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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the third 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 sixth 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 In Prince Edward Island the weather during the past month has been ideal for the completion of seeding operations and general plant growth. Temperatures have been slightly above normal and soil moisture supplies are ample. Grass silage-making has commenced. The early potato crop appears very good. Nova Scotia also reports excellent growing conditions with an above average hay crop in prospect for the province. Strawberries and blueberries are also doing well and vegetable crops are making excellent growth. All crops escaped low temperature damage. New Brunswick on the other hand experienced very dry weather conditions earlier this month, with a consequent slowing of growth relieved by rains last week. Hay crop prospects are variable with haying operations now underway. Potatoes are doing well.

Quebec Weather conditions during the last two weeks have been very variable across the province of Quebec. Different districts have reported drought, rain, hail, frost and winds. Seeding operations are now completed in all areas and cereal development is promising. Hay meadows are very good and cattle are doing well on pasture with a heavy milk production reported. Farmers have started silage making and haying. In the Montreal district the early vegetable harvest is in full swing with good prices being realized. The tobacco crop looks promising while strawberry growers are commencing to pick and prospects for raspberry production are also favourable. Some sugar beet fields on the other hand, are suffering from drought.

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 In general, crop conditions in Ontario are reasonably good. Haying operations are underway and most reports indicate good yields and quality. Pastures vary from good to adequate. Winter wheat is headed and spring-sown grains have made near-normal growth in most areas, although rain would now be welcome in Central and Eastern Ontario. Corn and soybeans in the southern part of the province are making good progress. Blocking of sugar beets is nearing completion in Kent County. Tobacco is growing well. Strawberry yields have been reduced in a number of districts due to spring frosts.

Prairie Provinces Crop development has been rapid in most areas of the Prairie Provinces and prospects are generally good. The exceptions are Eastern Manitoba where wet weather prevented realization of seeding intentions and extremely dry weather in Southern Alberta which will adversely affect yields of fall and early spring-sown crops. Heavy rainfall in Southern Alberta this past week will improve pasture and forage crop conditions. Timely rains over most of Saskatchewan, western and southern Manitoba and Alberta have maintained crop prospects. Rains will be needed soon, however, in northern Alberta and further timely rains are necessary over wide areas of the Prairies to support the heavy growth.

British Columbia All major crops in British Columbia are reported to be in fair to good condition although some rain is needed in non-irrigated areas in the interior of the province following the cool dry weather of recent weeks. At the coast, a comparatively short strawberry crop is now past its peak and harvesting of raspberries and early potatoes will commence in volume next week. All vegetable crops are progressing favourably with the exception of the early cabbage crop which was cut sharply by root maggot. Processing peas are in full bloom and showing good crop prospects. In the Okanagan harvesting of early cherries is underway, with volume picking expected next week. Apple crop prospects point to a moderate increase in production as all varieties are reported to be sizing satisfactorily. Elsewhere, in the province, hay and grain crop prospects are about average in spite of relatively cool dry conditions. Pastures generally are showing up well although growth in most areas has been slow and lighter than average.

MARITIME PROVINCES

All crops in Prince Edward Island are showing good growth due to recent rains followed by warm, sunny weather. Ideal weather during the past month has seen the completion of seeding and planting operations. Temperatures have been slightly above normal and no frost damage has occurred. Rainfall at 1.77 inches is below normal but was well distributed and soil moisture supplies are ample. Early potatoes are described as excellent while the main crop is just coming through the ground. In some areas, however, hay stands are uneven as a result of winter-killing while elsewhere the clover growth is excellent. Some grass silage making has now started. Pastures have improved and grain crops are growing well. Strawberry crop prospects are good and no serious insect damage is reported so far.

Reports from Amherst, Nova Scotia, indicate that the hay crop is making satisfactory growth but the yield in that area will be light this year. Pastures are slightly below average but corn and grain crops are doing well. The Truro district, on the other hand, has experienced excellent growing weather during the past two weeks and moisture conditions are very good. Grain crops are from six to eight inches high and potatoes are at the hilling stage. Germination of all crops has been good. Strawberries are very promising and it is anticipated that picking will start in another week. The hay crop is better than average and pastures are

producing well. Some grass silage making is now underway and this activity should be general next week. At Kentville, rain is wanted soon as rainfall so far has been less than average. It is anticipated that, as a result of the relatively dry weather, pastures and hay crops will be slightly reduced. Conditions look good for a heavy apple crop and about average yields of pears and cherries; plums on the other hand will be below average and it is anticipated that very few peaches will be harvested. General prospects for the province indicate that good strawberry and blueberry crops are in prospect. Strawberry picking is now underway in the earlier districts with a fair volume reaching the market this week. Vegetables are also doing very well.

In New Brunswick dry weather was relieved by rain last week. Crop growth has been greatly increased following the rain. However, the hay crop is still light in the eastern part of the province. Some farmers have started haying. Early-sown grain is good and pastures are fair. Fruit and vegetable crops continue very promising. The potato crop is also good and summer cultivation is underway. However, on June 25 hail and heavy local showers damaged some fields in scattered areas in the potato-growing counties. The Perth district reports very dry weather until June 20 when heavy rain helped all crops. The earlier dry weather slowed hay growth but the recent rain will improve conditions considerably and a good crop is expected. Farmers have started haying. Cereals are growing well, now being six to seven inches high. Potatoes are also showing good growth and growers are spraying for weed and insect control.

