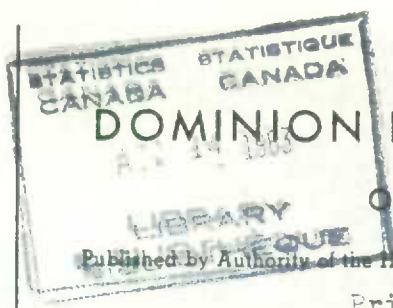


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Crop Reporting Series - No. 15

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

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

S U M M A R Y

Maritime Provinces All points in the Maritime Provinces report almost continuous rains and low temperatures from the beginning of July until very recently when some clear days have occurred. As a result, haymaking has been held up throughout the region and most of the crop remains to be harvested. Some losses and deterioration of quality are also reported. Pastures, however, are very good and in general the potato crop is showing promise. Cereals are variable, with early-seeded oats and barley heading in some districts. Strawberry production has suffered as a result of the wet weather at harvest time. Blueberries, however, are doing well. Warmer weather and sunshine are needed in all three provinces.

Quebec Dry weather accompanied by cold nights has prevailed in southern and western Quebec, with some frost and hail being reported in certain localities. Other parts of the province have experienced cold, rainy weather. Haying is nearly finished in the south and is well advanced in the west, but is just getting underway in the eastern part of the province. Hay quality is satisfactory, with yields varying from fair to good according to soil and climatic conditions. In the districts which have been affected by the dry, cold weather, new forage crop seedings, hay aftermath and pastures are in only fair condition and milk production is down. Elsewhere, as a result of rain, these crops are in better condition and milk flow is sustained. Picking of early potatoes is beginning around Montreal and yields are good. Late varieties also appear to be developing well. Market gardens are showing good growth and yield prospects are good. Early varieties of peas, beans, tomatoes, cucumbers and corn are showing up on the markets. Canning peas are yielding well. Sugar beets are developing normally with prospects of a good yield. Tobacco is also promising. The strawberry harvest is about finished and yields have varied from poor to good. In the Montreal district, picking of raspberries is well advanced, with yields varying from poor to average. In the Lake St. Jean area prospects for the blueberry harvest are good and picking should commence in a couple of weeks.

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

5502-508.15

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

Ontario Recent rains over most of Ontario are expected to result in improved prospects for most crops. Combining of winter wheat is now general in the main producing areas and commencing or about to start in other areas. Yields are about average and quality is good. Before the rains, spring-sown grains in many parts of the province headed on rather short straw and were being forced to maturity by the dry conditions. The more adequate moisture supply should improve outturns and the quality of these crops. Corn and other full season crops in southwestern Ontario have been making rapid growth. Harvesting of a below average crop of first cut hay has been virtually completed in southern and western parts of the province and is nearing completion in the eastern parts. Although good progress is reported in some parts of northern Ontario other northern districts have been hampered by too much rain. Pastures over most of the province were deteriorating rapidly at mid-July and supplementary feeding was being undertaken in some instances. This crop is expected to respond rapidly to the better moisture conditions now prevailing.

Prairie Provinces With the exception of southwestern Alberta, practically all areas in the Prairie Provinces have benefited by fair to good rains during the past two weeks. Rain came too late to materially benefit cereal crops in large areas of southeastern Alberta and some sections of southwestern Saskatchewan, but they will improve pastures and the winter fodder supply. In the remainder of the Prairie Provinces crop prospects in general vary from fair to excellent. Further general rains will be needed in many areas to maintain the heavy growth. Fall rye harvesting is commencing in southern districts and haying is nearing completion. Grasshoppers are widespread but little damage has been reported to date.

The second Report on Rust Development in Western Canada in 1962 issued by the Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station at Winnipeg, Manitoba, on July 13 states that:

Rust Distribution in Western Canada

"Since the last report was issued, nine days ago, some further information has been obtained on the spread of stem rust and leaf rust of wheat, but the increase of the rusts has been less rapid than was expected in view of weather conditions generally favourable for rust increase.

On July 6, at Indian Head, Saskatchewan, neither leaf rust nor stem rust could be found on Marquis and Thatcher but on spring-planted winter wheat a trace of both rusts was present. (R.I.H. McKenzie). On July 8, leaf rust, but no stem rust, was found on Thatcher wheat at Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, about 200 miles northwest of Winnipeg. (J. L. Parker). In southern Manitoba, leaf rust is generally present on Selkirk wheat but in small amounts and infections are of a resistant type. On the stem-rust resistant wheats Selkirk, Lee and Pembina only the merest trace of stem rust has been found. The rust pustules, however, were quite small which indicates that they were not caused by virulent races. A trace of stem rust was found in one recently headed field of durum wheat south of Winnipeg.

No oat stem rust has been found as yet, and only two pustules of crown rust have been seen thus far.

Reports on Rust Development in the United States

Losses are expected from rust on winter wheat in eastern and parts of western Nebraska and southwestern Iowa and probably also in southeastern South Dakota. Rust on Selkirk and the durums is limited to occasional pustules, which indicates that they are resistant to the great bulk of the stem rust now present.

Movement of Wind-borne Spores

There appear to have been two major northward movements of wind-borne spores -- June 12-15 and June 26-27. Smaller movements took place around June 30-July 1 and July 6-9. The first two movements were most pronounced over Manitoba but in the last two a considerable number of spores were collected at Indian Head and Regina in Saskatchewan.

Information on Rust Races

Information from the United States still indicates that most of the wheat stem rust is composed of race 56 which is relatively harmless to our currently grown bread wheats and to most varieties of durum. This is confirmed by the first race identifications at Winnipeg; all rust collections thus far identified belong to this race.

Future Rust Development?

