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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

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

Preliminary Estimates of Specified Crop and Summerfallow Acreages Prairie Provinces, 1962

A preliminary estimate of acreages seeded to all wheat, durum wheat, oats, barley, rye, rapeseed and flax and acres in summerfallow in 1962 for the Prairie Provinces appears on page 2 of this report. The regular acreage report for crops seeded by provinces will be released on August 1. The acreage estimates published in the accompanying report are based on returns from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual June survey of seeded acreages and the estimates have been made in consultation with Agricultural Statisticians in each province. These are advance preliminary estimates and changes may have to be made when tabulation of all returns is completed. Seeding was delayed by excessive moisture in some districts of Manitoba and Alberta. Questionnaires were sent to farmers later than normal in these districts and as many late returns as possible were included in the tabulations.

The 1961⁶ acreages included in the report are those obtained from the Census of Canada conducted in that year, as published in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' release 'Field Crops' Catalogue 96-516.^{6,21} These benchmarks will necessitate some adjustments in the acreage series for certain crops for the 1957-61 period and for this reason historical comparisons are not included in this report. 1962-66

The advance preliminary estimates of the 1962 acreages show that farmers in the Prairie Provinces seeded 26.3 million acres of all classes of wheat, 7 per cent more than in 1961 and the largest wheat acreage since 1950. Some 17.4 million acres were seeded this year in Saskatchewan, making this the largest plantings on record for that province. Alberta's 1962 acreage of 5.8 million and Manitoba's acreage of 3.1 million has been exceeded numerous times in the past. Included in the 1962 all wheat total of 26.3 million acres are a record 3.2 million acres of durum wheat. The acreage seeded to fall and spring rye combined at 595 thousand in 1962 is 21 per cent larger than the 1961 plantings. (continued on page 3)

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1962

Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, 1962
with Comparisons - Prairie Provinces

Crops	1961	1962	1962 as % of 1961
	acres	acres	%
<u>PRAIRIE PROVINCES</u>			
Spring wheat (including durum)	24,629,000	26,313,000	107
Oats	8,109,000	8,559,000	106
Barley	5,361,000	5,128,000	96
Fall rye	403,500	492,000	122
Spring rye	89,200	102,700	115
All rye	492,700	594,700	121
Flaxseed	2,051,000	1,391,000	68
Rapeseed	710,300	404,500	57
Summerfallow	27,860,000	27,355,000	98
<u>MANITOBA</u>			
Spring wheat (including durum)	2,914,000	3,118,000	107
Oats	1,850,000	1,974,000	107
Barley	655,000	660,000	101
Fall rye	77,500	119,000	154
Spring rye	2,000	3,000	148
All rye	79,500	122,000	153
Flaxseed	748,000	703,000	94
Rapeseed	29,300	25,500	87
Summerfallow	3,230,000	2,979,000	92
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>			
Spring wheat (including durum)	16,082,000	17,388,000	108
Oats	3,109,000	3,277,000	105
Barley	1,839,000	1,629,000	89
Fall rye	177,000	215,000	121
Spring rye	61,900	64,100	104
All rye	238,900	279,100	117
Flaxseed	941,000	389,000	41
Rapeseed	374,000	167,000	45
Summerfallow	17,180,000	17,081,000	99
<u>ALBERTA</u>			
Spring wheat (including durum)	5,633,000	5,807,000	103
Oats	3,150,000	3,308,000	105
Barley	2,867,000	2,839,000	99
Fall rye	149,000	158,000	106
Spring rye	25,300	35,600	141
All rye	174,300	193,600	111
Flaxseed	362,000	299,000	83
Rapeseed	307,000	212,000	69
Summerfallow	7,450,000	7,295,000	98

Preliminary Estimate of Durum Wheat Acreages, 1962
with Comparisons - Prairie Provinces

Province	1961	1962	1962 as % of 1961
	acres	acres	%
Manitoba	85,000	161,000	189
Saskatchewan	1,578,000	2,613,000	166
Alberta	189,000	425,000	225
Prairie Provinces	1,852,000	3,199,000	173

The acreage seeded to oats, at 8.6 million acres, is 6 per cent larger than in 1961. It should be noted that the 1961 and 1962 estimates include oats seeded for all purposes rather than just oats for grain as has been the case in the past. A survey will be conducted in conjunction with the November estimate of production to determine the acreages actually threshed for grain and provide an estimate of average yields obtained from those acres. The acreage seeded to barley in 1962 at 5.1 million declined by 4 per cent from the 1961 area of 5.4 million.

