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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the second 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 fourth 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 Warm weather during the last two to three weeks has enabled farmers throughout the Maritimes to make very good progress with seeding and planting operations and, with continued good weather this work will be nearly completed by the end of the week in many areas. Higher than usual temperatures have favoured crop development, with some grain and early potatoes having emerged. Rain on May 30 in Prince Edward Island also helped and pastures and meadows are making satisfactory growth. In Nova Scotia also, conditions are very good and crop growth is normal. New Brunswick, on the other hand, reports that although the crops are advancing rapidly and the outlook is promising, at least in some areas more moisture is needed soon in order to maintain growth.

Quebec Warm weather and recent rains have favoured plant growth in Quebec. Seeding is practically finished in the south of the province, well advanced in western and central districts but somewhat late in the east. Hay meadows and pastures are generally good, which has proven beneficial to cattle as some herds suffered from a long winter and a shortage of forage. Milk production is rising. In the Montreal district vegetable crops are coming up well. An increase is reported in the acreage sown to onions, carrots and sugar beets. Flue-cured tobacco growers are well ahead with transplanting operations and the setting out of other types of tobacco has started. Work on home gardens is underway. Fruit trees are in blossom and strawberries and raspberries look promising.

Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1963

Ontario Throughout most of Ontario the month of May was unseasonably cool and wet and, as a result, seeding operations were delayed and growth was somewhat retarded. In addition, frost at about May 24 caused considerable damage to fruit and vegetable crops as well as tobacco. However, clear, warm weather prevailed during the last few days of May and early June and field work has progressed at a rapid pace. Seeding of spring grains is nearing completion with the largest percentage remaining in Eastern Ontario. Corn planting is mostly completed in Southern Ontario and seeding will proceed rapidly in the remainder of the province provided the present good weather continues. Early-sown grains have made satisfactory growth. Fall wheat is showing only light winterkill. Hay and pastures are generally good although some damage may result in southern and western areas due to the frost.

Prairie Provinces Seeding is virtually completed in Alberta and Saskatchewan but about 25 per cent remains to be done in Manitoba. Heavy rains continue to delay operations in Manitoba, especially in some eastern sections of the province. Crop conditions are very promising in most districts of Saskatchewan, in central and northern Alberta, and western and central Manitoba. Serious drought persists in southern Alberta with damage to dry-land crops increasing. Damage from cutworms has been kept under control by chemical sprays. Grasshoppers are now commencing to hatch in forecast areas and control measures are being undertaken where necessary.

The Canada Department of Agriculture Station at Winnipeg states that there is little information available at this time to indicate how much rust will develop in western Canada in this year's crop. The amount of inoculum produced in the winter wheat area of the United States which could move northward is an important factor. No spores were caught during May in spore traps in southern Manitoba and Saskatchewan, indicating that little or no inoculum has been carried to western Canada to date. Reports from United States indicate that dry conditions have hastened maturity of crops from Texas to central Kansas and rust although widespread, has been light. Farther north in the winter wheat area moisture is more plentiful and there is still time for production of abundant inoculum that can be carried northward.

British Columbia On Vancouver Island and in the Lower Fraser Valley, moisture is needed although growing conditions have been good to date. Maturity of unirrigated crops is being speeded up by these dry conditions. The Okanagan Valley is also dry but the fruit crop is progressing favourably. In the Interior the weather has been warm and dry but growth is quite satisfactory. Effects of the dry weather are just beginning to show in pasture and range land. Seeding in the Peace River Block, although later than normal, is virtually completed and crop conditions are described as excellent.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island temperatures for the past three weeks have averaged four degrees above normal. Conditions have been ideal for grain seeding and potato planting and this work is well advanced, with about 65 per cent of the potato crop now planted. Reports indicate that, if the weather remains fine for the rest of the week, practically all planting and seeding operations, except for late turnips and corn, will have been completed by the weekend. Tobacco transplanting began on May 31. Rain on May 30 brought 0.9 inches of moisture which accelerated growth of all crops. Pastures and meadows are good in general but heavy winter injury and damage from spring freezing to legumes are reported in many areas. A heavy apple bloom is reported with crop prospects excellent. Blossom is five to six days earlier than usual. Cherry fruit buds, however, show heavy frost injury.

Hay and pastures are generally showing excellent growth in Nova Scotia. Field crops in the western half of the province are about 80 per cent seeded while elsewhere about half of this work has been completed. The weather has been very favourable but rain is required in western Nova Scotia. Strawberry and blueberry blossoms indicate a good crop and growers are hoping the fields will escape frost in the next week. Reports from Amherst indicate that in spite of cold weather during early May rapid drying has taken place in the past two weeks and about 75 per cent of the seeding has now been completed. At the Experimental Farm grain crops are emerging nicely in the cereal plots and some corn has been sown. Pastures are growing rapidly but present indications point to a lighter than usual hay crop as a result of severe winterkilling of legumes.

At Truro, sunny warm weather for the past two weeks has put the land in very good condition for working, with the exception of a few low areas of heavy soils off the north shore. Seeding has progressed very rapidly and growers now have the early potato crop in the ground and are planting their late potatoes. About 60 per cent of the cereals have now been seeded. Grass is growing rapidly and pastures are good with winterkilling of clovers being practically nil. Strawberries also came through the winter very well and are now showing first blossoms. In the Annapolis Valley also, weather conditions have been ideal for spring work and plant growth after a late start. Seeding operations are well advanced with potato planting now almost completed and other crops not far behind. Grasses and clovers wintered well. Conditions for apple pollination are very good and a heavy bloom is reported. Disease control is also good. Apple orchards are now past the full bloom stage and tender tree fruit blossoming is nearly over. Winter injury to plums and peaches was heavier than average. The blueberry bloom has been very good and crop prospects are promising. At Yarmouth, pastures are good but the hay crop will be late. With hot weather last week farmers have nearly finished seeding operations. Tobacco planting is underway and early potatoes and grain are up. Fruit trees were in full bloom last week.

