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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the first of the 1963 series of six telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the first of a series of eleven 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 Reports from Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia indicate a late, cold spring with snow still present in woods and other sheltered areas. Although the frost is out of the ground, very little work on the land has yet been possible. However, some potatoes have been planted in favoured areas and it is anticipated that work on the land will start on a larger scale in Prince Edward Island in one week's time. New Brunswick also reports generally cool weather with snow gone from fields. Although there is some flooding, early well-drained land in the Fredericton district is ready to work and some potatoes have been planted.

Quebec In the Montreal district and the Eastern Townships of Quebec, winter damage appears to be at a minimum with pastures and hay lands starting to turn green. Cattle are still in the barns. Winter feeding has been difficult in this area of the province because of a shortage of good quality dry forage as a result of the heavy export movement of hay to the American market. However, the milk flow is normal for this time of the year. Near Montreal, market gardeners started to plant onions, lettuce, potatoes and sweet corn on April 16, 17 and 18. Vegetables in hotbeds and greenhouses look promising. Practically all farm work not completed last Autumn was finished by the end of April in the Montreal region. Elsewhere in the province it is still too early in the season to report on crop development.

Ontario Following a long severe winter snow disappeared quickly and seeding commenced in the southern counties of Southwestern and Central Ontario during the second week of April under cool, dry weather conditions. Rain, combined with low temperatures caused intermittent stoppage of this work during the latter part of April in most parts of Old Ontario. The precipitation, however, provided much

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are 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, 1963

needed soil moisture supplies. Since May 3 the weather has improved greatly and seeding operations will proceed rapidly if present fine weather holds. Fall wheat suffered 5 to 10 per cent winterkilling in most counties. Improved growth is now taking place following recent rains, and with favourable weather from now on, an average yield may be obtained. Hay, clover and alfalfa came through the winter very well with only slight winterkilling. Pastures and hay crops made very little growth during April due to the prevalence of low day temperatures, cool winds and frosts at night. However, rains and present warmer weather should bring along good growth. Livestock are generally reported in normal condition with the milk flow average for this time of year.

Feed supplies are adequate on the majority of farms in Southwestern and Central Ontario, but few report any surplus. On a considerable number of farms, however, particularly in Eastern Ontario, hay is scarce as large quantities have been exported to New York State.

Prairie Provinces The weather has been cool and windy over much of the Prairie Provinces this spring and this has delayed field operations and weed growth in most districts. Apart from some southern districts in all three provinces, very little wheat has been seeded to date. Surface moisture supplies are generally adequate for germination of crops in all of Manitoba, most of Saskatchewan and the north half of Alberta. Soils remain very dry over wide areas of southern Alberta and parts of southwestern Saskatchewan with some erosion due to strong winds. Pasture growth is slow. Livestock came through the winter in fairly good condition.

GRASSHOPPER OUTBREAK FORECAST FOR THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

1 9 6 3

According to reports from the Canada Department of Agriculture, the 1962 increase in adult grasshopper populations favoured the deposition of eggs in greater quantities and over a larger area than in 1961, especially in northern parts of the outbreak area. In Alberta much heavier infestations are expected in the Drumheller, Coronation and Provost districts, while in Saskatchewan the whole of the eastern part of the province from the International Boundary northward to Watson, Preeceville and Kamsack, will be much more severely affected than in 1962. The same holds true for the Swan River and Grandview-Dauphin districts of Manitoba. Southwestern Saskatchewan and southeastern Alberta have experienced considerable declines in grasshopper populations so that anticipated outbreaks in these regions will be considerably smaller in 1963.

The grasshopper threat to crop production in the Prairie Provinces will be greater in 1963 than in 1962. It is anticipated that 20 per cent more area will be economically affected. Within this increased area the overall population density is expected to be 16 per cent larger. Population expansions in Alberta appear to have contributed most to these high figures, for the grasshopper infested area in this province is expected to increase by 25 per cent, with a 64 per cent increase in grasshopper population density. Manitoba, on the other hand, has the lowest rise in outbreak area (11 per cent), while Saskatchewan has only a 3 per cent increase in population density in 1963.

British Columbia A mild winter, which saw only a light snow cover followed by a cool, dry spring, has resulted in low moisture reserves in all parts of the province. Frost damage has been slight although cherries and strawberries sustained some injury in the Kootenay district. Plantings of early varieties of vegetables are largely completed but growth has been slow. In the Okanagan, all tree fruits are showing good prospects with the exception of apricots and peaches. Pasture and hay growth has been spotty, average at the coast and comparatively slow elsewhere. Good yields of hothouse tomatoes and cucumbers are being harvested with quality reported above average.