If rust-susceptible wheats were now commonly grown in Manitoba there would be reason for concern as there is enough stem rust present on wild barley and on susceptible wheats in experimental plots to warrant the expectation that much stem rust will develop on any varieties susceptible to race 56 which makes up the bulk of the rust currently present. As yet, stem rust can scarcely be found on the resistant varieties of bread wheat and barley. Occasional large pustules can be found in fields of durum wheat but this crop is not widely grown in Manitoba. Owing to its lateness there is greater possibility of damage to durum than to the currently grown bread wheats."

British Columbia Warmer temperatures and more settled weather have improved the general crop picture in British Columbia, but harvest schedules are still one week to ten days behind normal. Harvesting of early potatoes is ending at the Coast and past the peak in the Interior. Digging of second early potatoes will commence this week. Raspberry and blueberry harvests are underway with good yields and quality reported. In the Okanagan region picking of cherries is complete, but the crop was reduced sharply by hail and rain damage. The apricot harvest is approaching its peak with satisfactory sizing and quality indicated. Some Transparent apples have been picked and the main apple crop prospects are favourable. Processing pea and bean crops have exceeded expectations in both yield and quality. Corn prospects are now good after a slow start. Grain crop prospects continue fair to good, and haying is now complete in most areas.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Prince Edward Island reports almost continuous rain during the first two weeks of July and clear weather since then. Total sunshine for the month so far has been only about one-half of normal, and mean temperatures were 10 degrees below average. As a result of the continued wet weather haying has been seriously hindered and indeed work is just now getting underway with only an estimated 5 per cent of the crop harvested so far. Although weather conditions have not been conducive to normal crop growth, potatoes are doing well with few insects and no late blight reported. Strawberries, however, have been damaged to some extent by the wet weather. Picking of this crop is continuing. Blueberries are showing a reasonably good set. Pastures and grain crops are excellent.

Higher temperatures and a limited period of fine weather following the rains in Nova Scotia have brought about a considerable improvement in the hay crop although some reduction in quality has occurred. Haying has been delayed because of the wet weather. In general, grain crops are about average with early seeded oats and barley heading. Pastures are highly productive and a good blueberry crop is in prospect. A limited volume of early vegetables is now on the market. At Amherst the hay crop is maturing rapidly but continuing rainy weather has prevented farmers from getting their haying done. It is estimated that not much more than 10 per cent of the crop has been stored to date. Pastures are excellent and cereals are promising. A very heavy crop of blueberries is also anticipated. Reports from the Truro district indicate rain almost every day since July 1 with 4.54 inches having fallen the first 22 days of this month; normal rainfall for July in this area is 3.20 inches. Temperatures have been below normal with nights very cool. As a result growth has been very slow and the hay crop is average or below. Grains are short and heading. Some hay has been cut in the fields for two weeks but very little has been stored. Wet weather has caused heavy losses in the strawberry crop but the outlook for blueberries is very promising. In the Annapolis Valley heavy rains have damaged or ruined much of the hay crop with only about 20 per cent of the total harvested at this date. Crop growth, however, is generally good with grain, potatoes, peas and apples in good average condition. Pastures are better than average. Pears also are above average while strawberries and corn are late and below average. A few early potatoes have been harvested with no blight reported. Due to the wet weather it has been necessary for growers to apply extra fungicides in the orchards. As elsewhere in the Maritime Provinces sunshine and warmer weather are needed.

In New Brunswick continuous rainy weather has delayed haymaking which is less than 10 per cent completed. However, growth of this crop is greatly improved and at least a normal yield is expected. Early-sown, well fertilized grain is heading well but late-sown grain is poor. Fertilized pastures are productive. All field work has been hampered by the continuing wet weather. Apples are developing rapidly but weather conditions have been unfavourable for an efficient spray programme. The strawberry crop is well below that of last year with considerable deterioration of the fruit reported as a result of wet conditions. Peas are very promising as are early-planted potatoes. The late-planted crop is also coming along well. Heat and drier weather are needed particularly for the development of truck garden crops especially cucumbers, corn and beans.

QUEBEC

Harvesting of a light hay crop is practically completed in the L'Assomption area east of Montreal. All crops have benefited by recent rains. Raspberry picking is in full swing, and tobacco is growing well although somewhat unevenly. Cool nights are delaying the ripening of tomatoes. Cereals are uneven, but the outlook is promising. Canning crops are doing well, although the crop of early peas was light.

South of Montreal in the St. Jean area, vegetable and canning crops are doing well in spite of cool, humid nights and below normal temperatures. Drier weather is urgently needed in many regions. Harvesting of a fair hay crop is nearly completed. Farther east at Lennoxville the weather has been cold and wet. Considerable hay remains to be harvested, but yield prospects are good. Cereals are growing well and pastures are good. Corn is fair.

Barley and oats are heading in the St. Anne de la Pocatière region. The making of grass silage is completed and haying is about 40 per cent done, with normal yields being received. Pastures are fair. Potatoes and rapeseed are in bloom and prospects are promising. Field corn, field peas and roots are doing well.

During the last twenty days in the Normandin area, precipitation has totalled 4.23 inches and crop prospects have improved considerably. Haying started last week, with good yields anticipated. Pastures were greatly benefited by the rain. Strawberries are yielding well and blueberries are promising.

Weather has been unfavourable during the last three weeks in the Caplan area of eastern Quebec. Light showers and drizzle occurred on ten consecutive days, with heavy rains occurring on July 10, 18, 19 and 21. High humidity has favoured a heavy weed population in hced crops and green aphids have appeared in cereal plots. Early oat varieties are headed. Haying is in full swing in the Lower St. Lawrence area, but little has been done in the Baie des Chaleurs district. Yields of hay have been lower than normal as a result of winterkilling of legumes. Pastures are in good condition and milk production is holding up well.