Reports from Fredericton, New Brunswick, indicate that about 80 per cent of the field crops have been seeded, with some grain and early potatoes having emerged. As a result of the heat all plant growth has been advanced but pastures showing some adverse effects due to lack of rain. Hay crop prospects, however, are good. Newly seeded meadows are described as excellent although the clover crop on old grass meadows is only fair. Livestock are generally now out on pasture. Apple trees are now at the full bloom stage with a heavy blossom and a promising outlook reported. Strawberries are also coming into bloom. About 50 per cent of the tobacco has been transplanted.

At Perth weather during the past two weeks has been ideal and has enabled farmers to make good progress with their seeding operations. Given continued good weather this work will be nearly finished by the end of the week. The early grain crop is two to three inches high. About 80 per cent of the potatoes have been planted. Grass is growing well and crop prospects are promising. Most cattle are now on pasture. The Field Crop Entomological Laboratory at Fredericton reports that mosquitoes and black flies are abundant. A considerable June beetle activity has also been noted and aphids are appearing on many trees and shrubs.

QUEBEC

At St. Jean, Quebec, ploughing and seeding on mineral soils have been proceeding rapidly during the last two days. The season is almost a week to ten days later than usual however. Pastures and hay meadows show little winter damage and are in excellent condition. The weather has been hot and dry for the last week and rain will soon be needed. McIntosh apples in southwestern Quebec were in full bloom from May 27-June 1, five days later than usual. Blossom was very abundant, however, and the weather was favourable for pollination. As a result the fruit set is very promising. Reports indicate that this crop escaped frost damage but apple scab spots are already apparent in one district. South of Montreal some frost damage to strawberry blossoms was reported.

Farther east at Lennoxville 80 per cent of the seeding has been completed. Pastures are fair and hay crops have been growing rapidly during the last ten days. Cereals are also progressing favourably but row crops are later than usual. A good rain would be welcome. In the Normandin district only 1.5 inches of rain fell in May and the weather was cool. As a result growth started slowly but higher temperatures during the last few days improved conditions and hay meadows and pastures are now described as excellent. Grain seeding is proceeding normally and potato planting has almost been completed. Cattle have been on pasture since May 30. At Caplan seeding operations were general by May 21 and warm dry weather during the past two weeks was a considerable help with all farming operations. About 90 per cent of the cereals are now in the ground and germination is described as outstanding. Pastures and hay meadows show luxuriant growth and a record hay crop is anticipated. Dairy cows and heifers were put out on pasture on May 27.

ONTARIO

In Simcoe County, of Western Ontario, recurring rains and continued cold weather during May delayed seeding especially on clay and poorly drained soil. At June 1 about 10 per cent of the spring grain acreage remained to be seeded but present warm weather is speeding operations. In many areas, reports indicate better catches of grasses and clovers than a year ago. Fall wheat as well as hay and pasture appear to have wintered well although growth has been slow due to the cold weather. Seeding of coarse grains is nearing completion in Bruce County although planting of corn is late. It is expected that the acreage seeded to corn will increase considerably this year. Hay and pastures are about ten days later than usual. Milk flow is high and beef cattle are making good gains. Recent high temperatures and adequate moisture are promoting excellent growth in Wellington County. However, the frost which occurred ten days ago will shorten the hay crop which is already later than usual. Most other crops are making good growth. The lateness of the season will likely mean an increased acreage of flax.

In Waterloo County the full effects of the overnight frosts of the past week are not yet known, although fruit blossoms and vegetables were killed. In addition, the yield of first-crop hay will be somewhat lower and haying will probably be delayed about ten days. Rain and low temperature in Halton County have hampered growth and prolonged seeding of corn and spring grains until late May. Seeding of spring grains is now completed, however, and planting of corn is well underway. Fall wheat and new seedings appear to be in average condition. Extensive frost injury occurred to vegetable and fruit crops with slight damage to legumes.

Improved weather conditions during the last of May facilitated completion of corn planting and seeding of sugar beets in Middlesex County. Planting of field beans will be general in early June. Frost at May 23 destroyed a considerable acreage of tobacco plants and also did some damage to grapes and garden crops. Spring grains are progressing satisfactorily. Pastures are making fair growth and all cattle are out on grass. Fruit trees showed a good bloom this year. The acreage of both sugar beets and corn are being increased from that of last year. In Essex County, although many crops are a week later than normal most of the corn and soybeans are now seeded. Planting of canning tomatoes and burley tobacco is well advanced. Yields of asparagus have been low and harvesting of head lettuce is well underway. Fall wheat on Pelee Island shows very little winterkill and growth is normal except that heading is occurring on short straw. Soybeans are seeded and conditions for this crop are excellent, with early fields showing good stands.