MARITIME PROVINCES

The April snowfall in Prince Edward Island was thirteen inches above normal at Charlottetown and the mean temperature was the second lowest on record. Some snow is still in the woods and around fences and ponds still have ice on them. As a result very little work on the land has yet taken place, although the frost is out of the ground. The grass is beginning to show green but it is too early to assess winter damage to legumes and other tender crops. It is anticipated, however, that farming operations will start generally in about one week's time. One exception to there being no planting is a report of seventeen acres of potatoes having been seeded in the eastern part of the province.

Reports from Amherst in Nova Scotia, indicate a late cold spring with no seeding to date. A large amount of snow remains in the woods and the ground is wet due to heavy snowfall and rain in April. Western Nova Scotia also reports a cold late spring and poor pasture and hay growth. However, farmers have succeeded in planting about 10 per cent of the canning pea crop and some potatoes. At Kentville, in the Annapolis Valley, a few snow banks still remain and only a limited amount of planting has taken place. It is anticipated that apple growers will apply the first spray about May 10. Reports indicate that apple orchards are showing no apparent winter damage while cherries indicate only light damage. Fruit blossom prospects are about average.

In the Fredericton area of New Brunswick snow has gone from the fields but flooding is reported in low-lying areas. A lack of frost and low rainfall have rendered early land ready to work and few small fields of potatoes have been planted. Grass growth is well started and practically no winterkilling of legumes is reported. Strawberries have also come through the winter very well. At Perth, the weather has generally remained cool and no land has yet been seeded. However, with one week of warm weather, field work could get underway. Grass is showing some growth and it is anticipated that winterkilling will be light due to the heavy snow cover.

QUEBEC

Tobacco growers in the L'Assomption district of Quebec sowed the flue-cured seed beds during the first week of April while cigar tobacco was sown the third week of the month. Maple syrup production was excellent this year and ended about April 15. By April 11 strawberry and raspberry plantations were free of snow and little winter damage was apparent. Potato growers commenced planting on sandy soils on April 24 and this work was still underway on April 27. Pastures sustained no apparent winter damage. Reports from St. Jean indicate normal temperatures and precipitation for the last two weeks. Some early potatoes and lettuce have been planted and growers have been seeding onions and radishes on muck soils.

Apart from this, very little seeding has been done. Apple trees are at the delayed dormant stage with the first spray having been applied on May 6. Winter damage due to mice is general and above average. The pale apple tree leaf roller emerged April 8 with first eggs reported April 10. Farther east, at Lennoxville, the weather remained cold with growth just having started. No winterkilling is apparent so far. The only seeding reported in the district was at the Experimental Farm on May 7. In the Ste. Anne de la Pocatière area last week was rainy with 1.1 inches of precipitation being received. Hay meadows and pastures are starting to turn green but it is still too early to evaluate winter damage. Although no seeding has yet been done, farmers are hoping to get started by May 10. At Lake St. John there has been frost almost every night and snow remains in the low places and ice on the lakes with no growth reported so far. Caplan also reports no growth so far with all the cattle still in the barns. April temperatures averaged 35 degrees which was 2 degrees below normal with the result that the snow melted very slowly. During the first four days of May, 1.13 inches of rain fell in this district. It is anticipated that field work will not be possible for two weeks.

ONTARIO

In Simcoe County of Western Ontario, most farmers are busy preparing land for seeding, but cool weather during the past ten days has held up operations. Ten per cent of the spring grain crop is up and appears to be in good condition. Although the soil was quite dry, recent heavy rain has built up moisture reserves to a normal level. Losses in winter wheat in this county are placed at about 15 per cent while winterkilling of new seedings appears to be heavier than usual. Seeding has also progressed very slowly in Bruce County. There has been very little growth and as a result no cattle are out on pasture yet. In Waterloo County, approximately 35 per cent of the spring grain crop is now planted and some of the earliest seedings are showing above ground. However, rains, cold weather and snow brought seeding operations to a halt last week. Over half of the spring grain acreage in Halton County had been seeded by mid-April. Although wet, cool weather late in the month delayed operations, seeding is now continuing and land is being prepared for corn. Fall wheat came through the winter in fair condition. Forage growth has been slow.