QUEBEC

The L'Assomption area in Quebec experienced cool weather so far in June with the exception of the first week. From June 4 to 25 only 1.36 inches of rain fell in this area. However, pasture and hay fields are in good condition. Growth of cereal and horticultural crops is slow because of the cool weather. Cigar tobacco planting is finished. Strawberry yields appear promising but picking has not yet started. In the Lennoxville area silage making is about half done and haying will start by the end of the week. A fair hay crop is in prospect. Pastures have been good so far this season, but will suffer from drought if there is no rain soon. Cereal crops are good but hoed crops are poor. The Lake St. John district experienced no frost during June. However, soil conditions are dry with only 0.49 inches of rain received since June 4. This has adversely affected all crops. Hay stands are short and thin although pastures are good. Grain crops are short while potatoes and gardens are good. More moisture is required. Weather in the Caplan district has been better than last season. Some well distributed rain during the last few days have favoured the development of all crops. Legume growth is particularly good as the result of only light winter damage. Fertilized pastures are doing well and supplies of fodder are ample. Field crops are in good condition.

ONTARIO

In Simcoe County of Western Ontario haying operations commenced early last week and yields are good. Pastures are in above average condition after a slow start. Winter wheat is well headed and indicates a good yield. There has been no lodging to date. Spring-sown grains are variable but are progressing well. New grass seedings are about 50 per cent better than a year ago. Corn, potatoes and tobacco are off to a good start on most farms. Frost at blossom time will limit strawberry yields, further rain is also needed for proper sizing. Raspberry prospects appear to be fair to good. Haying is now general in Bruce County and

yields are barely normal as extremely cool weather during the past ten days retarded growth. Corn is showing slow development and warmer weather with adequate moisture will be required to produce a normal crop. Spring-sown grains are slow in developing. An increased acreage of turnips is being seeded this year. Haying has been delayed in Wellington County due to the relatively cool weather but operations are now general and good yields are reported. Corn is growing well. Winter wheat is headed while spring grains and pastures look good. Flax acreage has increased this year. Rain would be welcome.

Haying is well underway in Waterloo County under ideal conditions. All crops are progressing well with no serious insect or disease damage. Cool wet weather prior to mid-June had delayed haying operations in Halton County. However, about 10 per cent of the first-cut has now been harvested and prospects are for high yields of good quality hay. Fall wheat is showing good growth and early-planted barley is in head. Spring grains and corn show normal growth and pastures are adequate.

In Middlesex County the weather was variable and cooler than normal during the first three weeks of June. Recently, however, warm, dry weather has prevailed and brought ideal haying conditions as well as good growth of corn. Hay harvesting is well underway and average yields are reported. Spring grains are beginning to head. Some sugar beets had to be replanted due to insect damage. Dwarf virus has attacked many oat fields and reduced stooing. Late May frost caused local strawberries to be in short supply. Yields of apples, cherries, peaches and pears will likely be below average this year. Corn and soybeans in Essex County are making a rapid recovery from excessive moisture earlier this month. Harvesting of the first crop of hay is nearing completion and yields are excellent. Fall wheat is headed and is now beginning to turn. Prospects for this crop appear excellent at present. Oats are heading and presently indicate a fairly good crop. Sugar beets are in good condition. Processing tomatoes are showing improved growth. Canning peas and early vegetables are being harvested. Tobacco is a week later than normal but is establishing a good root system. Tree fruits appear to be extremely variable, with peaches generally light. Early potatoes are a very good crop and harvesting should commence by the end of June. Rain is now needed.

Fall wheat on Pelee Island is heading and the crop looks good. Stands of soybeans are fair and are making normal growth. Field corn is good. Moisture supplies are adequate. Prospects for winter wheat and barley are now improved in Kent County and harvesting is expected to commence in about two weeks. Corn and soybeans are making excellent growth after early delays due to cold weather. Sugar beets are well advanced with blocking nearing completion. Tobacco is growing well. Rain is now required to insure continued good growth. Harvesting of peas commenced on June 21. Strawberries are being picked but yields have been lowered due to frost damage.

An abundant hay crop is being harvested in Norfolk County. Barley is heading and oats are in the shot blade. Prospects for spring grains appear to be excellent. Corn and tobacco are making good growth. Wheat and rye are fully headed and beginning to turn. Yields prospects for these crops appear to be average. Tree fruits indicate a light crop. Harvesting of strawberries is in full swing. The June rainfall in Lincoln County was below normal. Picking of strawberries commenced about June 25 which is about a week later than usual due to the cool weather and frost damage to early blossoms. Peach trees are still dying due to winter injury and the loss is expected to be as much as 15 per cent. Most fruit insects and diseases are less abundant than usual with red mites exceptionally scarce.