Warm weather during the past week has brought on rapid growth in Kent County. Winter wheat is somewhat spotty but corn and soybeans are making good growth. Hay and pastures are excellent. Sugar beet blocking is progressing well. Planting of white beans is progressing and some reduction in acreage is anticipated due to the poor yields of the last two years. Planting of burley and flue-cured tobacco is well advanced. There has been only slight flea beetle damage to sugar beets. Tomatoes were relatively undamaged by late frosts. The infestation of seed-corn maggots is general, but damage is as yet uncertain. The resistance of the tobacco cutworm to insecticides has become more marked.

Spring grains are growing well in Norfolk County. Hay and pastures are making abundant growth. Rye is in head and wheat is in the shot blade. Planting of tobacco is nearing completion. Frost on May 24 severely damaged strawberries as well as tree fruits. Some vegetables and tobacco were completely wiped out, but have since been replanted. Seeding of corn is mostly completed. In Lincoln County serious, but irregular damage occurred to grapes and strawberries on May 24 and 25. The loss will be at least 25 per cent. Potatoes, tomatoes and asparagus were also damaged. Some injury occurred to sweet and sour cherries, plums and peaches but it is too early to assess the extent of the damage. Apples and pears may show russetting due to frost.

In York County of Central Ontario most of the spring grains are seeded but only a small percentage of the corn crop has been planted. Crop growth has been slow but is now improving with warmer weather. In Prince Edward County seeding of spring grains is almost completed and corn planting is underway. Milking herds are now out on pasture. In Peterborough County seeding of spring grains has been delayed. Hay, pastures and winter wheat look promising.

In Leeds County seeding of spring grains and grain corn are about 70 per cent completed while silage corn planting is less than 50 per cent finished. General crop prospects are favourable, but grass silage and haying operations will be about ten days later than usual. In Dundas County seeding has also been delayed by wet weather during May. However, good drying conditions have allowed much seed to be planted during the past few days. An increased acreage of silage corn is being planted to replace spring grains. Pastures and hay crop prospects are excellent. In Carleton County all of the early-sown crops have germinated well and are making good progress. Although completion of seeding was delayed by wet weather during May rapid progress has been made during the past week. Hay and pastures are making good growth. In Renfrew County seeding of spring grains and corn was practically completed by May 31. Condition of spring grains is above average. The hay crop appears to be average although

about 15 per cent of the alfalfa was winterkilled. Planting of tobacco commenced May 27. Moisture supplies were adequate and the present warm weather is producing rapid growth. A report from Kapuskasing indicates that seeding of spring grains was completed during the week of May 12. Emergence of seedlings was good despite the cold weather. Legumes and forage crops came through the winter in good condition.

MANITOBA

Seeding is about 75 per cent completed in Manitoba. Less than 20 per cent has been seeded at Stonewall and Selkirk, 30 to 50 per cent at Portage, Beauséjour and the Interlake area, while in western and central areas 80 to 100 per cent has been completed. Heavy rainfall May 30 to June 4 again delayed operations. Moisture is now excessive in some areas and will delay seeding and flood some seeded fields. Wheat seeding is now nearing completion and most special crops, except buckwheat, have been sown. Further seeding of oats, barley and coarse grains and flax remain to be done.

In southeast Manitoba, at Vita seeding is just about completed except for some special crops. Vegetative growth is excellent and precipitation has been good. More rain was received at Morden and completion of seeding is being held up. About 85 to 90 per cent has been completed while at Manitou only 65 per cent has been sown. Seeding of canning peas has been done but corn planting is being delayed. Tree planting has been finished. Farmers are now making preparation to spray. A light grasshopper hatch has commenced.

At Melita in the northwest part of the province, rain amounting to 0.75 to 3 inches occurred over the area. Ninety per cent of the crop has been seeded however. Moisture conditions are generally good and crops are progressing well, especially on summerfallow. Alfalfa winterkilling has been extensive in some fields. Rye crops are good on summerfallow but poor on second crop land. Weed growth is showing in early-seeded grain fields. In the Somerset area, seeding is from 50 to 75 per cent completed and operations have been halted once more due to rain on May 31. A few early-seeded crops are coming up and look good. Pastures are still growing slowly. A few grasshoppers are starting to hatch in isolated locations.

East of Winnipeg at Beauséjour, good progress was being made with seeding until last Thursday and Friday when heavy showers held up tillage. Seeding started again yesterday at some points to the north where rainfall was lighter. About 50 per cent of the crop has been seeded to date with wheat 75 per cent completed, oats and barley 40 and flax just commencing. Heavy rains last week and again on Monday continue to hold up field work and seeding in the Stonewall district. To date, less than 25 per cent of the seeding has been completed. Pastures are beginning to produce well but cattle are causing damage by tramping the wet soil. Mosquitoes are bothering livestock on pastures. So far very few grasshoppers have hatched. Garden growth has been slow but weeds are starting to grow in abundance. Heavy general rains occurred on Monday at Portage la Prairie and will delay seeding until the end of this week. Some farmers have less than 10 per cent seeded while a few have as much as 80 per cent completed. Early-seeded wheat is in good condition, vegetable crops are reported satisfactory while pastures are excellent. There have been no reports of insect damage.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that seeding is nearly completed although now being interrupted by recent showery weather. All the wheat is seeded, 90 per cent of the coarse grains and 80 per cent of the flax. Surface moisture conditions are excellent and the subsoil supply has been much improved. The crops are emerging in a uniform manner. Pastures and hay fields are now making good growth and gardens are looking well. Warm, dry weather would now be beneficial. Farther west at Virden wheat is also all sown and coarse grains 85 to 90 per cent completed. Up to 10 per cent of the corn and flax remains to be sown. Wild oats are growing quite rapidly. Pastures and haylands are looking fairly good. Rainfall was received Thursday and Sunday.