ONTARIO

Around Barrie in Western Ontario harvesting of winter wheat commenced on July 16 with average yields reported. Most of the baled hay has now been stored and farmers say the crop is of fine quality, but yields are down considerably. A few farmers have purchased hay to meet their requirements. Between two and three inches of rain fell on July 23. This will help to fill spring grains which are ripening fast. Yields of these crops will be less than last year. Pasture growth has been at a standstill and some farmers have been supplementing pastures with hay and grain feeding. The recent rains will be of tremendous benefit for reviving pastures and stimulating the growth of corn. In Bruce County continued dry weather has caused pastures to burn and hastened the maturity of grain crops and as a result yields will be reduced considerably. Corn crops, though spotty, have survived very well. The heavy rains this past weekend will revive pastures, speed development of the turnip crop and revive the hope for a near-normal year. A fair crop of first-cut hay was harvested in excellent condition.

Haying is nearing completion in Wellington County and the quality is above normal due to dry conditions at harvest time. Pastures and second growth are poor but recent rains have improved conditions greatly. Winter wheat is being cut with good yields reported. Harvesting of spring grains will be in full swing this weekend. Rains during the past weekend have done much to alleviate drought conditions in Waterloo County around Galt. The precipitation will be of particular benefit to corn and grass crops. The wheat harvest is well underway and some spring grains have also been cut.

In Middlesex County of Southern Ontario dry weather up to Friday favoured harvesting operations but row crops were beginning to suffer and pastures were drying badly. Showers since then brought precipitation ranging from one-half to one and one-half inches over most parts of the county. Grain has ripened rapidly and a good deal of wheat and some barley and oats have been swathed and combined. Wheat yields range from 10 to 50 bushels per acre and the quality is good. Some of the barley fields have yielded up to 65 bushels per acre and the oat crop is promising.

Corn, soybeans and tobacco are generally doing well. The wheat harvest is practically completed in Essex County with good yields and quality reported. The oat crop is now ready to combine and prospects are good. Soil moisture is generally adequate, but recent showers have delayed the harvest. The canning pea harvest has been completed and sweet corn, tomatoes, and other in-season vegetables are being picked. The processing sweet corn crop is very good and picking will start in a few days. Corn, soybeans, sugar beets, late tomatoes and tobacco are all making excellent growth, and are generally more advanced than normal. The late tomato harvest will begin about August 7. Harvesting of early apples and peaches is also well underway.

In the Chatham area in Kent County harvesting of winter wheat is well advanced and reports indicate the sample is of high quality with low moisture content. Combining of winter barley has been completed and some early oats have been harvested. Rains over the weekend have greatly improved prospects for row crops such as corn, sugar beets, soybeans and tomatoes. Pastures will also benefit. Corn is making good growth and some de-tasselling for production of seed corn has been done. Lodging of oats is serious in some areas and has provided a favourable habitat for army worm development. The potato leaf hopper is appearing in large numbers in bean crops.

In Norfolk County hail storms have caused damage to tobacco and fruit crops with lesser damage to grain and corn. Winter wheat is being harvested and is yielding well. The quality is good. Rains have improved moisture conditions and this will benefit all crops. Excellent spring grain crops are now almost ripe; corn has made rapid growth and is in excellent condition. The tobacco harvest is expected to begin early and some early peaches are now being picked. Some 1.6 inches of rain on July 22 restored depleted soil moisture reserves at Vineland. The cherry harvest is almost over and the early peach and plum harvest is beginning. Aphids and mites continue to be troublesome on tree fruits. The oat harvest is starting and stem rust is unusually heavy. Field corn is in excellent condition.

Haying has been completed in York County of Central Ontario and although the quality is good yields were down by 25 per cent from normal. The second crop will also be very light. About one-third of the wheat has been harvested and yields are heavy. Spring grains are filling well and average yields are expected. Pasture growth has been very slow due to dry weather and shortages were general but the rain received on July 23 will improve prospects. The corn crop is fair but tasselling short and yields will be below normal. Recent rains have greatly improved the crop outlook around Peterborough. Wheat is being harvested and yields and quality are reported as good. The oat crop is average; pastures are improving and early planted corn is good.

In Eastern Ontario in Leeds County around Brockville two recent rains have been of great benefit to crops and pastures. The oat and corn prospects are rated as good. Fall wheat crops are only fair and are almost ready to cut. The first-cut of hay was completed and although yields were below normal the quality was high. It is expected that production of hay will be sufficient to meet winter requirements. Haying has progressed very slowly in Dundas County during the past week because of showers and cool weather. The rains were beneficial to spring grains however. Stands of fodder corn are exceptionally good and prospects are for better than normal yields. Grain corn crops would benefit from higher temperatures. Heavy showers in most sections of Renfrew County have relieved the drought situation at least temporarily. Haying is almost completed and harvesting of fall wheat and spring grains will commence about July 30. Pastures are poor.

Oats and barley crops headed earlier than usual at Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario. Frequent rains during the first half of July improved grain crop prospects considerably. Haying started around July 16, but the effects of a large population of army worms is noticeable in hay yields with timothy fields suffering the worst losses.

MANITOBA

Scattered showers have maintained favourable crop conditions in Manitoba during the past two weeks. West of the Red River Valley some areas did not receive any moisture last week and rain will be needed soon to sustain heavy crop growth and bring good kernel development. Over 80 per cent of the cereals are headed in western regions while most crops in the Red River Valley, south Interlake and eastern Manitoba are in the shot blade. There are some uneven stands of flax in eastern regions due to poor germination. Insect damage throughout the province has not been serious, but there are many grasshoppers and aphids. Aphids are predominantly in field peas and some fields have been sprayed. Diamond-back moths and flea beetles have been reported on rapeseed. In small areas of the province hail damage has been severe. Haying is fast nearing completion, except where delayed by rain and the second crop of hay is growing well. Swathing of rye has started and good yields are expected. Harvesting of peas is well advanced and some early potatoes have been dug.