Haying operations are in full swing in Prince Edward County. Corn and tomatoes are being cultivated and weed spraying is in progress. All crops are making good growth. In York County, haying is well underway with average yields and good quality reported. Fall wheat is in head and excellent yields are anticipated. Spring-sown grains are growing very well after a late start. The corn crop is late but is now making fair progress. Rain is needed to improve the growth of both corn and pastures although pasture production has been good to date. Growth of vegetables has been slow and below average yields are expected. Harvesting of a good hay crop has commenced in Peterborough County. Spring grains look good and winter wheat is in excellent condition. Pastures are very good.

Harvesting of grass silage is mostly completed in Leeds County. Haying operations generally are well underway and above average yields are reported. Pastures are excellent. Winter wheat is headed and prospects for an average yield are indicated. Oats and corn are a good colour and are making rapid growth. Prospects for the apple crop look good. Picking of strawberries has commenced but yields are below normal due to frost. In Dundas County haying operations are in progress and, although the crop is generally good it is somewhat short on low-lying fields. Although moisture conditions are adequate at present, late-seeded grains will require rain soon. Prospects for the apple crop are very good in the St. Lawrence river area. Haying is well underway in Renfrew County with average yields and high quality reported. A good rain is required for grain corn and pastures. Fall wheat is well headed and indicates an average crop. Haying operations have commenced in Carleton County and most spring-sown grains are making good progress. Hay and pastures have made rapid growth.

A report from the Experimental Station at Kapuskasing indicates that hay and pasture growth is slow but strong. Grain crops are in good condition. Colder than usual weather prevailed during the first three weeks of June.

MANITOBA

All crops are seeded in western and southern regions of Manitoba but in an area within 50 miles of Winnipeg seeded acreage will be down 5 to 10 per cent. Seeding was again halted in eastern sections by rain on June 24. Warm, windy weather in the early part of the week permitted further seeding and reseeding. Some fields flooded again after recent rains, however, and these are now beyond reseeding. Very little seeding of cereals and flax is now expected. All crops are seeded in western and southern regions and most of these are in good condition. Early-sown crops are nearing the shot blade stage while late-seeded ones are 2 to 3 inches in height. Hay cutting has started in a few places. There has been scattered hail, wind and flood damage.

Rain amounting to 1.94 inches fell over the weekend in southeastern Manitoba. Moisture is in excess supply at Ridgeville and Emerson. Some fields have been worked down and seeded twice but they may have to be worked over again. Some beet fields around Emerson may have to be cultivated over because of weeds and soggy conditions. Between Emerson and Dominion City crops are fair and fields are not so wet. Around Dominion City and Arnaud conditions are good. Weeds in some areas are beyond the prime stage for spraying. There is no problem with grasshoppers at this stage. Less than 5 per cent remains to be seeded at Morden. Crops are coming along well. Spraying for weeds is well advanced and summerfallowing is in progress. Green foxtail is very abundant this year. No movement of grasshoppers into crops has been noted. Some chlorosis of crops is evident, especially in flax. General rains were received at Altona over the weekend and

again on Tuesday, totalling two inches. Field work will be held up until later this week. Seeding is completed, however. Some wheat and barley are in the shot blade. Chemical weed control is in progress, and sugar beet thinning and hoeing are progressing slowly. Mowing of hay commenced last week. The grasshopper hatch is progressing.

Seeding is completed at Pilot Mound and moisture conditions are very good. Showers were received towards the end of last week. Weed spraying is underway. Green foxtail is a problem in many flax fields and a considerable number of farmers are spraying for it. Light, scattered showers occurred at Melita during the past week. Early crops are in the five and six leaf stage. Growing conditions and moisture are good, but weed growth is profuse in some fields. Timely spraying is difficult due to soft fields. Flood damage has been extensive for this district. Wild oats are numerous and farmers are using carbyne. Pastures and hay crops are good.

North of Winnipeg at Stonewall, sunny, windy weather this past week has enabled farmers to get back on the land. About 50 per cent of the crop has now been seeded and there will be a considerable reduction in crop land this year due to the lateness of the season. Hay crops are developing rapidly and, except for alfalfa stands, would appear to have a good potential yield. Mosquito populations are extremely heavy and are bothering livestock on pasture. Gardens are fair.

Good weather during the week of June 16 brought seeding operations to completion at Portage la Prairie on all but a few farms. No great change has occurred in original cropping plans, but the entire crop is quite late. Growth is now rapid, however. No serious insect damage has occurred, but grasshopper reports are now coming in.

All crops are progressing well at Virden except where excessive moisture has been received. Wheat and coarse grains are coming nicely but much of the flax has had too much rain. Flax should improve, however, if precipitation is not too heavy during the next week. Forage crops are nearing cutting time while pastures are flourishing.

In the Interlake area at Teulon, dry weather last week permitted many farmers to complete seeding. Wheat acreage is somewhat reduced and total summerfallow area will be higher than farmers intended. Grass is growing well and weed spraying has commenced.