In the Interlake area rain on May 31 and June 3 has slowed down seeding to a large extent. While the majority of the wheat has been sown, much remains to be seeded for oats, barley and flax. There are still many farmers who have not seeded any land because of excessive moisture.

In west-central Manitoba at Neepawa, rain has further delayed seeding which is now 85 per cent complete. Barley acreage has been increased over last year. The grasshopper hatch is almost over. Seeding operations are nearing completion at Minnedosa with only small acreages of coarse grains and flax remaining to be done. Pasture and hay growth has been very slow due to cold weather, and fewer cattle are going to PFRA pastures due to increased grazing fees. Farther west at Shoal Lake seeding is also nearing completion with wheat 90 to 100 per cent, barley 95, oats 90 and flax 85 per cent complete. Crop emergence has been very good and pastures and tame hay are also in good condition. Grasshoppers are beginning to hatch. During the week of May 27 to June 2 heavy showers were received in the area with some hail. The weather has been warm. Excellent progress has been made with field work in this area and summerfallow tillage is just beginning. Haying should commence about the middle of June. Cattle and calves are in excellent condition. Seeding of rapeseed and mustard has been completed in this district. In the Binscarth area seeding is finished and good germination obtained. Showers continue to provide a good moisture supply and satisfactory growth is now occurring on hay and pasture land. Grasshoppers have hatched in parts of the district and farmers are beginning to take control measures.

In northern Manitoba at Dauphin dry weather last week enabled farmers to push seeding to the 90 per cent completion mark. Rain on Tuesday stopped operations temporarily. Moisture supplies are good at all levels in the soil. Grasshoppers commenced to hatch last Saturday. The poplar-leaf beetle is on the rampage at present. Farther north at Swan River, 90 per cent of the wheat and 75 per cent of the oats and barley have been sown. About 70 per cent of the rapeseed is also in the ground. Hay and pastures are coming well but are in need of moisture. Grasshoppers are beginning to hatch.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that grasshoppers have been hatching extensively throughout the province and that the hatch is approaching a peak in the northern and western areas and also in the southeastern part of the Red River Valley. Generally, development is approximately a week ahead of last year. Control measures will be required shortly.

The unweighted average precipitation since April 1 has been 59 per cent above normal as compared with 61 per cent above normal a week ago, 84 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 64 per cent above normal for the same period a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending June 3 was 3.6 degrees above normal in contrast to 5.7 degrees below normal a week ago, 0.7 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 5.6 degrees below normal for the week ending June 4, 1962.

SASKATCHEWAN

Rains during the past few days have greatly improved moisture conditions in Saskatchewan, particularly in Crop Districts 1, 2 and 5. Germination has been good with some 70 per cent of the wheat having emerged, and although growth has been slow but steady, rapid advancement is now expected. Seeding of coarse grains and flaxseed has been practically completed. The added moisture received during the last few days may encourage some farmers to increase their acreage under crops. Heavy cutworm infestations are reported from some south-central and west-central districts.

Only a limited acreage remains to be seeded in the Fillmore district in the southwest part of the province. All crops show very good to excellent emergence but some early-seeded ones appear yellow because of the extreme weather conditions. Hay and pasture fields are good but will require considerable moisture to maintain the present rate of growth. Gardens are all planted and up. The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that 0.73 inches of rain on June 3 has provided excellent moisture for the growing grain crops and for hay and pasture. Seeding has been completed and most crops have emerged, with the earliest three to four inches high and making excellent growth. The majority of farmers have completed the first operations on summerfallow fields. No cutworm or wireworm damage in crops is evident and grasshoppers are just beginning to hatch. Farmers are ready to start spraying for weed control as well as grasshoppers if they become a threat. Hay and pasture fields are making excellent growth and livestock are in good condition on lush pastures.

In the south-central part of the province at Big Beaver fall rye crops are looking very good and stand at least one foot high. There have been no reports of cutworms. Working of summerfallows has been slowed by the wet weather but pasture land and crops have a very good start. Weeds are not being sprayed as yet. At Gravelbourg over an inch of rain fell early this week with some parts of the district reporting a real heavy downpour last Friday. Crops are coming along nicely. Cutworms have been active and before the rain farmers were spraying to control these pests. Pastures and gardens are in excellent shape.

Farther to the west the Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that germination and emergence of grain has been excellent but early-seeded fields are becoming weedy. Fall rye is starting to head but stands are thin and rain is urgently needed to prevent deterioration and also to promote pasture development. There has been some cutworm damage in local areas and although grasshoppers are hatching no serious outbreak is expected. First operations on summerfallow have been completed on most farms. Seeding has been completed in the Eastend district and good growth of crops is reported. Surface and subsoil moisture supplies are rated as fair. There has been some damage to grain crops by army cutworms and although grasshoppers are now hatching only moderate to light infestations are expected. The condition of livestock and pasture is good. To the north and west at Leader, crops are developing slowly due to the hot dry conditions now prevailing in that district. Germination was fairly good and most fields are well covered. Although some grasshopper outbreaks have occurred damage has been held in check by chemical sprays. Pastures are fairly green now.