Approximately one inch of rain fell during the past week over the area around Vita in southeastern Manitoba. The rain benefited crops and caused little interruption to haying operations. Grasshopper spraying continues to be done on land where hay has been cut. All crops apart from those damaged by grasshoppers appear in fairly good condition but there is a wide range in stage of growth. Intermittent showers have been received at Altona during the past few days but more adequate rains are needed to maintain the rapidly developing crops. The grass seed harvest is half completed and beet thinning has been done. Sunflowers are in bud. Aphids are severe on peas and late grains but are being controlled. In the Morden district 2.65 inches of rain was received last Friday night. The green pea harvest is well advanced; some early potatoes have been dug and early-sown sugar beets look excellent. Aphid damage to crops is reported in many areas and some local damage by grasshoppers has occurred. The Hawk moth has been damaging ash trees.

Crop conditions are good to excellent at Melita in the southwest corner of the province. More moisture, however, is required for crops on lighter soils. Amounts varying from zero up to 0.8 inches fell in various parts of the district during the past week. Rye swathing will commence by the end of this week and haying is about 50 per cent done. Grasshoppers are causing some crop damage and spraying operations are continuing.

Haying operations are virtually completed in the Portage la Prairie district. Early-sown cereals are headed and most of the late sown crop is reaching the shot blade stage. There is a possibility of a serious aphid infestation on peas, barley and especially on flax. Most of the spraying for grasshoppers and weeds has been completed. Rain would be welcome but conditions are not serious.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that moisture conditions are fair, but showers would be beneficial. Leaf rust is developing rapidly on wheat and stem rust on susceptible varieties of barley. The leaf rust presents a threat

to normal kernel development of wheat. Oats are free of rust. Wheat is largely headed and filling well while coarse grains are 60 per cent headed. Haying has been delayed by showers but pastures need more rain. Our correspondent from Virden reports heavy crops and excellent prospects, the best in the past six years. Swathing of rye has started and yields up to 40 bushels per acre are expected. Haying is well advanced, with good tonnage being obtained. Most cereal crops are now headed. Grasshoppers are thick, but very little crop damage has been done. Moisture supplies are good and pastures are also good.

In the Interlake area, at Teulon, recent rains are delaying haying operations. Only very early seeded crops are headed. Gardens and second-crop hay are growing well. No hail damage has occurred to date.

In west-central Manitoba, at Neepawa, wheat, oats and barley are 80 per cent headed and in the early dough stage. Flax is in the early bloom stage and aphids are slowing the growth. The first-cut of hay is nearly completed, with above average yields of 2 to 3 tons per acre. Grasshoppers are plentiful and the population is great enough in some areas to provide for a severe infestation next year. At Minnedosa haying operations progressed rapidly last week with good weather conditions. Heavy scattered showers occurred last weekend and this will help grain crops considerably. Leaf rust has been reported on wheat and barley, but it should not be too serious. Hay crops will be adequate and gardens are in good condition. Farther west at Shoal Lake cereal grains are 90 per cent headed and flax is blooming. Rainfall varying from 0.6 to 1.2 inches was received on July 21, and prospects for high yields are good. However, stooling of grain crops progressed to the point where frequent rains will be required to prevent deterioration and shrinking of the kernels now forming. Haying is 80 per cent complete, with excellent yields, and weed and insect spraying has also been completed. Gardens are excellent. Scattered showers last week brought some relief to crops in the Russell area, but pockets of hail have done damage up to 35 per cent. The crop picture varies from fair around Russell to very good at Angusville and Foxwarren. Grasshoppers have moved from cut haylands into crops and may do much damage yet.

In northern Manitoba, at Dauphin, scattered showers have also improved crop prospects, but 50 per cent of the district still needs rain. Haying is almost completed, with average yields of good quality. Pastures are fair to good and gardens are good. Some movement of grasshoppers into cereal crops has started and flea beetles are attacking rapeseed crops.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports a light storm in Rosburn area on July 19.

The average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 26 per cent above normal compared with 23 per cent above normal a week ago, 32 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 38 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 23 was 1.8 degrees below normal as compared with 6.6 degrees below normal a week ago, 1.7 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 3.1 degrees below normal for the week ending July 24, 1961.

SASKATCHEWAN

Substantial rains during the past two weeks have checked crop deterioration and improved the general crop outlook in most parts of Saskatchewan. Rains were fairly heavy, particularly in the western part of the province, while in other areas showery weather was most timely and was needed to maintain the heavy crop growth. With the exception of some areas around the Quill Lakes, crops east of the 3rd Meridian are quite favourable. In the western half of the province the situation is more variable, with prospects ranging from fair to poor in the southwest to good to excellent in the northwest. The appearance of fall rye, flaxseed, and rapeseed is good although many fields of rapeseed are infested with beet webworm and diamond-back moths. Considerable spraying has been necessary to prevent serious losses. Grasshoppers are numerous in small pockets but so far no serious damage has been reported. These insects are now on the wing. Recent rains have alleviated the danger of a widespread fodder shortage.

Crops are looking very good at Willmar in the southeastern part of the province, but rain will be needed to finish filling of kernels. Based on present appearance wheat should average 30 bushels, oats 60, barley 35, rye 24 and flax 10. There are lots of grasshoppers but not much damage as yet. Farmers are busy haying and summerfallowing. Cattle are in good shape. In the Yellowgrass area crops are also good and moisture should be ample to fill most of the stands. All crops are headed and are a good height. No rust or hail damage has occurred to date. Swathing will not be general for another three weeks. Durum wheat stands are very heavy but heads are shorter than last year. Recent scattered showers have made crop conditions very uneven in the Fillmore district. Cereal crops are fully headed and rye fields are maturing rapidly. In general, a good rain is badly needed to complete the maturity of spring-sown grains. Grasshoppers are still a big threat and damage to unsprayed native pastures has been quite extensive.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that a heavy rain throughout the area followed by cool, cloudy weather has checked further deterioration of crops and helped the feed situation. Crops are patchy with some fields badly burned while others will produce fair crops. The average yield of wheat expected is eight to ten bushels. Stands of fall rye are thin, with heads only partly filled. Pastures are now turning green again.