Heavy rains have caused considerable damage at Neepawa. Seeding has now stopped except for millet. Hay yields will be above average this year. Weed spraying has commenced and grasshopper spraying will be starting soon. Some cutworm damage has occurred. Good growing conditions prevailed at Shoal Lake this past week and cereals in most of the area appear healthy. Growth is lush. Herbicide spraying has started throughout the area. Some rain, high wind and light hail damage has occurred, but the incidence is small. Haying is expected to start about July 1. Pastures are good and gardens excellent. Beetle outbreaks have occurred in the west part of the district, but little crop damage is reported. Rain will be required to maintain what appears to be an unusually heavily stoolled crop. Summerfallowing is underway.

In the Binscarth area all grain crops are looking very good as are hay and pastures. Moisture supplies are excellent. Spraying for weeds and grasshoppers is in progress. Flea beetle damage is occurring in gardens and on the small acreage of rapeseed and mustard seed.

Crop conditions are good in the Swan River district. There has been some movement of grasshoppers into crops but most of them are still in hay and pasture lands. A considerable amount of spraying is being done for both grasshopper and weed control. Hay and pastures are good.

The Dominion Entomological Office at Winnipeg reports that grasshopper control measures are in progress in the Swan River Valley, Roblin, Russell, Dauphin and St. Cloud districts. There are indications that populations have been reduced in parts of the Red River Valley as a result of extremely heavy rain.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 54 per cent above normal compared with 68 per cent above normal a week ago, 89 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 30 per cent above normal at the same time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 24 was 1.6 degrees above normal in contrast to 4.1 degrees below normal a week ago and compared with 5.4 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 1.6 degrees above normal for the week ending June 25, 1962.

SASKATCHEWAN

Additional rains have improved the moisture situation in Saskatchewan and the crop outlook continues favourable. Wheat averages 10 inches and coarse grain 8 inches, with quite heavy stands. July rains will be required to maintain current prospects. Crops have an excellent start but there are still many hazards to escape. Grasshopper activity has been restricted by extensive spray control. Cutworms and flea beetles have been active. Haying operations are now underway in the province.

Crop conditions remain very good at Fillmore in the southeastern part of the province. Recent rains are maintaining rank growth in cereals and hay crops, and flax fields also appear to be good. Most of the spraying and summerfallowing have been completed, but changeable weather has made weed control difficult. Grasshopper damage remains light. Gardens are very good. Around Arcola 8.32 inches of rain have been received since April 1 and crops look very good. Some wheat is in the shot blade. Crops are very clean and very little spraying has been necessary. No grasshopper damage has been reported. Farmers are now working summerfallow. Forage crops and pastures are in excellent condition.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports 0.69 inches of rain during the past week and that this has maintained excellent moisture conditions for growing crops. Early fields are 8 to 10 inches high, with some coming into shot blade. Hay and pastures are extremely good. Rainy, windy weather has delayed spraying operations for weed control and grasshoppers.

Southwest of Regina at Gravelbourg all crops made satisfactory growth last week although there has been a little slowdown due to cool weather. Weed spraying is nearly complete as crop growth is now too advanced. Early-sown fields are starting to come into shot blade. Moisture supplies are sufficient for two weeks of growth. Very strong winds were experienced over the weekend causing some

damage, especially to gardens. All summerfallows have been worked once and some twice. The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that crops are progressing rapidly with a heavy growth. Early-seeded fields are in the early shot blade stage. Moisture supplies are satisfactory due to heavy local showers. Light hail damage has occurred with some damage from extremely high winds on June 22. The hay crop will be good. Weed spraying operations are nearly completed and there are no reports of serious grasshopper damage. Second-fallow operations are just starting. Our correspondent from Big Beaver reports that spraying for weeds is general and the first operation of summerfallowing has been completed. A poor kill of weeds has been obtained as the weather has been wet. There will be a good crop of hay this year and haying will start during the first part of July. There have been no reports of grasshoppers. Stubble crops are not too good in this district as there was too much stubble trash.

In southwestern Saskatchewan at Val Marie no rain has been received since the last report, but crops are advancing rapidly. Stands are thick and heavy and early-sown crops are heading. Conditions are favourable for good yields. The active growth, however, is depleting moisture rapidly and rain will be needed soon to prevent deterioration. Range grass is good as are forage crops. At Eastend showers with no hail have been received and moisture conditions are good. Field crops are about 18 to 22 inches in height, with 85 per cent in shot blade. Summerfallow operations have been completed. Spotty grasshopper infestations are reported but no appreciable damage has occurred. Cutworms caused some damage and there has been an increased population of gophers. Livestock and pastures are in good condition. Ideal weather conditions prevail for growing crops. At Leader, additional rain and cool weather have improved crop conditions. Early crops are in shot blade and summer pastures are improving.

In east-central Saskatchewan at Togo normal crop conditions prevail but hot, dry winds have dried out the land. Rain on June 24, however, afforded relief. Moisture is the main factor in crop development. The grasshopper hatch has increased and no general spraying program is being carried out. Farmers report good kills, however, on spot spraying. Haying will commence next week and pastures are good. Heavy thunder showers on June 24 at Melville have increased the total receipt of moisture to 7.71 inches for the season to date. Spraying for grasshoppers and weeds took place last week, but this will now be stopped due to wet fields. Grasshoppers are reported to be light, but heavy in spots. Due to the heavy growth they should not do serious damage to grain crops.