In the east-central part of the province, in the Togo district, seeding has been practically completed and grain is emerging well. Moisture supplies are good and no crop deterioration is reported. Although young grasshoppers are appearing it is hard to estimate their effect as yet. Hay and pasture crops are good. Crop growth is very heavy throughout the Melville district and the overall picture is very good. Over an inch of rain fell on Monday and Tuesday and precipitation since April 1 has totalled 4.46 inches compared with the long term average of 2.36 inches. The grasshopper hatch ranges from light to heavy but recent rain may further delay hatching.

In the central part of the province around Drake seeding operations have been completed and fall rye is in shot blade and ready to head. Early-sown spring grains are ready for chemical weed spray. The cool spring weather has limited the hatch of grasshoppers. Summerfallow operations are well underway. Rain received on June 4 totalled 1.3 inches and crop prospects are above average at this stage. Seeding has also been completed in the Saskatoon area and most crops have emerged and are doing well. Surface soils were dry, but a light steady rain on June 4 improved the moisture situation. Grasshoppers have hatched rapidly during the past week but so far no injury to crops is reported and only light crop damage was experienced due to cutworms. Flea beetles are abundant on rapeseed crops.

In the west-central part of the province our correspondent at Rosetown reports that wheat averages 3 inches in height and growth of all crops is abundant. Prospects are generally good. Some spraying has been done for cutworms and grasshoppers. According to the Experimental Farm at Scott, the higher temperatures now prevailing have resulted in rapid crop growth and early-seeded fields are now approaching the spraying stage. Weeds are plentiful. Forage crop growth is now at a standstill and moisture is required immediately to further development. Grasshoppers are not numerous but a few outbreaks of these insects as well as cutworms are reported in some districts southwest of the station.

Farther north at Meota, crops look good and no damage from any source is evident. Pastures are only fair and a good rain is now required to hasten development. Grasshoppers are not a problem. Seeding has been completed at Paradise Hill and crops and pastures are making good growth. Surface moisture is in need of replenishment, but subsoil reserves are sufficient for the present.

In the northeast part of the province, the Experimental Farm at Melfort reports that fine weather has permitted rapid progress with seeding and this operation is now practically completed. Germination to date has been uniform and growth rapid with some stands up to four inches in height. There is sufficient moisture for the immediate future. Insects have caused no damage to date. Hay crops are making good growth. Seeding is nearly finished in the Nipawin district, with only the odd barley field left. However, rain is urgently needed as some fields are not germinating due to dry top soil, although subsoil reserves are generally good. If rain is not received during the next week, crops are expected to be light. Pastures are holding up well so far. Some grasshopper and cutworm activity is reported.

The unweighted average precipitation for Saskatchewan since April 1 has been 13 per cent above normal compared with 29 per cent above normal a week ago, 55 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 10 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 3, 1963 was 4.4 degrees above normal in contrast to 3.5 degrees below normal a week ago, 0.7 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 1.6 degrees below normal for the week ending June 4, 1962.

ALBERTA

Dry weather has permitted rapid progress with seeding in Alberta and only small amounts now remain. Early-sown crops germinated well, but recent plantings require rain to ensure even stands. In the region south from Calgary to Empress, with the exception of the extreme southwest, the crop and pasture situation has reached a critical stage. Irrigation started early and is in full swing with almost the entire flow of the

Bow River being used on eastern irrigation districts. Many vegetable crops, including potatoes, were irrigated up and this has resulted in spotty germination. Thinning of sugar beets is becoming general. The moisture and crop situation is fair to good through Carstairs, Drumheller and Hanna. To the north and through the Peace River Region conditions are good to excellent. The only immediate need in this area is moisture and continued warm weather to ensure germination of late-sown crops. Forage seed crops are generally favourable. Grasshoppers are hatching rapidly in forecast areas throughout the province and infestation patterns will be established within the next two weeks. The pale western cutworm is becoming active and the sweet clover weevil is widespread.

At Manyberries early crops are up 8 to 10 inches but some severe burning has been observed. Later-sown crops are four to five inches high. Fall rye is headed but appears poor in some areas. Soil moisture ranges from poor to good and localized rains have improved moisture conditions in certain areas. The range land is making fair to good growth but more rain is generally essential to make good pasture. Livestock are in good condition. Showers in the Medicine Hat area have helped to hold crops but more rain is needed. Rye is headed and in blossom but stands are light. Grasshoppers are a problem in some areas. Pastures are poor but livestock are reported to be in good condition. Irrigated crops appear good.

There has been no real improvement in the moisture situation at Lethbridge and areas to the south and east. A few locations report spotty showers. Sugar beet thinning is underway but germination has been spotty and growth slow. Germination at Cardston has been generally satisfactory for most spring-sown grains. Fall grains, however, are showing signs of drought. Hay crops and pasture are poor. One-half inch of rain fell at Claresholm on June 3 to bring some relief to the parched fields but moisture conditions are still critical. Winter wheat and fall rye are heading at 6 to 8 inches high. It would appear that the best that can be expected is a half crop of winter grains in this area. Some farmers have turned stock into rye fields as hay and pastures have shown very little growth.

In the south-central region our reporter at Brooks indicates that conditions are very dry and that a general rain is needed. Crops are suffering from grasshoppers in the northern part of the district. Germination is poor for dry land crops. Good stands of alfalfa are reported on irrigated land and most irrigated crops are fair to good. At Vulcan the scattered showers of the past two weeks have done very little good. Winter wheat and rye crops are being pastured because there is little hope of a crop being harvested. Moisture will have to come by June 15 to save the crops in this area. Grasshoppers are now hatching and spraying is generally underway.