Farther south at Val Marie, six inches of rain were received during the past two weeks and moisture is now abundant for filling the crops. Stands are still patchy but wheat is expected to yield 15 bushels. Grass growth is excellent and hay crops good but there was some flood damage to cut hay. There is no sign of rust to date. At Eastend permanent drought damage is apparent in many fields. However, heavy rainfall has resulted in vastly improved conditions for most of the district. There have been isolated outbreaks of grasshoppers but control measures still appear to be effective. Haying operations are well underway and the fodder outlook appears favourable. Hay losses have been experienced by some individuals due to flooding. In the southwestern part of the province, at Leader, two inches of general rain have improved growing conditions and indications are that the crop will be of average size.

In east-central Saskatchewan, at Togo, crop conditions have generally improved due to timely rains. The rains will promote growth of late crops and should ensure good filling. Farther north at Sturgis, 90 per cent of the wheat is in bloom and

Wheat averages 36 inches in height. Heavy showers have been received recently and all crops are looking well.

Our correspondent from Drake in the central part of the province states that only spotty showers have been received and rain is urgently needed. Wheat crops are fair but coarse grains are poor, and crop prospects in general are below average. Grasshoppers are now on the wing. Haying is almost completed and summerfallowing is in progress. Cattle are doing well. Some light hail damage has occurred in this district. Crops are almost all headed in the Saskatoon area and some are looking very good. Other crops, particularly those on stubble, are poor and some have been worked down. Crops on light soils are starting to ripen. Good rains over the weekend will help some crops to fill better but they were too late to improve the poorer crops. Pastures are very poor.

In west-central Saskatchewan, at Rosetown, recent rains have so greatly improved crop conditions that a wheat yield of 15 bushels or better is now in prospect. Flax prospects are also improved and yields will be fair. Harvest will be later than last year. The Experimental Farm at Scott reports rainfall varying from 1.4 to 2 inches and a general improvement in crop prospects. In the Kerrobert area 4 inches of rain were received. Stubble crops will be uneven due to burning and now to second growth. Crops are filling well and pastures are showing improvement since the rain.

Only small isolated showers have occurred in the Melfort area in the past two weeks. Summerfallow crops are withstanding the drought remarkably well but yields will be lower than average. The crop outlook on the whole, however, is better than at the same period last year. A widespread outbreak of the diamond-back moth is reported and control measures are underway. In the Nipawin area crops are only fair and rain is badly needed. Some spotty showers have helped some of the crops but others are in real need of rain. Forage crops are only fair, with sweet clover being poor. Wheat and oats are fair, barley poor and flax fair. Hay and pastures, however, are very good.

In the northwestern part of the province at Meota two and one-half inches of rain were received last week and this will be sufficient for two weeks. There has been no crop damage from any source and crops are looking quite good while pastures are fair. Farther north at Paradise Hill, approximately an inch and three-quarters of rain was received in the past two weeks and moisture is sufficient for the present. Wheat averages 36 inches in height and is headed in good condition. There has been no damage to date and present indications are for a 25 bushel average. Haying is in full swing and yields and quality are good.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following storms: July 17 - Eyre area, light; Maple Creek area, medium; July 18 - Admiral area, medium; Aneroid to Bateman to Gravelbourg to Palmer, light to medium, Canopus to Willow Bunch to Bengough to Ritchie, medium; July 19 - Redvers to Fertile, light; Calder area, light.

The average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 2 per cent below normal compared with 8 per cent below normal a week ago, 13 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 41 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 23 was 2.5 degrees below normal, compared with 5.9 degrees below normal a week ago, 4.8 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 2.4 degrees below normal for the week ending July 24, 1961.

ALBERTA

During the past two weeks only local showers offered any relief in a fairly large portion of southwestern Alberta. The remainder of the south received rains ranging from 2 to 6 inches, but moisture was too late to greatly benefit wheat which has headed on short straw and has suffered from burning. Most benefit was realized by fall pasture, stock watering ponds and perhaps later seeded oats and barley. Central Alberta crops are generally in very good condition, but in east-central areas there has been some burning on lighter soils. However, crop deterioration here was arrested by rains on July 13 to 16. Crops in the Edmonton area and east to the Saskatchewan border are very good. Growth of wheat and oats is heavy, with barley lodging in several areas. Haying is nearing completion in the south of the province, with very poor yields on dry land. Yields of first cuttings on irrigation range from one and a half to two tons per acre. The recent rains greatly reduced the quality of hay that was not baled or stacked. Continuing wet weather has stalled haying operations around Edmonton and north and east and has considerably reduced the quality of the crop. A hay shortage may develop in some areas as many low meadows are flooded. Warm, dry weather is now needed to permit completion of haying and to further the maturity of crops.

Some crops in the Manyberries area benefited from local rains, but others are suffering from drought. Barley is starting to fill and fall rye has been cut for feed. Ranges are curing and livestock are still in fair to good condition. Soil moisture supplies are fair to poor. Conditions have improved somewhat in the Medicine Hat area with a general rain of from one to two inches. However, the moisture was too late for many crops although late-seedings will now fill better. Pastures will benefit from the rain, but hay is in short supply.

Scattered showers east of Lethbridge arrived too late to help many crops and harvesting of a light barley crop is started. West of the city, crops are still promising, but rain would be welcome. Harvesting of early barley has started. Irrigated crops are satisfactory, with a heavy use of water being made. Flax is in full bloom. Fall rye is being swathed in the Claresholm area and fall wheat is nearly ready for swathing. Spring wheat is starting to burn due to lack of moisture, but flax is holding well. Rain is urgently needed if a near normal crop is to be harvested. Pastures are now drying, but hay crops have been reasonably good.