In Southern Ontario, in Middlesex County, seeding of spring grains is mostly completed and planting of corn has commenced. It is expected that the acreage of both corn and sugar beets will be expanded in this County this year. Winter wheat is rather uneven although many fields appear in good condition. Pastures and hay show little heaving but growth has been rather slow due to recent night frosts. Fruit trees wintered generally well. About 500 acres each of corn and soybeans which stood over winter have now been harvested. Wet weather has further delayed spring work in Essex County. Oats is making satisfactory growth but very little corn has been planted on heavy land due to rain. Fall wheat and pastures wintered well. About 60 per cent of the sugar beet crop has been planted while lettuce, cabbage and other early transplanted crops are making satisfactory growth. A considerable acreage of early sweet corn has been seeded and early potatoes are planted. Asparagus is being harvested. Planting of tobacco will start a week late. Prospects for the fruit crop appear to be fair. In Kent County, work on the land has been delayed due to wet weather in late April. The moisture, however, was needed to replenish soil moisture reserves. Seeding of oats was completed by about April 24. Fall wheat has improved over the outlook of a month ago, and winterkill of this crop is placed at 15 to 20 per cent. About 65 per cent of the sugar beet acreage has been planted. Seeding

of corn is general and the acreage of this crop is expected to increase this year. Field planting of tomatoes began on May 3. The acreage of burley tobacco is expected to be little changed from last year. Pastures and meadows are making good growth. Seed corn maggot flies are reported to be plentiful. The weather has been cool and rainy in Norfolk County and as a result field work has been delayed. Many fields of winter wheat are in poor condition. In Lincoln County, tree fruits are reported to be in full bloom in the Queenston area but will be a week later near the lake and in the Fonthill area. Winter injury appears to be light and bloom is moderately heavy. Soil moisture conditions are good. There has been only a very slight infestation of apple scab to date.

Rains during late April and early May improved soil moisture in Hastings County but made it difficult for farmers to complete seeding. However, grain seeding is reported to be about 75 per cent completed and some of the corn crop has been planted. In Peterborough County, sowing of spring grains is nearly completed. Fall wheat appears to be in excellent condition. It is expected that more silage corn than usual will be planted. Prospects for the hay crop look good.

The general crop outlook is satisfactory in Leeds County, but warmer weather is now needed. Although seeding is progressing, less than 50 per cent of this operation is completed. Winter wheat and meadows appear to be in reasonably good condition. Growth has been slow and as a result only some young cattle have been turned out to pasture. Farmers in Dundas County have been able to do some work on lighter soils and on fields which are tile drained. Although some seeding has been done, growth has been slow due to the cool weather. In Renfrew County, seeding commenced about April 16 and operations are now general. Fall wheat appears to be in fair condition with little winterkill reported. However, some damage has occurred in alfalfa and clovers. There has been fair growth since May 4.

MANITOBA

Although early seeding is underway at scattered points throughout Manitoba, a week of warm weather is needed in order for it to become general. Wheat seeding is half complete at Altona and north to Morris. It is also 30 to 40 per cent complete south and west of Boissevain and Melita. Progress is also fairly rapid at Carberry, Russell, Roblin and Swan River. Fifteen per cent of the lighter soils around Carman have been seeded. Tillage is underway in many other areas but consists mostly of seed bed preparation. Only very little seeding has been carried out. Warm weather is needed in the northern part of the Red River Valley in order to promote tillage. Planting of coarse grains and special crops has started but has been held back because of weed growth. Planting of sugar beets and sunflowers has begun. The acreage devoted to forage and special crops, wheat and barley is expected to increase as a result of a decline in acres planted to oats and flax. Use of fertilizer is increasing. Except at St. Rose, fodder supplies appear adequate until full grazing is underway.

At Altona, in the south-central part of the province, field work and seeding are well underway in all soil zones except on the heavier soils. Cool weather and intermittent rain slowed work somewhat last week. Some farmers are waiting for weed development before proceeding with field operations. About 20 to 30 per cent of the seeding has been completed. Seeding of sugar beets has commenced. Some winterkilling of alfalfa is beginning to show. Pastures are beginning to grow and cattle are in good condition. About one-third of the farmers in the area around Emerson have started

soil preparation. With favourable weather, seeding is expected to be in full swing before the end of the week. Although surface moisture conditions are fairly good, some soil drifting occurred last week. Precipitation from April 1 to date is 1.83 inches. Grass growth has just started.

Reports from Melita in southwestern part of the province indicate that about 40 per cent of the wheat has been seeded in the south-half of the district. In this area about 10 per cent of the barley and oats acreage has also been seeded. In the northern part of the area only about 10 per cent of the wheat is in the ground but so far, no coarse grains have been seeded. Cattle are already on pasture. Since last Monday, precipitation has amounted to about two-tenths of an inch. At Somerset, a limited amount of tillage has been done but no seeding yet. Hay and fall rye crops are beginning to turn green. Light snow on May 5 and cool weather has slowed weed growth.

Moisture conditions have been very good at Beausejour east of Winnipeg, but cold weather has prevented soil warming and early field work has been delayed. With warm, dry weather, spring work should become general this week. Hay supplies are plentiful and pastures need not suffer from early grazing. Field work is just getting underway at Portage La Prairie. Some sugar beets have already been seeded. Moisture conditions are good but pasture growth is slow. Fall rye survived the winter fairly well. So far there does not appear to be any significant change in the usual cropping program.