At Hanna, 0.71 inches of rain has fallen since the last report and all crops are looking good, even and healthy. Growth of hay crops is slow. Grasshoppers are hatching but so far there has been no damage. Conditions are generally good at the present time in this area. Indications from Calgary are that seeding has been completed and that germination and early growth is generally good. The refreshing showers over the weekend have maintained fair surface moisture but subsoil moisture remains poor. Hay and pastures will need plenty of rain. Grasshoppers are reported hatching in some areas. Wheat seeding at Olds has also been completed and seeding of coarse grains is almost finished. Recent showers have helped but more rain is needed to improve moisture conditions. Wheat is two to four inches above ground and doing well.

In the central region at Sedgewick seeding of cereal grains is mostly completed and all crops look good. Moisture conditions at present are good but rain will be needed soon. Hay crops and pastures are good. Seeding is also about finished in the Donalda area, except for oats to be seeded for green feed and as a cover crop. Moisture conditions are only fair but the grain is coming up well. Conditions are generally quite favourable at the present time in this area.

In the west-central region seeding is nearly completed and crops generally look good. The Experimental Station at Lacombe reported 0.75 inches of rain on May 24 and 25. Seeding in this area is nearing completion and emergence and growth are very good. Sufficient moisture is available for cereal crop growth and hay and pasture crops are also making good growth. Some deterioration on lighter soils is beginning to show up due to lack of moisture. Seeding at Eckville is also nearly completed with wheat and oats 2 to 6 inches high. Fertilizer use on cereal crops is reported to be 15 per cent higher than last year. Fifty per cent of the summerfallows have received the first cultivation. Crops are generally looking good at present but rain will be needed soon.

Farther north, in the Edmonton-Vermilion region, seeding is reported to be virtually complete. Moisture is adequate at present, but rain will be needed before long. In the Vermilion area all wheat is reported to have been seeded and germination is exceptionally even. Wheat growth averages about 2 inches in height. Seventy per cent of the coarse grain has been seeded. Hay crops and pastures are growing nicely at present under good moisture conditions. Seeding in the Edmonton area is reported to be about 100 per cent completed for all grains. Rain will soon be needed to maintain the present good prospects. At Stony Plain all wheat and oats have been seeded and the barley crop is about 75 per cent seeded. Warm, dry weather has prevailed. Although sub-surface moisture is adequate, the soil surface is dry and seeded crops and pasture could use rain.

Northeast of Edmonton at Bonnyville seeding operations have been completed except for the delayed seeding of barley. Good, even germination is occurring but extremes of temperature are causing chlorotic banding of cereals. Forage crops look good but rain will be needed soon. Seeding at Colinton is 98 per cent completed and crops look good. Rainfall since May 1 amounted to 1.81 inches. Some wheat has reached a height of 6 inches. Early-seeded fields, however, are infested with wild oats because of the early, damp spring. Some of these fields might have to be ploughed up. Hay crops are good. A heavy shower in this area will be needed soon.

Cereal and oilseed planting in the Beaverlodge area is complete except for a small acreage of barley which has been delayed for weed control. Emergence has been excellent except on high land where surface moisture was lacking. Subsoil moisture appears adequate under annual plantings but lack of subsoil moisture appears to be restricting growth of perennial forages. Forages also show patches of winterkilling by icing.

Grasshopper hatching is general in Alberta with the heaviest infestation being in the Nanton-Crossfield-Acme area.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 27 per cent below normal compared with 19 per cent below normal a week ago, 10 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 1 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 3, 1963 was 2.8 degrees above normal, unchanged from a week ago, 0.4 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 0.4 degrees below normal for the week ending June 4, 1962.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Reports from the Experimental Farm at Saanichton indicate that on Vancouver Island hay and early strawberries are being harvested with average yields expected. The Dry weather since May 9 is affecting outturns and hastening maturity of unirrigated crops. Pasture growth has been slowed. Rain on June 4 should help berry, fruit and vegetable yields.

In the Lower Fraser Valley precipitation in the first few days of June has amounted to 0.5 inches. Irrigation of pastures is becoming general. Moisture supplies are adequate for row crops and corn planting is nearing completion. Early-planted corn is developing well. Germination of canning pea crops is uniform and early growth rapid owing to the dry, warm period from May 16 to 31. There is extensive harvesting of a high quality first crop of hay with average yields. Grain crops are developing rapidly. The main strawberry harvest is anticipated to begin about June 10 although light picking of early varieties began on June 3.

Warm, sunny weather in the Okanagan Valley has also brought on fruit growth. The Experimental Station at Summerland reports that warm weather in the last two weeks has resulted in rapid fruit growth and earlier than normal dropping of poorly set fruit. The cherry crop looks to be a little heavier than last year. The peach crop looks average. A generally good crop of pears is expected although yields will be down in some local areas. A smaller than normal crop of apricots is expected especially on fresh market varieties. The apple set is generally good and promises a heavy outturn. The report from Vernon indicates that May was generally sunny and dry in the area with a reported precipitation of 0.5 inches which is about one-third of average. Cereals generally look good with fall wheat at the early-head stage. The harvest of first-cut hay has been underway for one week and about 10 per cent of the crop has been baled. Hay yields are running about average. Ranges and cultivated pastures are in good condition. Soil moisture for all dry land crops, however, could become very limiting without considerable rainfall in June.