The weather is hot and dry in the Brooks area, with only odd scattered showers being received. Some hail damage has occurred. There is great variation in the condition of crops. The diamond-back moth has damaged mustard in some localities and grasshoppers are again becoming active. Most irrigated crops are good, but many dry-land crops have burned. A general rain is needed. The crop situation has again deteriorated in the Vulcan area due to dry weather. Maximum yields anticipated are wheat 14 bushels per acre, oats 20 and barley 20. Swathing of rye is underway with poor yields anticipated. Flaxseed and durum wheat appear to be standing the drought better than other crops.

Six to eight inches of rain have fallen in the Hanna area in the past two weeks. The outlook for feed grains and forage crops is improved, but the rain was too late to be of much benefit to wheat. However, some early fields that are free of weeds could still make a few bushels. Late crops are very weedy.

Very little rain has fallen in the Calgary area during the past two weeks. Moisture supplies are low. Crops are still in fair condition and average about 22 inches in height, with about 75 per cent headed. Rain is urgently needed for filling. Farther north around Olds crops are making rapid progress due to hot, dry weather this past week. Light frosts have been reported in low-lying areas. Rain would be beneficial to late crops.

Up to six inches of rain were received last week in the Sedgewick area of central Alberta. Crops are doing well, with wheat mostly headed and oats and barley starting to head. Hay and pasture crops are good. All crops are in good condition in the Donalda area with wheat in head and filling nicely. Haying was delayed by wet weather but is in full swing now. Farther south around Stettler, 3.8 inches of rain have fallen in the last two weeks. Warmer weather now prevails, but crops are not suffering. About half the hay crop is cut and stacked. A fair rye crop will be ready to harvest in about ten days.

Eighty degree temperatures during the last few days have hastened heading and maturity of all cereal crops in the Red Deer area. Seventy-five per cent of the hay crop has been cut and 50 per cent stacked. Early cuttings were of poor quality due to rain, but yields were above normal. Haying operations are also 75 per cent completed in the Lacombe area under warm, sunny weather conditions. Yields average about one and one-quarter tons per acre. Soil moisture reserves are low and hay and pasture growth is at a standstill. Cereal crops are still looking very good, but will require moisture within the next few days. Farther west at Eckville moisture conditions are ideal. Haying has been delayed due to showery weather, but the harvest is about half completed and quality is fair. Crops are doing well and summerfallows are in fair to good condition. Wheat is headed with oats 90 per cent and barley 75 per cent in head.

Satisfactory moisture conditions prevail in the Edmonton area and warmer weather is now promoting rapid crop growth. Present prospects are good.

Wet weather persists in the Bonnyville area northeast of Edmonton and considerable damage from flooding has occurred. Barley in particular has suffered. All grain crops are late, with a good proportion in the shot blade or just heading. Haying is slow and quality only fair although the crop is heavy. North of Edmonton at Colinton rainfall since May 1 has totalled 13.4 inches. Crops are making good progress despite the lateness of seeding. Much hay has been cut, but cannot be stored due to rain. About 75 per cent of the summerfallow acreage has been worked. Only about 80 per cent of the intended acreage of grain in this area was seeded in the spring.

Intermittent precipitation has replenished surface moisture in the Beaverlodge area of the Peace River district, but has lowered hay quality and delayed completion of haying. Cereals, oilseeds, and forage crops are developing normally. Dry weather persisted in the Berwyn area until July 13. Rainy weather prevailed from the thirteenth to the twenty-first providing sufficient moisture to fill and carry crops for two weeks. Cereals are 90 per cent in head and average yields are expected although harvest may be two weeks late. The hay crop is 25 per cent stacked with some spoilage having occurred. Hay yields average about one ton per acre. The Manning district is still wet. Rain has fallen on seven of the past ten days in the Fort Vermilion area. Clear weather now prevails and haying operations are again underway. Much of the hay cut prior to the rain is now badly weathered, with surface water lying in low areas of the fields. Grain crops are headed and average about forty inches in height. Some lodging is occurring. Flax is up thirty inches and in blossom.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports hail showers in various districts northwest of a line through Bowden, Alix, Forestburg, and Myrnam to Elk Point. Local storms were reported at Seven Persons, Rockyford and in the Peace River district at Hythe, Sexsmith and Wanham. Damage was light to moderate. The Canadian Hail Insurance Underwriters Association reports the following hail storms: July 10 - Skiff area (medium); July 12 - Sangudo area, Forestburg area (light to medium); July 16 - Coutts area (light); July 17 - Vimy area, Leduc area, Lamont area (light to medium), Medicine Hat area (medium); July 19 - Derwent area (medium).

Average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 9 per cent above normal unchanged from last week and compared with one per cent below normal two weeks ago and 10 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 23 was 3.3 degrees below normal compared with 3.7 degrees below normal a week ago, 6.5 degrees below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 2.6 degrees above normal for the week ending July 24, 1961.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Cooler than normal weather on Vancouver Island has been favourable to hay and strawberry crops, which are of excellent quality. Harvesting of early potatoes, apples and loganberries is in progress now and crops are expected to be heavy.

Commencing on July 19 normal summer temperatures resumed in the Lower Fraser Valley, after a period of unseasonably cool temperatures and excessive precipitation. The advent of warm weather has resulted in accelerated growth of corn, canning beans and other crops. Canning pea yields are generally fair. The strawberry harvest is nearing completion, while the raspberry harvest is rapidly reaching its peak.

