3.07	51	57
12	Arborg	1.71	4.26	2.86	51	56
	Gimli	1.86	5.94	2.99	51	57
13	Swan River	.61	3.27	2.61	53	56
	The Pas	.02	2.43	2.52	52	55
14	Grass River	2.14	5.16	3.19	51	57
MANITOBA AVERAGE		1.51	5.37	3.28	51.7	57.3
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	1.85	4.30	2.78	53	58
	Oxbow	2.40	4.52	3.23	52	58
	Willmar	2.61	4.87	2.90	n.r.	n.r.
1B	Broadview	2.15	3.31	2.80	49	55
	Moosomin	2.50	4.76	2.92	51	57

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 4, 1962	since April 1	since April 1	June 4 1962	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
2A	Yellow Grass	1.96	3.35	2.74	54	57
	Creelman	2.00	3.22	2.66	52	56
	Weyburn	1.93	3.56	2.80	53	57
	Midale	1.95	3.41	2.94	54	57
	Claybank	1.31	3.19	2.85	55	57
2B	Moose Jaw	1.04	1.87	2.80	56	58
	Regina	1.41	2.72	2.67	54	57
	Francis	1.75	2.99	2.38	53	56
	Qu'Appelle	1.72	3.19	3.19	53	56
	Indian Head	1.69	3.61	2.85	53	57
3AS	Wilcox	n.r.	.03 2/	2.75	n.r.	57
	Assiniboia	.53	2.04	2.63	55	57
	Ormiston	1.07	2.24	2.86	55	57
	Minton	1.17	3.88	3.30	53	58
	Cardross	n.r.	1.34 2/	2.88	n.r.	57
3AN	Ceylon	1.13	3.06	3.33	51	57
	Chaplin	.12	.91	2.66	56	57
	Gravelbourg	.36	1.28	2.53	57	58
	Coderre	.32	.88	2.75	55	57
	Shaunavon	1.23	2.54	2.80	57	56
3BS	Cadillac	n.r.	.98 2/	2.99	n.r.	58
	Pambrun	.06	1.01	2.67	56	58
	Aneroid	trace	.77 2/	2.10	57	56
	Val Marie	.10	1.50 2/	2.75	57	58
	Instow	.51	1.29	2.71	56	58
3BN	Pennant	.41	2.88	2.66	58	57
	Swift Current	.56	2.19	2.84	56	57
	Hodgeville	.22	.83	2.64	56	58
	Hughton	.43	1.42	2.48	57	57
	Consul	.80	1.87	2.32	57	56
4A	Abbey	.86	3.00	2.41	59	58
4B	Cupar	1.49	3.07	2.57	56	57
5A	Kelliher	1.42	2.99	2.59	53	53
	Melville	1.67	3.40	2.63	51	56
	Yorkton	1.59	3.54	2.65	52	57
	Bangor	2.07	3.43	2.74	52	57
	Dafoe	1.16	1.67	2.40	55	57
5B	Foam Lake	.89	1.81	2.75	55	56
	Kuroki	1.36	2.46	2.81	52	54
	Lintlaw	.49	1.78	2.88	52	53
	Kamsack	.43	2.56	2.44	53	56
	Arran	.36	2.57	2.53	52	55
6A	Davidson	.69	1.48	2.64	54	57
	Imperial	n.r.	1.06 2/	2.66	n.r.	56
	Semans	1.52	2.85	2.35	55	56
	Strasbourg	1.13	2.45	2.62	56	56
	Watrous	1.45	2.29	2.37	55	56