In the western part of the province at Rosetown, crops are looking exceptionally well. There are thick stands of wheat and moisture supplies are ample for some time. Flax is about two inches in height and off to a good start. Fallows have been given their first tillage.

In northeastern Saskatchewan at Melfort, frequent showers during the past three weeks have provided crops with ideal moisture conditions. There has been considerable stooling this spring, consequently growth has been heavy. Forage crops have made excellent progress and haying could start immediately. Warmer weather would be beneficial now. Farther north at Nipawin moisture and growing conditions are also excellent. Crops are doing very well and should produce above average yields if present conditions continue. Rainfall has equalled four inches in June and there have been no reports of grasshopper damage. Summerfallow operations are being retarded due to heavy moisture. Grass and forage crops are very good and weed and wild oat spraying is in progress.

At Meota, in the northwestern part of the province crop conditions are also very good. Some crops are coming into shot blade. Pastures are improving. A few grasshoppers are in evidence but no damage to field crops has occurred yet. A report from Paradise Hill states that the weather during the past week was mostly cool with an inch and three-quarters of rain. All crops are excellent, but a few days later than last year. Wheat is 7-8 inches in height. No damage has occurred to date. Pastures and hay are good.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports hail storms at the following points: June 7 - Bengough, Big Beaver, Briercrest; June 18 - Fenwood, Melville, Grayson, Rocanville, Tisdale; June 19 - Cantuar; June 20 - Rockglen, Mortlach, Aylesbury, Stalwart, Senlac, Vera, Gallivan; June 21 - Swift Current and Morse.

The unweighted average precipitation since April 1 has been 28 per cent above normal compared with 29 per cent above normal a week ago, 56 per cent above normal two weeks ago in contrast to 8 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 24 was 0.8 degrees above normal compared with 0.2 degrees below normal a week ago, 0.6 degrees below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 1.4 degrees below normal for the week ending June 25, 1962.

ALBERTA

Good to heavy rains last week in southern Alberta extended north to Lacombe, Stettler and Lac la Biche. Western areas of the province also received some rain. Other areas received only showers or no rain at all. This moisture will not benefit fall and early spring-sown crops in southern areas, but prospects for improvement of pastures and winter feed are now much improved. West of the very dry region and north towards Three Hills and Wainwright the rains proved very beneficial and with continued precipitation very good crops could be harvested. A considerable area centered on Edmonton received spotty showers and a general rain would now be welcome. The Peace River region continues dry and prospects for a good crop, especially in the case of late-sown grains depends on getting rain at an early date.

Crop prospects in the southeast of Alberta have been generally improved by rain. A two and one-quarter inch rainfall at Medicine Hat over the weekend improved the crop outlook in this area. Although damage to early-sown crops is permanent later crops should improve. Pasture improvement is expected and hay prospects are better. Farmers in the area are sowing supplemental hay crops. Irrigated crops are looking good. First cutting of alfalfa became general this week. Water supplies for livestock are good. Wind damage has been observed on crops and trees and some areas experienced severe crop burning prior to the rains.

Rain in the southwest of the province has also greatly improved crop prospects. At Lethbridge four and one-half inches of rain fell over the weekend. Many farmers are considering re-seeding with barley. At Cardston all crops of grain and pastures are reported improved. Fall grain is headed and some spring wheat is in the shot blade stage. Ideal conditions are now prevailing. Three and eight-tenths inches of rain fell in the Claresholm area on June 22, relieving the drought situation. Spring-sown grains should be a normal crop now. Hay and pasture will benefit considerably. Conditions now look good.

Rain likewise fell in the south-central region. An average of two and three-quarters inches of rain fell in the Brooks area over the weekend bringing relief to pastures and crops. Some fall rye crops had been cut for feed because they were deteriorating. First cutting of alfalfa is now delayed due to the rain. Some barley is in head. There will be a wide variation in harvesting dates in this area, with some late immature grain. The Vulcan district also received four inches of moisture since the last report. Some oats and barley are now being seeded for feed crops. Fall rye is expected to fill and yield much better than previously anticipated. All crops should yield better than average but pasture lands in the area are still in poor condition due to over-grazing.

From two and one-half to three inches of moisture fell in the Hanna area last weekend. It will greatly improve hay, pasture and crop prospects generally. Grain crops have stood very well. Grasshopper damage in the area has been light to date. At present the overall picture is good. The weather has been cool. Heavy rain in the Calgary area over the weekend replenished the moisture supply and restored prospects for good crops. Hail storms on the nineteenth at Andrew and Spedden and on the twentieth at Lacombe, Wainwright, Provost and Hayter caused considerable damage but the ultimate crop loss will not likely be heavy. Hay and pastures are greatly improved in the area and general conditions may now be termed favourable. About two inches of rain fell at Olds over the weekend and surface moisture is now good. Crops are making favourable progress. Wheat is from ten to twelve inches in height.