Sweet cherry harvesting will be completed this week in the South Okanagan Valley. Apricot picking is general in southern districts and yields and quality are good. Bartlett pears appear better than anticipated because of large sizing. In the North Okanagan Valley cloudy and showery weather gave way to clear skies and high temperatures by July 20. This hastened the maturity of cereal crops. Combining should be underway by the end of this month, which is almost two weeks later than last year. Yields are expected to be relatively high. Second-cut alfalfa is reaching the blossom stage in some locations. All cereal, hay and field pea crops are expected to be better than average. Alpine sheep and cattle ranges are at least two weeks late because of snowflurries, consequently, the pressure on the middle and lower grasslands is severe in some locations. Irrigated pastures are producing well.

In the Thompson Valley and Southern Cariboo cool nights with abnormal rainfall delayed crops which are two to three weeks behind normal. In the valleys, pastures and second-cut hay are somewhat slow, while at higher elevations first-cut hay is being harvested with good yields. Ranges are producing better than normal.

Heavy July rains have been reported in the Dawson Creek region. Cereal crops are good, except the early seeded ones. Hay crops are light; recent rains were too late to improve the situation. Seed crops are also light and late. All crops are three weeks late. The moisture supply is adequate. Heavy rainfall during the last two weeks has been reported in the Fort St. John area. Moisture is adequate for cereal crops which are expected to yield above average. Hay crops are poor with haying delayed by wet weather. A shortage of hay is anticipated. Grass seed crops are light. The legume crop seed set is below average.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 23, 1962	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 23 1962	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	.17	13.28	8.33	65	67
	Pierson	.05	9.89	8.34	65	68
	Waskada	.06	13.35 <u>2/</u>	8.70	55	68
2	Ninette	.32	10.88	8.93	66	68
	Pilot Mound	.94	11.05	8.53	65	68
3	Altona	n.r.	8.44 <u>2/</u>	8.07	n.r.	70
	Deerwood	n.r.	11.22 <u>2/</u>	8.50	n.r.	68
	Graysville	.17	10.80	8.26	67	69
	Gretna	.28	11.48	8.07	68	70
	Morden	2.51	14.36	8.74	66	70
	Morris	.78	8.36	7.54	68	70
	Portage la Prairie	.15	10.81	8.54	67	70
	Roland	1.21	10.97	8.26	67	69
4	Stonewall	2.22	12.96	8.29	65	69
5	Emerson	.97	11.59	8.07	68	70
	St. Genevieve	2.95	10.80	7.88	66	67
	Steinbach	3.06	11.48	8.26	66	69
	Winnipeg	2.15	13.31	7.88	68	69
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.95	12.66	7.36	66	66
	Sprague	.88	13.97	8.79	62	66
7	Reston	.27	12.55	8.41	66	69
	Rivers	.35	9.93	9.50	67	68
	Virden	.28	7.64	7.91	67	69
8	Brandon	.04	9.68	9.00	68	67
	Cypress River	.12	9.50	8.31	68	69
9	Kelwood	nil	10.01	8.59	66	68
	Minnedosa	n.r.	8.11 <u>2/</u>	8.15	n.r.	68
	Neepawa	.31	9.26	8.16	67	68
10	Birtle	.86	7.95	8.01	64	65
	Rosburn	2.60	12.87	7.64	67	65
	Russell	.84	5.96	7.56	62	66
11	Dauphin	1.73	8.40	7.81	64	68
	Gilbert Plains	1.40	7.03	7.81	65	67
12	Arborg	1.18	7.34	7.76	65	67
	Gimli	1.76	11.18	8.36	67	68
13	Swan River	.72	8.07	7.40	67	64
	The Pas	.03	4.01	6.34	67	65
14	Grass River	.31	9.12	8.59	67	68
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.93	10.27	8.18	66.1	67.9
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.07	8.76	8.26	66	69
	Oxbow	.22	8.08 <u>2/</u>	8.30	64	67
	Willmar	.22	10.09	7.78	n.r.	n.r.
1B	Broadview	.57	7.25	7.99	64	65
	Moosomin	.48	10.48	8.52	65	68

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.		
		8 a.m. July 23, 1962	since April 1	since April 1	July 23 1962	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)							
2A	Yellow Grass	2.02	9.42	7.50	64	68	
	Creelman	.13	5.69	7.46	66	67	
	Weyburn	.16	7.47	7.59	65	68	
	Midale	.02	8.03	7.29	66	68	
	Claybank	n.r.	6.70 <u>2/</u>	7.54	n.r.	68	
2B	Moose Jaw	.57	7.98	6.89	65	69	
	Regina	.50	7.80	7.22	65	68	
	Francis	.19	4.98	6.59	67	67	
	Qu'Appelle	.42	6.44	7.85	63	67	
	Indian Head	.33	6.65	7.24	66	67	
3AS	Assiniboia	1.12	8.56	7.24	64	69	
	Ormiston	2.42	8.82	7.47	68	69	
	Minton	1.10	9.64	8.06	64	68	
	Cardross	n.r.	5.71 <u>2/</u>	7.47	n.r.	69	
	Ceylon		6.85 <u>2/</u>	8.26	n.r.	68	
3AN	Chaplin	1.41	5.33	6.27	64	68	
	Gravelbourg	.56	7.25	7.10	64	69	
	Coderre	1.00	6.26	6.91	65	69	
	Shaunavon	.46	9.71	6.58	61	68	
	Cadillac	n.r.	3.90 <u>2/</u>	6.97	n.r.	68	
3BS	Pambrun	.71	5.87	7.29	62	68	
	Aneroid	1.49	9.79	6.60	62	68	
	Val Marie	2.25	6.78 <u>2/</u>	5.57	62	67	
	Instow	.55	9.70	6.59	64	68	
	Pennant	.86	7.81	6.47	62	69	
3BN	Swift Current	.37	6.52	7.02	62	68	
	Hodgeville	n.r.	4.94 <u>2/</u>	7.16	n.r.	68	
	Hughton	.83	7.62	5.88	64	68	
	4A	Consul	.49	5.35	5.79	61	66
	4B	Abbey	.88	7.43	5.68	62	68
5A	Cupar	1.63	9.24	6.66	67	67	
	Kelliber	.65	7.34	6.73	64	63	
	Melville	.37	5.33	7.12	64	66	
	Yorkton	.29	5.29	7.35	66	67	
	Bangor	.63	5.13	7.36	65	67	
5B	Dafoe	3.22	7.07	7.37	65	67	
	Foam Lake	.40	4.07	7.49	64	66	
	Kuroki	.43	4.31	7.49	65	65	
	Lintlaw	.32	3.59	7.49	64	64	
	Kamsack	.33	5.31	7.10	66	66	
6A	Arran	.20	5.73	7.27	66	65	
	Davidson	.28	3.53	6.64	66	67	
	Imperial	.67	6.60	6.53	66	67	
	Semans	1.06	8.59	5.91	64	67	
	Strasbourg	2.06	8.46	6.76	65	66	
	Watrous	.66	7.96	6.25	65	67	