At Teulon, in the southern Interlake district, spring work has not yet started. If there is no rain, it is expected that field operations may get underway by the end of the week. Feed supplies are fairly adequate and grass is just beginning to grow. Soil conditions are very good at Arborg but the development of forage crops has been very slow. Field operations started today and are expected to be general by the end of the week if the weather remains warm and dry. In the west-central part of the province, around Neepawa, cool temperatures have retarded growth and delayed field tillage operations. Present feed supplies are above average, and seed supplies appear to be adequate. Soil erosion has been severe on light land. Spring runoff has been insufficient to fill all dugouts and sloughs. As a result of cool weather and poor growing conditions for wild oats, very little spring work has been done in the area around Minnedosa and only a small acreage of wheat has been seeded to date. Moisture reserves are excellent but so far the development of pasture and hay has been very slow. It appears that the acreages devoted to the various crops would be about the same as last year. At Russell, winter snowfall was extremely light with only twenty-eight inches being reported. Precipitation during April amounted to 0.68 inches. Last week 0.29 inches of rain was also received. Wild oats have sprouted but are not yet above the ground. Seeding is becoming general. Cattle are still being fed as there is little pasture growth to date. Some concern is being expressed over the grasshopper forecast.

In the north-western part of the province around Dauphin, very little work has been done on the land. However, with favourable weather it is expected that field operations will become general by the end of the week. Although surface moisture conditions are satisfactory, subsoil moisture varies from poor to fair. So far, spring growth has been slow. Livestock have wintered well and there is a carryover of feed supplies. Snow and cold weather at Swan River last week slowed spring work. The seeding of wheat is from 15 to 20 per cent complete. Moisture conditions are fair and pastures have started to grow. Warmer weather and rain are needed.

No insect activity has yet been reported for the province. Grasshopper eggs have come through the winter in excellent condition and eye spots are beginning to show in most of them. Development is approximately 50 per cent.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 69 per cent above normal as compared with 102 per cent above normal a week ago, 134 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 54 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 6, 1963 was 3.1 degrees below normal as compared with 2.1 degrees above normal a week ago, 1.5 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 2.8 degrees above normal for the week ending May 7, 1962.

SASKATCHEWAN

Generally cool weather in Saskatchewan has not favoured rapid progress of spring operations. The exception is the southwest part of the province where about two-thirds of the wheat acreage has been seeded. In areas along the United States border some 10 to 20 per cent of the wheat has been seeded while in the remaining districts up to 5 per cent has been sown. Generally, growth has been slow and the weather has been unsuitable for obtaining a satisfactory weed kill. The warming trend during this week will increase farm activities in all districts. Surface moisture supplies are generally sufficient to germinate grains.

At Willmar in the southeast part of the province, spring weather has been windy and cold and as a result seeding is only about 5 per cent completed. However, weeds and wild oats are now germinating, pastures are getting green and some farmers are now working this year's summerfallow. Grasshopper eggs are plentiful. Some 2.09 inches of rain has been received since April 1. Seeding is general around Yellow Grass and moisture conditions are good with over two inches of rain since April 1. Considerable soil drifting occurred during the first part of April but the situation has been alleviated by the good rains and the general outlook is now very favourable. Continuous cold weather has restricted all plant growth in the Fillmore district and very few weeds have germinated as yet. Land work is quite extensive but only limited areas have been seeded. Moisture conditions are rated as very good. Tame pastures show little growth.

Although seeding in the southwest part of the province, around Gravelbourg, was delayed last week by cool weather and snow, it is now about 35 per cent completed. Very strong winds caused some soil drifting. Moisture conditions are fair to good in most parts of the district. It is expected that more barley will be sown and a sharp decrease in durum acreage is expected. There have been no reports of cutworm or grasshopper damage yet. Weed growth is slow and pastures are improving. At Big Beaver, rainfall this spring has totalled about two and one-half inches. Because of the cool, wet weather, seeding is just getting underway. Pasture lands are in good condition. Grain deliveries are progressing well on the seven-bushel quota. Our correspondent expects less durum wheat to be seeded in this district this year.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that reserve moisture supplies on fallow and stubble are slightly below average and surface soils are very dry. Soil was drifting during the past week. Although a number of farmers have finished planting, seeding is expected to become general this week. Pastures are now turning green but need rain to make satisfactory growth. Fall rye is making good growth. Wheat seeding is about 60 per cent completed and coarse grains 35 per cent at Val Marie.

Surface moisture is rated as fair and subsoil as good. Spring weather has been mostly cool and cloudy and high winds during the past week caused minor soil drifting. Seeding of wheat and coarse grains has been completed around Leader. A small area of flax remains to be sown. Early sown fields are turning green. Because of the light winter snow, spring run-off was negligible. There has been no important precipitation this spring to date.