Three inches of rain fell on June 21 and 22 at Donalda. Moisture conditions are now excellent. Grass is starting to turn green again. Seeding is completed, crops are doing well and prospects are good.

Crop conditions in west-central Alberta appear very good. The recent general rains in the Red Deer area improved crop growth and all grains, hay and pasture are in generally excellent condition with sufficient moisture reserves to carry them for a considerable period. One point five inches of rain in the Lacombe area during the past week brought relief to hay and pastures. The yield outlook for hay is now very good. Cereal crops continue to look very good. A light frost was reported in some localities on June 23.

Farther north conditions are more varied. Two inches of rain fell at Vermilion over the weekend. At present the weather in this area is cool, but crops are doing very well. Some wheat will be in the shot blade stage by this weekend. Haying will start by the end of the week. Recent showers improved moisture conditions in the Edmonton area and warm weather is now needed to promote growth. Crop conditions are good. Stony Plain received only a few light showers during the past week. A good general rain is needed throughout this district. Wheat and early barley is in the shot blade to boot stage. Farmers are active with herbicide spraying and some have started haying. Insect damage is light except for tent caterpillars which are stripping poplars in local districts.

Northeast of Edmonton, at Colinton, 2.3 inches of rain has fallen since May 1. Topsoil moisture conditions are about 75 per cent normal while subsoil moisture conditions are about 85 per cent normal. Hay crops need rain badly or they will be very light. Late-seeded crops are also in need of rain.

In the Peace River area crops are suffering from drought and late-seeded crop germination is spotty. The report from Beaverlodge indicates that all crops are suffering from the continuing drought. Pastures are particularly poor. Hay, grass and legume seed yields will be light. Early-sown cereals are in the shot blade stage with good stands but general rains are immediately required or yields will be cut seriously. Stands of late-sown cereals are spotty. At Berwyn no appreciable moisture has fallen this spring. Showers occurred in small areas only. General rain is urgently needed. Germination has been spotty in late seeded and stubble crops. Some wheat and barley is heading out prematurely. Hay and pastures are short and are suffering from drought.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 3 per cent above normal as in contrast to 31 per cent below normal a week ago, 24 per cent below normal two weeks ago and compared with 4 per cent above normal at the same time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 24 was 0.8 degrees above normal, compared with 4.6 degrees above normal a week ago, 0.4 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 2.3 degrees above normal for the week ending June 25, 1962.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

On Vancouver Island good yields of excellent quality hay are being harvested with prospects for a good second crop. A good crop of early potatoes is being harvested and some are already on the market. The strawberry crop in this area has been excellent. There has been some reduction in the acreage planted to late potatoes.

The report from Agassiz in the Lower Fraser Valley is that showers commencing on June 23 alleviated the moisture shortage to an appreciable degree. Pastures in the valley are fair to good. Irrigation is in full use where available. Second-crop hay is growing satisfactorily. Grain crops are good and developing rapidly. The strawberry harvest is now general with average yields and very good quality. The raspberry crop is advancing rapidly with an anticipated earlier than average harvesting. Corn crops are normal.

In the Okanagan Valley the report from Summerland is that the weather has cooled considerably with occasional showers. There has been no damage to the cherry crop as yet and early varieties are starting to move out of Oliver and Osoyoos with a heavy volume of shipments expected by the end of this week. All fruits are sizing well and are of good quality. Apples are expected to produce a very good crop, but the apricot crop is anticipated to be 30 or 40 per cent lower than last year.

At Creston, in the southern Kootenay region precipitation is reported as normal. Wheat is headed and spring cereals and seed peas are showing favourable growth. A start on first-cut hay has been made and good yields are anticipated.

In the Interior the weather remains dry and cool. Kamloops and the southern Cariboo were very dry until June 22 when it became much cooler and rain fell generally over the area. To date, rainfall for June is far below normal. First-cut haying in most districts is complete. Pastures on irrigated land are producing heavily. Forest ranges are in good condition with better than average growth. Cereals are heading early and prospects are only fair. The pea crop looks poor. At Prince George the weather continues cool with frequent showers but little effective precipitation. Cereal crop germination is patchy and growth is slow.

Pastures and hay yields have been reduced but an average crop could still be produced if effective rains occur within the next ten days.

Conditions in the Peace River Block are varied. At Dawson Creek lack of rain has caused a moisture shortage which is forcing early-seeded crops. The germination of late-seeded crops was spotty. The grain crop potential is deteriorating daily. Pastures are very dry, hay is short and light. A severe hay shortage is anticipated. Rain is needed urgently. On the other hand, at Fort St. John, the weather is described as warm and moist with good yields expected. All crop seeding in the area is complete and crops are doing well since the recent rains. Growth on range land is six to eight inches tall.