Weather in the Interior has also been generally dry. In the Kamloops and southern Cariboo area, warm, dry weather has made early haying possible and good yields are expected, with high quality. Lower ranges are dry and poor but cattle are moving into timber ranges which appear better than normal. Rivers in the area are rising steadily but there is no threat of flooding. Rain is needed. In the Prince George area seeding of cereal crops was completed without interruption. Growth of both annual and perennial crops is slow due to low temperatures and low moisture. Winter survival of legumes was reported as very good. A report from Smithers indicates that all crops were planted before May 31 and that growth has been satisfactory to date, slightly ahead of last year. Hay crops will need moisture before mid June to assure average yields.

Crops in the Peace River Block were seeded late but appear to be growing well. In the Dawson Creek area grain seeding is 98 per cent completed. The month of May was drier than average and crops need rain. Forage seed, pasture and hay crops are making good growth but require moisture. Crop conditions are excellent for this time of the season. Seeding of crops in the Fort St. John area was about two weeks late. Ninety-five per cent of the wheat and oats has now been seeded but barley planting has just begun. Vegetable seeding is also just starting. The weather has been warm and moist.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 3, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	June 3 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	.58	6.25	3.51	60	56
	Pierson	1.80	4.89	3.46	61	57
	Waskada	1.53	5.83	3.16	59	56
2	Ninette	1.81	5.01	3.82	60	56
	Pilot Mound	1.28	5.67	3.43	60	55
3	Altona	1.68	5.15	3.28	62	57
	Deerwood	1.69	6.57	3.49	61	56
	Graysville	1.51	4.53	3.30	61	57
	Gretna	1.76	4.37	3.32	63	57
	Morden	1.78	5.67	3.82	62	58
	Morris	.56	4.23	2.99	61	59
	Portage la Prairie	.47	6.04	3.32	61	58
	Roland	1.41	5.07	3.38	61	57
4	Stonewall	.57	6.54	3.21	60	57
5	Emerson	1.41	5.00	3.32	63	59
	St. Genevieve	.90	2.47 ^{2/}	3.47	60	57
	Steinbach	1.77	6.78	3.50	62	57
	Winnipeg	.64	6.15	3.44	62	57
6	Seven Sisters Falls	1.49	7.34	2.86	60	55
	Sprague	.57	5.59	3.77	60	55
7	Reston	1.69	5.29	3.30	61	57
	Rivers	.36	3.17	3.30	60	55
	Virden	.86	5.07	2.98	61	57
8	Brandon	.81	4.14	3.63	60	56
	Cypress River	.65	5.41 ^{2/}	3.23	60	57
9	Kelwood	.60	3.53 ^{2/}	3.10	58	56
10	Birtle	.59	5.73	2.69	61	55
	Rosburn	.37	5.93	2.69	60	55
	Russell	.14	3.65	2.62	57	54
11	Dauphin	.09	5.29	2.98	58	57
	Gilbert Plains	.02	3.68	2.98	58	57
12	Arborg	.25	5.16	2.77	57	56
	Gimli	.21	5.53	2.88	59	56
13	Swan River	.09	2.13	2.53	56	54
	The Pas	.18	2.15	2.45	54	53
14	Grass River	.83	4.39	3.10	59	56
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.92	5.10	3.20	59.9	56.3
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	.89	5.65	2.86	58	55
	Estevan	2.87	7.70	2.68	60	57
	Oxbow	.48	4.77	3.12	60	57
	Willmar	1.26	5.44	2.80	N.R.	57
1B	Broadview	.38	4.53	2.71	58	54

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 3, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	June 3 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
1B	Moosomin	.43	4.35	2.80	57	56
2A	Yellow Grass	.24	4.09	2.64	59	56
	Creelman	.34	2.90	2.58	58	55
	Weyburn	.26	3.04	2.70	59	55
	Midale	.88	4.97	2.85	60	56
	Claybank	.22	3.27	2.76	62	56
2B	Moose Jaw	.32	2.68	2.72	63	57
	Regina	.18	3.06	2.58	61	56
	Francis	.41	3.05	2.29	58	55
	Qu'Appelle	.25	4.21	3.06	59	55
	Indian Head	.14	3.57	2.76	60	56
	Wilcox	.18	3.11	2.66	60	56
3AS	Ormiston	.39	2.25	2.78	61	56
	Minton	.49	3.80	3.20	58	57
	Cardross	N.R.	2.62 ^{2/}	2.79	N.R.	56
	Ceylon	.34	4.78	3.24	57	56
3AN	Chaplin	Trace	2.33	2.58	61	56
	Gravelbourg	.32	2.42	2.45	62	57
	Coderre	NIL	1.06 ^{2/}	2.66	63	56
3BS	Shaunavon	.16	1.82	2.71	59	56
	Pambrun	.02	1.48	2.58	61	57
	Aneroid	.10	1.85	2.66	61	55
	Val Marie	N.R.	1.38 ^{2/}	2.04	N.R.	55
	Instow	.11	1.68	N.R.	59	N.R.
3EN	Swift Current	.05	2.04	2.73	61	56
	Hodgeville	.22	1.50	2.56	61	57
	Hughton	.03	1.35	2.42	63	56
4A	Maple Creek	.06	1.59	2.60	63	57
	Consul	.12	1.08	2.24	60	54
4B	Abbey	.02	1.73	2.34	61	56
5A	Cupar	.21	2.66 ^{2/}	2.48	62	56
	Lipton	N.R.	4.32 ^{2/}	2.40	N.R.	56
	Melville	.02	3.60	2.55	58	55
	Yorkton	.02	3.09	2.58	59	55
	Bangor	.03	3.28	2.66	58	55
5B	Dafoe	.46	4.16	2.34	58	56
	Foam Lake	.13	2.18	2.66	59	55
	Kuroki	.14	1.73	2.72	58	53
	Lintlaw	.11	2.00	2.79	58	51
	Kamsack	.04	2.41	2.38	58	55
6A	Davidson	.40	2.75	2.56	60	56
	Imperial	.80	3.33	2.58	59	55
	Strasbourg	.58	2.60	2.54	61	55
	Watrous	.17	2.82 ^{2/}	2.28	60	55
6B	Delisle	N.R.	2.94 ^{2/}	2.23	N.R.	56
	Harris	NIL	2.29	2.10	61	56