At Togo, in the east-central part of the province, some wheat has been seeded and planting is expected to be general about the thirteenth of the month. Moisture reserves are average. There has been very little field growth and although grass has started well, development has been slow due to cool weather. Cattle are on pasture but are also being fed hay. Moisture conditions are good for starting crops in the Melville district and wheat seeding is in full swing. Rainfall since April 1 has totalled 1.41 inches. Pasture conditions are rated fair. Due to light snow cover on hilltops, some winterkilling of fall rye occurred and the overall condition is rated as fair.

Seeding operations are expected to be general this week in the Drake district in the central part of the province. High winds on Monday caused soil drifting. Severe night frosts have been experienced during the past week. Fall rye wintered fair. Weed germination has been slow due to cold weather. Some 1.3 inches of rainfall has been received since April 1 and surface moisture supplies are considered adequate for crop germination. It is anticipated that a normal acreage will be sown to all grains. Cattle are now going out to pasture. Although field work began two weeks ago in the Saskatoon district, seeding has been delayed because of cool weather. Operations are now well underway but crops have not started to emerge. Although the surface three inches of soil is dry, subsoil moisture reserves are fairly good. Pastures are growing well.

Spring work and seeding is becoming general this week in the Rosetown area in the west-central part of the province. Moisture conditions are good. It is anticipated that durum acreage will be reduced, bread wheat acreage increased, with coarse grains acreage about the same as last year. Farther north, at Meota, some land work is being done but seeding is not expected to become general until next week. Growth has been slow because of cold weather.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort in the northeast part of the province, reports that snow disappeared from fields in mid-April and that moisture conditions are much better than last year and should be sufficient to promote good germination on summerfallow. Moisture reserves on stubble, though fair, are generally below normal. Very little field work has been done as yet but should become general by the end of this week. Weed and pasture growth is slow. There have been no reports of feed shortages. Although some field work has been done in the Nipawin district, there has been no seeding as yet. The weather has been cold. Moisture conditions are rated as good and three-quarters of an inch of rain has been received since April 1. Very little weed growth is showing so far and farmers are mostly busy cleaning seed. Spring run-off and erosion due to water were light.

Average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 24 per cent above normal compared with 36 per cent above normal a week ago, 75 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 42 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 6, 1963 was 4.4 degrees below normal, compared with 2.0 degrees above normal a week ago, 1.8 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and 1.5 degrees below normal for the week ending May 7, 1962.

ALBERTA

In Alberta, progress has been made with seeding in the south but strong winds have dried out the surface soil and many farmers are now waiting for rain before proceeding with field operations. Considerable soil erosion has already occurred in some areas. Seeding is just beginning in the south-central region. In the Calgary-Hanna area moisture is sufficient to insure germination but is disappearing quickly at Hanna. Very little seeding has been done north of Red Deer and Coronation. Fields are especially wet in the northwest and northeast of Edmonton and seeding is not expected to become general until between the 10th and 20th of May. The situation in the Peace River, though variable, indicates seeding will also be late this spring. Cattle wintered well in the south and good to fair in the remainder of the province. Because of the poor weather pasture growth is slow.

At Manyberries, in the southeast part of the province, seeding is 95 per cent completed with some early grains already above ground. Soil moisture is only fair. Growth on the range is fair. Additional moisture is required. Conditions are similar in the Medicine Hat area where surface moisture is poor and subsoil moisture only fair. Early-sown wheat is four inches high and fall rye is in the shot blade stage, needing rain immediately. Crops are about 85 per cent seeded. Pastures are poor but livestock wintered well. Sugar beet seeding has been completed. Irrigation water was turned on this week and irrigated hay crops appear good.

The Experimental Farm at Lethbridge reports a serious soil moisture shortage to the east and south. There has been only three-quarters of an inch of rain since March 1. Good stands of winter wheat are evident south and east of Lethbridge but rain is needed for continued development. Spring seeding is nearly completed. Grass growth is slow. Irrigation has started. Army cutworm infestations appear moderately severe from Drumheller and Empress south to the International Boundary. Damage as yet is mainly confined to winter wheat. In the Cardston area subsoil moisture is not good although fall-sown grains appear to be in good condition. About 10 per cent of the spring grains have been sown. Livestock wintered well; pastures are fair. At Claresholm conditions are extremely dry and very little seeding has been done to date. Hay and pastures have made very little growth but most fields of fall wheat and rye are quite good. There has been some soil drifting. Moisture is urgently needed to germinate grains already sown and to improve conditions for further seeding.