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 24, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	June 24 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	.58	9.59	5.90	64	62
	Pierson	.26	8.97	5.79	64	62
	Waskada	N.R.	8.00 ^{2/}	5.86	N.R.	62
2	Ninette	.91	6.69	6.38	63	63
	Pilot Mound	1.28	10.26	5.81	61	62
3	Altona	.61	9.20 ^{2/}	5.37	65	63
	Deerwood	N.R.	11.23 ^{2/}	5.69	N.R.	63
	Graysville	.98	8.76	5.48	64	64
	Gretna	.56	6.45	5.49	66	64
	Morden	.79	10.35	5.90	65	64
	Morris	1.35	6.73	5.16	67	65
	Portage la Prairie	.18	10.10	5.66	66	64
	Roland	.55	8.36	5.50	66	63
4	Stonewall	.31	10.05	5.43	65	63
5	Emerson	.38	7.43	5.48	68	65
	St. Genevieve	.30	3.64 ^{2/}	5.50	65	63
	Steinbach	1.21	9.72	5.73	65	64
	Winnipeg	.10	9.18	5.28	67	63
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.30	9.52	4.86	65	61
	Sprague	2.37	10.17	6.07	63	61
7	Reston	.72	9.00	5.66	64	63
	Rivers	.37	6.59	5.93	64	61
	Virden	.67	8.29	5.45	64	63
8	Brandon	.26	6.99	5.98	64	62
	Cypress River	.31	7.63 ^{2/}	5.52	63	63
9	Kelwood	N.R.	7.25 ^{2/}	5.57	N.R.	62
10	Birtle	.79	9.58	5.06	62	61
	Rosburn	N.R.	10.06 ^{2/}	5.00	N.R.	61
	Russell	.52	6.46	4.95	61	60
11	Dauphin	1.75	9.40	5.23	63	64
	Gilbert Plains	1.40	7.32	5.23	62	64
12	Arborg	.54	10.30	5.12	64	63
	Gimli	.71	9.11	5.37	66	63
13	Swan River	.75	5.49	4.43	62	61
	The Pas	.46	4.08	4.05	61	60
14	Grass River	.75	7.97	5.57	65	62
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.72	8.38	5.46	64.2	62.6
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	.77	8.98	5.16	61	61
	Estevan	.74	10.43	5.61	63	63
	Oxbow	.70	8.35	5.66	61	63
	Willmar	.83	7.64	5.31	N.R.	63

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

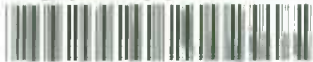
Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. June 24, 1963	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. June 24 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
1B	Broadview	.45	7.03	5.43	60	59
	Moosomin	.41	8.10	5.70	60	62
2A	Yellow Grass	.26	7.13	4.87	63	62
	Creelman	.31	5.80	5.03	60	61
	Weyburn	.50	7.41	4.98	62	61
	Midale	.60	9.78	5.01	64	62
	Claybank	.26	6.83	5.20	62	62
2B	Moose Jaw	.13	6.03	4.98	64	63
	Regina	.41	6.29	5.02	62	62
	Francis	.22	7.25	4.62	60	61
	Qu'Appelle	.47	7.67	5.76	62	61
	Indian Head	.70	6.37	5.19	61	61
	Wilcox	.35	6.58	4.96	62	62
3AS	Ormiston	.13	5.31	5.12	62	62
	Minton	.97	7.39	5.60	59	63
	Cardross	N.R.	6.63 ^{2/}	5.23	N.R.	62
	Ceylon	.44	7.93	5.61	59	62
3AN	Chaplin	2.16	7.78	4.51	63	62
	Gravelbourg	.74	6.66 ^{2/}	4.49	63	62
	Coderre	.31	5.90 ^{2/}	4.82	64	62
3BS	Shaunavon	.14	4.90	4.68	61	61
	Pambrun	.74	5.38	4.81	62	62
	Aneroid	.25	5.50 ^{2/}	4.95	63	62
	Val Marie	N.R.	4.25 ^{2/}	3.97	N.R.	61
	Instow	.13	5.16	N.R.	61	N.R.
3BN	Swift Current	1.37	5.20	5.00	62	62
	Hodgeville	1.51	5.75	4.76	61	62
	Hughton	1.32	3.90	3.98	61	63
4A	Maple Creek	1.72	3.91	4.52	63	61
	Consul	.70	3.28	4.18	62	60
4B	Abbey	.48	4.40	4.03	63	62
5A	Cupar	.43	6.54	4.62	62	61
	Lipton	.15	7.21	4.56	62	61
	Melville	.17	7.17	4.68	62	60
	Yorkton	.01	5.57	4.61	62	61
	Bangor	.16	8.71	4.88	61	61
5B	Dafoe	.44	6.87	4.36	62	62
	Foam Lake	.11	3.82	5.14	62	60
	Kuroki	.51	4.23	5.05	61	58
	Lintlaw	.32	4.14	4.96	60	57
	Kamsack	.36	3.81	4.29	63	60
6A	Davidson	1.06	5.97	4.51	62	61
	Imperial	.44	7.83	4.69	60	61
	Strasbourg	.61	6.19	4.86	61	60
	Watrous	.51	5.68	4.37	60	60