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 23, 1962	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 23 1962	Normal
			- inches -			- degrees F. -
<u>SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)</u>						
6B	Harris	n.r.	4.67 2/	6.16		67
	Outlook	.42	4.64	5.82	66	69
	Saskatoon	.82	6.10	6.90	66	67
	Elbow	.48	4.80	6.01	65	68
	Tugaske	.56	6.09	6.60	65	67
	Dundurn	1.39	4.81	6.24	66	67
7A	Alsask	1.34	3.54	5.78	62	67
	Kindersley	1.02	7.50	5.68	62	67
	Rosetown	.73	3.35	6.70	64	67
7B	Macklin	.41	8.31	6.31	63	66
	Denzil	.63	6.44	6.51	62	66
	Scott	.82	5.69	6.20	63	65
	Biggar	.61	6.42	6.40	65	68
8A	Hudson Bay	1.08	4.76	7.43	65	65
	Prairie River	.36	5.02	7.13	65	66
	Armit	.48	5.95	7.43	65	66
8B	Humboldt	1.17	4.81	6.46	64	66
	Melfort	.39	5.80	6.75	65	66
9A	North Battleford	1.36	5.58	6.15	65	67
	Victoire	.62	4.01	6.28	66	63
	Prince Albert	.38	4.72	7.00	66	66
	Island Falls	1.23	6.24	6.59	67	64
9B	Waseca	1.98	8.26	6.46	61	64
	St. Walburg	2.48	8.92	6.46	64	63
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.82	6.75	6.90	64.4	65.9
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Empress	.19	2.83 2/	4.47	64	71
	Foremost	nil	3.28	6.74	65	70
	Hanna	.02	2.96	6.45	61	65
	Manyberries	.14	6.38	5.47	65	70
	Medicine Hat	.67	4.55	5.84	65	71
	Naco	.30	2.51	5.56	59	66
	Winnifred	nil	4.46	5.75	n.r.	n.r.
	Brooks	nil	4.04	5.62	62	69
2	Drumheller	.33	5.10	6.27	62	68
	Gleichen	.04	5.79	6.78	61	65
	Hays	nil	3.93	5.21	65	71
	Raymond	.45	3.02	7.55	63	67
	Lethbridge	.51	4.52	7.35	64	66
	Strathmore	n.r.	4.90 2/	7.36	n.r.	64
	Three Hills	.23	5.71	7.10	59	64
	Trochu	.02	6.15	7.69	60	64
	Vulcan	trace	5.08	7.01	63	66

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 23	
		July 23, 1962	April 1	April 1	1962	Normal
		- inches -	- degrees F. -			
ALBERTA (concluded)						
3	Calgary	.01	5.65	8.46	60	63
	Cardston	nil	6.11	8.34	62	66
	Pincher Creek	trace	6.83	9.30	61	61
	Fort MacLeod	nil	3.78	8.28	65	68
	High River	.13	4.66	9.31	58	61
	Magrath	nil	4.72	8.16	64	66
	Olds	.03	7.83	8.36	58	62
4	Camrose	n.r.	7.82 2/	7.05	n.r.	64
	Coronation	.64	12.05	6.31	60	64
	Hughenden	.27	9.42	6.62	60	64
	Lloydminster	1.08	9.49	6.41	63	65
	Stettler	.41	7.23	7.92	59	64
	Vegreville	.46	12.87	6.69	60	65
	Vermilion	.15	9.65	6.90	61	63
5	Edmonton	2.47	11.27	8.13	58	64
	Lacombe	.29	7.82	8.79	57	63
	Red Deer	1.43	9.78	8.11	58	61
	Rocky Mountain House	.57	8.69	10.56	56	61
	Wetaskiwin	.68	11.06	8.04	59	63
	Athabasca	1.49	11.63 2/	7.06	61	61
	Campsie	n.r.	8.92 2/	8.34	n.r.	62
6	Edson	1.12	10.10	8.77	57	60
	Elk Point	.47	13.89	6.95	61	62
	Embarras	.14	7.13	4.79	62	64
	Lac la Piche	.62	11.82	7.13	60	64
	Smith	2.65	14.19	6.72	58	61
	Whitescourt	1.66	9.90	8.36	57	60
	Beaverlodge	1.43	7.18	6.12	58	61
7	Fairview	1.87	9.39	6.34	61	61
	Ft. Vermilion	1.74	11.58	4.96	64	63
	Grande Prairie	1.07	7.84	6.23	60	62
	High Prairie	1.02	6.23	7.30	60	62
	Peace River	n.r.	6.39 2/	5.83	n.r.	62
	Rycroft	1.26	7.61	6.05	60	62
	Wagner	.94	9.49	6.53	59	60
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.60	7.75	7.09	60.9	64.2

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

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