Weather in the south-central region has been cool and dry with some soil erosion. In the Brooks area, 60 per cent of the wheat, 35 per cent of the barley and 20 per cent of the oats have been seeded. It has been a windy, dry spring and both sub-soil and surface soil moisture reserves are very low. Pasture land in the Vulcan area is reported to be in very poor condition. The cool, windy, dry weather in the last two weeks caused soil drifting. However, moisture is adequate to germinate crops already seeded. Seeding will be general this week.

At Hanna seeding will be general this week but growth is slow due to cold weather. Fall rye is looking good. Some mustard is expected to be seeded in this district this year. In the Calgary area, little seeding has been done yet. East and south of Calgary moisture is reported to be fair to poor, while north and west moisture conditions are fair to good. Seeding is quite general and forage growth good in the Olds area. Moisture conditions are good but warmer weather would be welcome.

Cool weather and good moisture conditions are also reported in central Alberta. Most summerfallow fields in the Sedgewick area have been cultivated although there are no reports of seeding yet. Warm weather is needed to promote grass growth and to germinate wild oats. At Donaldda a similar story is reported. Work is being done on the fields and although no seeding has been done yet it should start this week. Moisture conditions are good but warm weather is now needed.

Cool, unsettled, wet weather is also reported from the west-central area and warmer temperatures are needed to promote growth. At Lacombe precipitation for April was reported to be one inch above normal and field work has been delayed. At Red Deer, seeding on fallow should start this week. Moisture conditions are good. In the Eckville area seeding should also commence in the latter part of this week. No winterkill was reported. Surface and subsoil moisture conditions are reported to be ideal. Little soil erosion occurred due to a slow spring run-off.

At Colinton, field work has just started and pasture growth is very slow due to the cold, windy, wet weather. One and four-tenths inches of rain have fallen since May 1. It is expected that in this area five per cent more wheat will be seeded than last year.

Moisture in the Peace River area is reported to be good to excessive and the weather is cool. At Fort Vermilion, no work has been done on the land yet and seeding is not expected to begin before May 15. Light snow was reported last week. The late spring will likely lead to an increased acreage of barley and rapeseed in this area. Moisture conditions are described as excellent. At Beaverlodge, soil moisture conditions to a depth of at least two feet are reported good to excellent. Cool showery weather has delayed field work which is just now starting. Winterkilling was negligible. At Berwyn, fortunately, a slow spring run-off followed the heavy snowfall of last winter. However, there was some erosion due to the run-off. Moisture reserves are good to excessive. Field work should become general by May 10 and seeding by May 15.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 5 per cent above normal compared to 2 per cent above normal a week ago, 34 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 18 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 6, 1963 was 3.9 degrees below normal compared with 3.7 degrees above normal a week ago, and 3.2 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 5.0 degrees below normal for the week ending May 7, 1962.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

On Vancouver Island the spring season has been delayed by cool, wet weather. Cereals, vegetables and the second-crop of early potatoes have just been planted, while the first crop of early potatoes is emerging. Early growth of pasture and hay is excellent.

In the Lower Fraser Valley, precipitation this season to date is below average and the mean temperature in April was 1.2 degrees below normal. In general hay and pastures are good with some thinning due to winter injury. There has been limited grain seeding to date. The cold weather has delayed planting of early-market corn. Planting of early market potatoes is proceeding normally. There is a prospect of some reduction in strawberry yields due to winterkill and raspberry prospects are variable.

Orchards in the Okanagan Valley are in various stages of bloom with a heavy blossom on all types except apricots. Some frost damage has occurred in low lying areas. Pollination is not complete and has been hampered by showers. A good fruit crop is indicated except for apricots. Production of canning varieties of apricots is expected to be about average with Moore packs producing from 50 to 60 per cent of last year.

In the North Okanagan area, spring began early but the weather turned cool in April almost eliminating the stone fruit set. A sharp frost on May 3 caught asparagus and early-planted tomatoes. Grazing in the area is already underway. Although ranges are generally dry, spring growth is normal. Forage crops and pastures are somewhat retarded.

Farmers in the Bulkley Valley are working on the land under cool weather conditions. Pasture growth is slightly advanced compared to this time last year. It is estimated that the potato acreage will be about the same as last year but none has been planted yet.