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 3, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	June 3 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
6B	Outlook	.15	2.58	2.09	63	56
	Saskatoon	.14	2.86	2.37	61	56
	Elbow	.35	2.09	2.46	61	57
	Tugaske	.66	2.91	2.57	59	55
	Dundurn	.14	2.97	2.18	62	56
7A	Alsask	NIL	1.34	N.R.	62	56
	Kindersley	Trace	2.32	2.09	61	55
	Rosetown	.07	2.85	2.51	61	55
7B	Macklin	.05	4.77	2.53	59	54
	Denzil	.04	4.58	2.53	62	54
	Scott	NIL	2.99	2.62	60	54
	Biggar	.37	3.33	2.29	62	56
8A	Hudson Bay	Trace	1.09	2.73	56	52
	Prairie River	.15	1.91	2.58	53	50
	Armit	Trace	.59 ^{2/}	2.73	56	52
8B	Humboldt	Trace	2.66	2.25	60	53
	Melfort	.20	2.20	2.45	58	55
9A	North Battleford	.02	2.72	2.38	62	56
	Victoire	.70	3.35	2.08	57	54
	Prince Albert	.15	2.00	2.78	57	55
	Island Falls	.67	1.94	2.53	50	49
9B	Waseca	.01	1.75	2.61	60	54
	St. Walburg	NIL	1.07	2.63	59	52
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.27	2.90	2.57	59.6	55.2
ALBERTA						
1	Empress	Trace	.40	1.68	63	57
	Foremost	.16	.81	3.11	62	57
	Hanna	.08	1.51	2.35	56	56
	Manyberries	N.R.	1.84 ^{2/}	2.14	N.R.	57
	Medicine Hat	.02	1.14	2.67	64	58
	Naco	.06	1.41	2.13	53	55
	Winnifred	.41	1.29	2.90	N.R.	59
	Brooks	NIL	.67	2.68	61	57
2	Drumheller	.28	1.55	2.27	61	57
	Gleichen	.26	1.17	2.96	57	55
	Hays	.02	1.13	2.63	63	57
	Vauxhall	NIL	1.47	2.59	61	55
	Raymond	.10	1.01	3.69	61	56
	Lethbridge	.06	.89	3.59	62	55
	Strathmore	.17	.78 ^{2/}	2.96	57	53
	Three Hills	N.R.	1.51 ^{2/}	2.66	N.R.	54
	Trochu	.26	1.89 ^{2/}	3.08	59	55
	Vulcan	.36	1.19	3.20	61	56



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. June 3, 1963	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. June 3 1963	Normal
			- inches -			- degrees F. -
ALBERTA (concluded)						
3	Calgary	.25	1.67	3.40	56	53
	Cardston	.24	1.74	3.71	58	54
	Pincher Creek	.46	2.94	4.26	57	52
4	Fort MacLeod	.32	1.47	3.59	60	57
	High River	.54	2.58	4.20	55	51
	Magrath	.52	1.66	3.80	63	55
	Olds	.14	2.15	3.39	55	52
	Alliance	.03	2.99	2.56	58	53
	Camrose	N.R.	2.73 ^{2/}	2.85	N.R.	54
	Castor	N.R.	2.36 ^{2/}	2.32	N.R.	54
	Coronation	.10	2.77	2.32	59	54
	Hughenden	.15	2.61	2.37	59	55
	Lloydminster	.13	2.54	2.43	60	54
5	Stettler	.10	3.85	2.93	59	53
	Vegreville	.11	2.76	2.43	57	53
	Vermilion	Trace	2.85	2.36	57	53
	Edmonton	.06	2.73	3.11	55	55
	Lacombe	.07	3.64	3.48	56	53
	Red Deer	.06	2.99	3.04	55	53
	Rocky Mountain House	.12	3.35	4.16	55	52
	Wetaskiwin	.03	4.11	3.15	57	54
	Athabasca	.02	2.06	2.64	54	52
	Campsie	.13	1.80	3.09	54	53
6	Edson	.32	3.68	3.08	53	51
	Elk Point	.01	1.53	2.32	56	52
	Lac la Biche	.37	2.79	2.75	54	55
	Smith	.40	3.16	2.64	55	53
	Whitecourt	.36	3.72	3.54	53	51
	Beaverlodge	.02	1.53	2.48	54	53
	Fairview	.20	1.43	2.55	53	53
	Ft. Vermilion	.88	1.49	2.08	48	54
	Grande Prairie	.05	1.83	2.45	54	53
	High Prairie	.43	2.16	2.61	56	54
7	Peace River	.03	.70	1.97	52	53
	Rycroft	.37	2.39	2.22	53	53
	Wagner	.35	3.89	2.63	51	53
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.19	2.08	2.86	57.0	54.2

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