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending 8 a.m. June 4, 1962	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. June 4 1962	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
<u>SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)</u>							
6B	Harris	1.15	2.79	2.17	57	57	
	Outlook	1.17	1.82	2.16	57	57	
	Saskatoon	.83	1.15	2.44	55	57	
	Elbow	.76	1.67	2.54	55	58	
	Tugaske	.65	1.66	2.66	54	57	
	Dundurn	.85	1.42	2.27	55	57	
7A	Alaska	n.r.	.29 2/	2.47	n.r.	57	
	Kindersley	.90	1.95	2.14	57	58	
	Rosetown	1.08	2.94	2.58	56	55	
7B	Macklin	.80	1.87	2.60	57	55	
	Denzil	.73	1.83	2.60	57	55	
	Scott	.56	1.73	2.69	56	55	
	Wiggar	1.05	2.87	2.37	56	57	
8A	Hudson Bay	.22	1.48	2.81	55	53	
	Prairie River	.26	1.57	2.66	52	52	
	Armit	.18	1.75	2.81	54	52	
8B	Humboldt	.83	1.19	2.33	56	54	
	Welfort	.40	1.42	2.52	52	58	
9A	North Battleford	.77	1.06	2.44	57	57	
	Victoire	.19	1.34	2.13	55	55	
	Prince Albert	.70	1.66	2.86	55	56	
	Island Falls	.05	2.94	2.61	52	51	
9B	Waseca	.68	2.76	2.69	55	54	
	St. Walburg	1.14	2.11	2.70	56	55	
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		1.01	2.38	2.65	54.6	56.2	
<u>ALBERTA</u>							
1	Edmonton	.65	1.22	1.74	56	58	
	Foremost	n.r.	1.07	3.21	56	57	
	Wainwright	.52	1.34	2.42	56	57	
	Langbeavies	.47	2.63	2.21	56	58	
	Medicine Hat	.45	1.29	2.74	56	59	
	Neco	.62	1.75	2.21	55	56	
	Winnifred	.03	1.11	2.99	n.r.	60	
	2	Brooks	.48	1.74	2.75	56	58
		Gravelly	.26	2.35	2.33	56	58
		Gleichen	.95	3.14	3.04	56	56
		Hays	.61	1.38	2.70	56	58
Highway		.13	1.16	3.77	57	57	
Lothbridge		.30	1.64	3.68	57	56	
Strathmore		.81	2.32	3.05	54	57	
Haber		n.r.	.35 2/	3.12	n.r.	55	
Three Hills	.24	2.54	2.74	54	55		
Brochu	.15	2.72	3.17	54	56		
Alton	.26	2.63	3.39	55	56		

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	June 4	
		June 4, 1962	April 1	April 1	1962	Normal
		- inches -	- degrees F. -			
<u>ALBERTA</u> (concluded)						
3	Calgary	.27	3.02	3.50	54	54
	Cardston	.19	3.01	3.83	53	55
	Fincher Creek	.20	3.53	4.40	52	53
4	Fort MacLeod	.17	1.62	3.69	55	57
	High River	.25	2.76	4.34	50	52
	Magrath	.11	1.86	3.89	60	56
5	Olds	.49	3.85	3.50	51	55
	Canrose	.99	3.01	2.91	55	55
	Coronation	.90	2.55	2.37	56	55
6	Hughenden	.94	1.61	2.44	56	55
	Lloydminster	1.50	2.88	2.50	56	55
	Stettler	.48	3.20	3.02	56	55
7	Vegreville	1.22	3.25	2.50	56	54
	Vermilion	.77	1.94	2.43	56	54
	Edmonton	1.75	3.42	3.21	54	56
8	Lacombe	.87	2.35	3.59	53	54
	Red Deer	.54	3.33	3.12	53	55
	Rocky Mountain House	.71	3.76	4.28	51	53
9	Wetaskiwin	1.37	3.60	3.23	55	55
	Athabasca	1.44	4.81	2.72	51	55
	Campsie	.71	4.33	3.17	52	55
10	Edson	.87	4.18	3.18	51	52
	Elk Point	1.76	3.35	2.39	59	53
	Embarras	.16	1.58	2.12	59	54
11	Lac la Piche	1.58	4.03	2.83	55	55
	Smith	1.73	5.18	2.70	53	53
	Whitecourt	.68	5.76	3.62	50	52
12	Beaverlodge	.29	3.39	2.34	49	54
	Fairview	.60	3.16	3.21	52	54
	Ft. Vermilion	.94	3.43	2.14	54	55
13	Grande Prairie	.16	3.56	2.81	51	54
	High Prairie	.30	4.12	3.62	52	55
	Peace River	.61	3.87	2.82	55	54
14	Styrcroft	.12	2.78	2.28	56	54
	Wagner	1.01	2.73	2.39	51	52
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.64	2.92	2.53	54.4	55.3

N.R. - No report.
 - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.
 - Incomplete; not included in average.

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