Some farmers in the Peace River district began tilling the land on April 28 but spring work is still not general. Working the land in most areas will not start for one week and no seeding has been done yet. The season appears to be about three weeks later than last year. The moisture supply, however, is excellent. Pastures and hay are expected to be good.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. May 6, 1963	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. May 6 1963	Normal
			- inches -			- degrees F. -
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	.13	3.31	1.40	42	45
	Pierson	.20	1.47	1.47	43	46
	Waskada	N.R.	1.55 ^{2/}	1.25	N.R.	46
2	Ninette	.15	1.81	1.59	42	45
	Pilot Mound	.25	2.40	1.53	42	44
3	Altona	.03	2.08	1.45	43	48
	Deerwood	.29	2.33	1.45	43	45
	Graysville	.05	1.00	1.40	42	46
	Gretna	.17	1.31	1.48	44	46
	Morden	.16	1.51	1.70	43	47
	Morris	.11	1.83	1.25	42	47
	Portage la Prairie	.09	3.16	1.40	43	46
	Roland	.09	2.13	1.45	43	46
4	Stonewall	Trace	2.45	1.32	41	45
5	Emerson	.24	1.88	1.46	43	48
	St. Genevieve	.13	1.11 ^{2/}	1.45	42	46
	Steinbach	.09	2.74	1.45	41	46
	Winnipeg	Trace	3.56	1.45	42	46
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.68	2.29	1.20	42	43
	Sprague	.05	2.90	1.71	43	44
7	Reston	.20	1.99	1.50	42	45
	Rivers	.19	1.42	1.20	41	45
	Virden	.08	2.19	1.15	42	45
8	Brandon	.18	1.95	1.59	42	46
	Cypress River	.18	2.79	1.30	42	45
9	Kelwood	.11	2.49 ^{2/}	1.21	46	45
10	Birtle	.25	2.65	1.17	41	43
	Rosburn	.64	2.97	1.09	42	43
	Russell	.40	1.39	1.08	40	43
11	Dauphin	.45	3.82	1.17	41	45
	Gilbert Plains	.40	2.35	1.17	42	45
12	Arborg	Trace	2.82	1.19	41	43
	Gimli	.01	3.61	1.10	41	43
13	Swan River	.33	1.27	1.07	40	42
	The Pas	.73	1.15	1.10	37	41
14	Grass River	.08	2.02	1.21	42	45
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.20	2.26	1.34	41.9	45.0

SASKATCHEWAN

1A	Carlyle	.27	2.23	1.24	42	44
	Estevan	.31	3.34	1.02	43	47
	Oxbow	.14	2.01	1.30	42	45
	Willmar	.11	1.96	1.15	N.R.	46

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. May 6, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	May 6 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
1B	Broadview	.40	1.71	1.14	39	44
	Moosomin	.15	1.79	.98	40	45
2A	Yellow Grass	.54	2.27	1.01	42	46
	Creelman	.23	1.44	.99	42	45
	Weyburn	.22	1.47	1.00	43	46
	Midale	.15	1.90	1.10	43	47
	Claybank	N.R.	1.22 ^{2/}	1.01	N.R.	47
2B	Moose Jaw	.07	.91	.97	41	47
	Regina	.14	.84	1.00	41	46
	Francis	.14	1.38	.80	38	45
	Qu'Appelle	.36	1.44	1.25	42	45
	Indian Head	.19	1.64	1.06	41	44
	Wilcox	.18	1.09	1.02	39	47
3AS	Ormiston	.09	1.14	1.03	43	47
	Minton	.44	2.10	1.32	43	48
	Cardross	N.R.	1.28 ^{2/}	1.01	N.R.	46
	Ceylon	.58	2.92	1.36	41	46
3AN	Chaplin	.60	1.04	1.01	42	46
	Gravelbourg	Trace	1.18 ^{2/}	.95	43	48
	Coderre	.13	.13 ^{2/}	.99	42	46
3BS	Shaunavon	.10	.44	1.05	43	47
	Pambrun	.08	.50	1.00	43	47
	Aneroid	Trace	.59	1.09	43	47
	Val Marie	N.R.	.42 ^{2/}	.88	N.R.	46
	Instow	.15	.34	N.R.	42	N.R.
3EN	Swift Current	.25	.68	1.04	41	48
	Hodgeville	Trace	.33	.99	41	48
	Hughton	.10	.57	.98	41	45
4A	Maple Creek	Trace	.55	1.07	47	48
	Consul	.01	.41	.88	45	45
4B	Abbey	.24	.66	.98	42	47
5A	Cupar	.15	.70	.98	42	45
	Lipton	.10	1.98	.90	41	45
	Melville	.32	1.21	1.00	40	44
	Yorkton	.47	1.19	1.03	40	45
	Bangor	.27	1.32	1.10	41	44
	Dafoe	.26	2.03	.90	38	43
	Foam Lake	.11	.67	1.14	36	44
	Kuroki	.23	.84	1.14	37	43
6A	Lintlaw	.32	.94	1.15	37	42
	Kamsack	.73	1.21	1.09	40	44
	Davidson	.17	.82	.94	40	46
	Imperial	.23	.92	.89	39	45
	Strasbourg	.21	.59	.86	42	45
	Watrous	.20	1.32	.85	39	46
	Delisle	.42	1.35	.90	39	46