The acreage seeded to flaxseed at 1.4 million is 32 per cent below the 1961 plantings of 2.1 million. Rapeseed acreage also declined sharply in 1962 and totalled 404 thousand compared with 710 thousand in 1961, a decline of 43 per cent.

The acreage to be summerfallowed in the Prairie Provinces in 1962 at 27.4 million declined by 2 per cent from last season's 27.9 million acres.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

Maritime Provinces Cool weather has prevailed recently in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Reports from the Island indicate good growth of most crops, but warmer weather and more moisture is needed. Farmers have started grass-silage making. Potatoes are making satisfactory growth and pastures are producing well. In Nova Scotia most crops are later than normal but haying is underway in some areas. Strawberries are now on the market with heavy volume expected very soon. Crops in New Brunswick are making satisfactory growth under favourable weather conditions. Pastures are about normal for this time of year, grain crops appear promising and potatoes are showing vigorous growth. Farmers have commenced haying operations and strawberries are now being picked.

Quebec During the last two weeks weather conditions throughout most of Quebec have been dry accompanied by cool nights. Late frosts have occurred in the Abitibi area. The effects of these weather conditions on crop growth varied in the different regions of the province. The appearance of all cereal crops is good but growth is slow. Farmers have finished grass-silage making in the Montreal and Quebec districts but this work is continuing in other sections. Haying is now underway



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with yields varying from poor to good. Quality, however, is excellent. Pastures in general still favour heavy milk production. Potatoes appear to be doing well but growth is retarded in some areas. Market garden crops look promising. Sugar beets and field corn are developing normally. Tobacco suckering is good. Strawberry picking is over south of Montreal but is continuing elsewhere. Yields vary with moisture conditions and heat. There are reports of leaf minor larvae, and weed infestations are also noted.

Ontario In general, crop development in Ontario is proceeding quite rapidly, but rain would be welcomed in most areas. Haying operations have progressed with few interruptions and, although most outturns are somewhat less than a year ago, quality has been very good. Winter wheat in southern and western Ontario is turning, spring-sown grains are headed while most corn, potatoes, and tobacco appear promising. Early cucumbers, tomatoes and potatoes are being picked while harvesting of sweet cherries is in full swing. Spring-sown grains and corn in central and eastern counties have grown quite rapidly due to the hot weather. In northern areas growth of the hay crop has been slow, while spring grains are in good condition.

Prairie Provinces Precipitation throughout the Prairie Provinces this past week has been spotty and temperatures above normal. Crops are still developing well in those areas favoured with showers or adequate moisture reserves, but some deterioration is evident elsewhere. South-eastern Alberta is the most severely affected area at the present time, but all crops are now entering the period of heavy moisture requirements, and good rains will be needed to maintain present prospects. Grasshopper outbreaks are widespread but control measures are proving effecting in most areas. Haying is underway with fair to excellent yields in prospect.

British Columbia Unseasonably cool weather during the spring growing season in British Columbia resulted in variable yields of early crops. In general, quality is good but yields are spotty, particularly in early potatoes, with production now estimated at fifteen per cent below normal. The strawberry harvest is now at its peak, and cherry and raspberry picking will be underway next week. Severe hail damage in parts of the Okanagan Valley has reduced crop prospects somewhat and will produce downgrading of most fruits in those areas. Recent reports from interior points indicate range grasslands are now in satisfactory condition after a late start. Hay lands in the irrigated areas are good but backward elsewhere.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island temperatures have been below normal with the nights being particularly cool. However, crop growth has been generally good. Hay crop prospects have improved but yields will be below average. Very little clover is reported in the meadows and the timothy crop is short. Farmers are making grass silage but haying has not yet started. Grain and root crops are making good growth. Potato prospects are favourable. Pastures are continuing to produce a lush growth but moisture will be needed soon, particularly on lighter soils. Higher temperatures are also wanted. The strawberry season has been delayed by the cool weather with picking just now commencing.

In the Amherst area of Nova Scotia the weather has continued very cool and, as a result, crop growth has been slow. Farmers have finished silage making and have started to put up the hay crop. Yields are below average. Warmer weather and