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 24, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	June 24 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> (concluded)						
6B	Delisle	.47	4.28	4.15	62	62
	Harris	.87	4.06	4.09	63	61
	Outlook	.56	4.75	3.98	64	63
	Saskatoon	.56	4.77	4.20	62	62
	Elbow	.30	4.40	4.33	63	63
	Tugaske	2.92	8.55	4.82	62	61
	Dundurn	.36	4.59	4.41	62	61
7A	Alsask	N.R.	1.74 ^{2/}	N.R.	N.R.	62
	Kindersley	.54	4.13	3.59	64	61
	Rosetown	1.05	5.53	4.41	62	60
7B	Macklin	2.71	8.15	4.21	61	59
	Denzil	4.10	9.18	4.21	60	59
	Scott	.75	4.60	4.24	60	59
	Biggar	1.12	5.96	4.28	63	61
8A	Hudson Bay	.48	2.87	4.59	62	58
	Prairie River	.62	3.71	4.74	62	57
	Armit	N.R.	1.23 ^{2/}	4.59	N.R.	58
8B	Humboldt	.79	6.15	4.42	62	59
	Melfort	.95	4.72	4.37	60	61
9A	North Battleford	1.10	5.00	4.03	61	61
	Victoire	1.20	6.03	3.65	61	58
	Prince Albert	1.60	4.89	4.72	62	60
	Island Falls	1.53	4.10	4.18	59	56
9B	Waseca	1.71	5.20	4.35	59	58
	St. Walburg	1.13	2.97	4.22	59	58
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.77	5.98	4.68	61.6	60.8

ALBERTA

1	Empress	1.93	3.21	3.08	65	63
	Foremost	1.87	3.10	5.21	63	62
	Hanna	2.52	4.54	4.14	61	61
	Manyberries	.54	2.98	3.89	62	62
	Medicine Hat	2.17	4.55	4.36	65	64
	Naco	N.R.	2.17 ^{2/}	3.80	N.R.	60
	Winnifred	2.17	4.20	4.47	N.R.	64
	Brooks	2.77	3.78	4.11	62	62
2	Drumheller	2.15	4.46	3.93	64	62
	Gleichen	3.51	4.88	4.68	61	59
	Hays	2.75	4.19	4.13	63	63
	Vauxhall	4.26	6.00	4.10	59	60
	Raymond	4.15	6.02	5.62	61	61
	Lethbridge	4.20	5.42	5.72	63	59
	Strathmore	2.75	4.17	5.30	60	58



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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 24, 1963	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. June 24 1963	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
ALBERTA (concluded)							
2	Three Hills	2.46	4.37 ^{2/}	4.84	59	58	
	Trochu	2.66	5.45	5.28	59	59	
	Vulcan	3.46	6.29	5.15	62	60	
3	Calgary	1.97	5.49	5.88	59	58	
	Cardston	3.86	7.46	6.32	58	59	
	Pincher Creek	3.27	7.09	7.32	58	58	
	Fort MacLeod	4.11	6.07	6.09	61	61	
	High River	3.19	8.84	7.16	55	56	
	Magrath	4.05	6.08 ^{2/}	6.11	62	60	
	Olds	N.R.	2.31 ^{2/}	5.83	N.R.	56	
	Alliance	4.36	7.69	4.65	59	58	
4	Camrose	2.31	5.87 ^{2/}	4.35	60	58	
	Castor	N.R.	2.36 ^{2/}	3.70	N.R.	59	
	Coronation	3.22	6.67	3.70	61	59	
	Hughenden	4.11	7.23	4.14	60	59	
	Lloydminster	2.08	6.73	4.04	60	59	
	Stettler	3.39	7.28	5.16	60	58	
	Vegreville	1.77	5.37	4.24	59	59	
	Vermilion	2.74	6.73	4.20	59	59	
	Edmonton	.59	3.72	5.15	57	59	
	Lacombe	1.47	5.83	5.77	57	58	
5	Red Deer	1.54	4.80	5.35	59	56	
	Rocky Mountain House	1.77	6.42	6.74	56	56	
	Wetaskiwin	1.19	5.61	5.17	58	58	
	Athabasca	N.R.	2.59 ^{2/}	4.39	N.R.	57	
	Campsie	N.R.	2.87 ^{2/}	5.00	N.R.	57	
6	Edson	.11	4.07	5.41	56	56	
	Elk Point	2.08	4.00	4.36	57	57	
	Lac la Biche	.58	4.53	4.44	57	59	
	Smith	N.R.	3.85 ^{2/}	4.18	N.R.	57	
	Whitecourt	.38	4.81	5.42	56	56	
	Beaverlodge	.25	2.03	3.83	58	57	
	Fairview	.14	1.95	4.15	60	57	
	Ft. Vermilion	.39	2.22	3.26	59	59	
	Grande Prairie	.01	1.96	3.79	60	57	
	High Prairie	NIL	2.74	4.39	59	58	
7	Peace River	.36	1.26	3.52	59	56	
	Rycroft	.08	2.57	3.69	59	59	
	Wagner	.33	4.58	3.97	57	57	
	ALBERTA AVERAGE		2.13	4.91	4.75	59.7	58.9

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