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. May 6, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	May 6 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
6B	Harris	.21	1.54	.86	39	46
	Outlook	.27	1.40	.68	43	47
	Saskatoon	.25	1.47	.94	42	46
	Elbow	.06	.78	.94	41	46
	Tugaske	.17	.85	.87	41	46
	Dundurn	.50	1.58	.87	41	46
7A	Alsask	.23	.72	N.R.	44	44
	Kindersley	.27	1.38	.89	40	46
	Rosetown	.14	1.56	1.10	40	46
7B	Macklin	.87	3.67	1.17	41	45
	Denzil	.80	3.81	1.17	41	45
	Scott	.51	2.20	1.12	41	45
	Biggar	.35	1.59	.79	41	46
8A	Hudson Bay	.17	.67	1.16	39	42
	Prairie River	.18	.35	.99	35	40
	Armit	.05	.26	1.16	39	42
8B	Humboldt	.04	1.06	.87	41	42
	Melfort	.11	1.00	1.02	39	44
9A	North Battleford	.07	1.50	1.04	41	46
	Victoire	Trace	1.53	1.03	35	43
	Prince Albert	.05	1.37	1.27	38	45
	Island Falls	.42	.46	1.05	36	37
9B	Waseca	.18	1.04	1.25	40	44
	St. Walburg	.10	.41	1.19	44	42
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.23	1.29	1.04	40.8	45.2

ALBERTA

1	Empress	.10	.25	.67	44	49
	Foremost	NIL	.29	1.40	47	49
	Hanna	.07	.76	.97	41	46
	Manyberries	Trace	.83	1.01	46	48
	Medicine Hat	.01	.37	1.20	49	50
	Naco	.20	.64 ^{2/}	1.03	39	46
	Winnifred	.08	.48	1.31	N.R.	50
	Brooks	NIL	.22	1.04	45	48
2	Drumheller	.15	.57	.95	45	50
	Gleichen	.28	.62	1.35	43	47
	Hays	.33	.66	1.03	46	49
	Vauxhall	.29	.66	1.05	46	47
	Raymond	.08	.72	1.94	45	47
	Lethbridge	.01	.56	1.63	46	48
	Strathmore	.35	.45	1.25	42	45
	Three Hills	.11	1.26	1.05	42	45



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since	Normal since	Week ending 8 a.m. May 6	
		May 6, 1963	April 1	April 1	1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
ALBERTA (concluded)						
2	Trochu	N.R.	1.23 ^{2/}	1.39	N.R.	46
	Vulcan	.20	.43	1.33	44	46
3	Calgary	.66	1.41	1.49	42	45
	Cardston	.26	.76	1.40	44	47
	Pincher Creek	.71	1.92	1.80	43	45
	Fort MacLeod	.20	.60	1.30	44	48
	High River	.42	1.56	2.02	41	44
	Magrath	.15	.66	1.60	45	47
	Olds	.23	1.44	1.43	39	44
	Alliance	.43	2.18	1.10	39	44
4	Camrose	N.R.	1.00 ^{2/}	1.30	N.R.	45
	Castor	.25	2.09	1.20	40	45
	Coronation	.69	2.16	1.20	40	45
	Hughenden	.48	1.90	1.02	40	45
	Lloydminster	.61	1.67	1.16	41	45
	Stettler	.05	2.11	1.30	40	45
	Vegreville	.85	1.70	.93	40	44
	Vermilion	1.42	2.02	1.03	39	44
	Edmonton	.54	1.85	1.30	41	47
	5	Lacombe	.09	2.25	1.57	41
6	Red Deer	.21	2.53	1.20	42	44
	Rocky Mountain House	.12	2.58	1.80	42	45
	Wetaskiwin	.36	2.35	1.50	40	46
	Athabasca	.98	1.43	.97	37	44
	Campsie	.45	1.11 ^{2/}	1.25	39	44
	Edson	.35	2.62	1.27	38	44
	Elk Point	NIL	.04	1.03	42	42
	Lac la Biche	.40	1.40	1.02	39	42
7	Smith	.32	1.79	1.09	37	43
	Whitecourt	.51	2.73	1.56	40	42
	Beaverlodge	.32	1.27	1.08	39	45
	Fairview	.38	.84	1.20	40	44
	Ft. Vermilion	.16	.28	.78	41	41
	Grande Prairie	.38	1.59	1.05	42	44
	High Prairie	.41	1.47	1.20	39	45
	Peace River	.18	.42	.80	41	44
	Rycroft	.26	1.44	.88	39	43
	Wagner	1.51	2.46	1.19	37	43
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.34	1.29	1.23	41.6	45.5

N.R. - No report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete; not included in average.