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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Trade and Commerce

Price: \$4.00 for series of 20 Crop Reports

Crop Reporting Series - No. 13

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the fourth 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 ninth 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 Dull, wet weather has prevailed in Prince Edward Island during the past week with the result that haying is almost at a standstill. The crop varies from fair to good but the quality is beginning to suffer as a result of the adverse harvesting conditions. Pastures are excellent in most areas and the grain crops are making good growth. Potatoes are also doing well and only slight blight infection has been reported from a few areas. Spraying is general throughout the province. A good crop of strawberries has been harvested with some still on the market. In Nova Scotia, haying is well advanced in western and central sections of the province and about 25 per cent complete in eastern sections. Recent rains have tended to slow haying operations but have improved pastures. A good grain crop is in prospect and winter wheat is nearly ready to cut. A good crop of apples and pears is in the making but peaches will be light. The harvesting of peas commenced the middle of July and is still underway. Strawberry harvesting is nearing completion in the western part of the province but will continue in other areas for another week. Raspberries are coming on the market now and a fair volume of new potatoes is being dug this week. All vegetable crops look very good. Dull, wet weather during the past two or three weeks in New Brunswick has been unfavourable for haying. On the other hand, pastures are better than average and potatoes and vegetables are very promising with some of the earlier crops on the market. Grain crops have headed and prospects are very favourable. Wet weather caused some damage to strawberries but yields are holding well.

Quebec Generally warm, rainy weather prevailed over most of the province of Quebec in the past two weeks. This weather followed an equal period of drought. The rain favoured growth but retarded haying and in the Montreal district, which is most advanced, haying is 80 per cent completed. Yields vary from average to excellent but in certain districts quality is reduced because of poor drying conditions. In general, cereal crops look good but growth is slow and uneven. Pastures and hay meadow

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

aftermath have improved since the rain, and cattle are in very good condition. Milk production varies from poor to good depending on the degree of drought. Market gardens are doing well. The harvest of peas, beans and potatoes has started in the Montreal district with yields and prices satisfactory. Tobacco and sugar beets are also looking well. The strawberry harvest is finished in the regions of Quebec, St-Maurice and Montreal and elsewhere, strawberry picking is nearing completion. Raspberry picking started last week in the northern and southern parts of the Montreal district and the crop looks good. The silage corn crop also looks promising.

Ontario Crop conditions throughout Ontario have improved markedly due to recent, good rains, however, more precipitation will be required to maintain crop and pasture development. Although most spring-sown grains will head on short straw this year, rains which fell during the week of July 13 to 20 will greatly revive these crops, especially in Eastern Ontario where seeding was somewhat late. Harvesting of fall wheat has commenced and yields are reported to be generally good and quality fair. Corn, soybeans, sugar beets and white beans have made good development. Harvesting of first-cut hay is almost completed and although most yields were lighter than usual, second growth hay should now make rapid progress. Pastures, which had been declining with the drought, are now responding to recent rains. Sweet corn, tomatoes and other in-season vegetables are being harvested in Southern Ontario.

Prairie Provinces Crops continue to make good to excellent progress over most areas in the Prairie Provinces. Recent rains in the Peace River area have provided some relief from the drought conditions. Most crops have headed and in earlier districts are beginning to fill. Swathing of fall rye is well underway in southern districts and about to commence in later areas. Moisture conditions generally remain satisfactory and some districts now report sufficient moisture to carry the crop to maturity. With drier weather, haying and summerfallow operations are now making good progress.

The Canada Department of Agriculture in Winnipeg reports that it is now evident significant losses from stem rust are most unlikely in western Canada this year. Leaf rust of wheat is now prevalent in southern Manitoba, especially in early fields of the Selkirk and Pembina varieties, and yields probably will be reduced but recent observation indicates that the damage will not be severe. Crown rust of oats is developing rapidly in southern Manitoba but most oat fields will mature before they can be damaged seriously. Losses may occur in late fields.

British Columbia Continued showery weather and subnormal temperatures have retarded maturity of most major crops throughout the province, with the exception of the Peace River area, where recent scattered showers have helped relieve the drought affecting all grain crops, particularly barley. Except for the Peace River area pasture conditions are relatively good but second-cuttings of hay are being hampered by poor curing conditions. Early potatoes are still be lifted at the Coast and harvesting of processing peas has just commenced. Raspberry picking is past its peak with yields and quality reduced by unfavourable weather, but loganberries are showing up well. Despite some losses from mildew, vegetables generally are coming off in good condition. Showery conditions in the Okanagan produced some splitting loss in cherries but good yields and sizing are reported in apricots. Prospects for the peach crop are good and harvesting will commence next week. The pear and apple crops are progressing favourably in all districts.

MARITIME PROVINCES

During the past few weeks weather conditions have been generally favourable in Prince Edward Island and the growth of all crops has been abundant. Hay, grain and potato crops promise above average yields. During the past week, however, the weather turned wet and dull and as a result very little hay was harvested. Pastures are excellent in most areas with an abundance of white clover in evidence. Grain crops are making good growth and are of excellent colour. Potatoes are also doing well with only slight late blight infections being reported from a few areas. Spraying is general throughout the province. Strawberries have been a good average crop with many still on the market.

In Nova Scotia, the harvesting of hay is well advanced in western and central sections of the province particularly in those areas where it is being put up as grass silage. In eastern Nova Scotia over 25 per cent of the hay crop has been harvested but recent rains have tended to slow this operation. Pastures are above average for this time of the year and are holding up well as a result of recent rains. A good crop of grain is in prospect and winter wheat is nearly ready for harvest. Good crops of apples and pears are developing but the peach crop is expected to be light as a result of winter injury. About 240 acres have been planted to tobacco this year and at the present time it appears promising. The harvesting of canning peas commenced on July 14 and is being continued on a 24-hour basis. Hot house tomatoes and cucumbers have been declining gradually but light offerings will continue for a few more weeks. Strawberry harvesting throughout western Nova Scotia is nearing completion and peak pickings have been just completed in the central and eastern parts of the province. Fair offerings from these areas are expected to continue for another week. Raspberries are coming on the market in good volume and are expected to continue all next week. Potatoes are in blossom with heavy tops and some of the early crop is being harvested this week. All vegetable crops look very good for this time of the year. Good supplies of early cabbage are now being offered throughout the central part of the province. Beets and green peas are being offered in volume and a fair supply of head lettuce is coming onto the market. It is expected that corn will become available during the first week of August.

Frequent showers and dull weather have prevailed in New Brunswick during the past two or three weeks with the result that it has been very difficult to harvest the hay crop. On the other hand, pastures have been maintained at better-than-average levels and the potato and vegetable crops are promising. Weather conditions have caused considerable damage to small fruits but yields have been holding up well. Early potatoes, carrots, beets and other vegetables are on the market. Grain crops are headed and good yields are in prospect. To date insect infestation varied from light to normal. Our correspondent at Perth reports that humid, showery weather during the past two weeks has hampered haying operations. The crop is good if quality can be maintained. Potatoes are beginning to fill the rows and are starting to set. Spraying is becoming general for disease and insect control. The grain crops are beginning to head and the prospects are promising. The harvesting of the strawberry crop in this area is nearly completed.

QUEBEC

Haying in the Lennoxville area is progressing slowly due to rainy periods and the crop is now about 75 per cent harvested. Root crops in this area are fair, cereal crops good, pastures very good and hay aftermath fair. The report from the Experimental Station at Ste. Anne de la Pocatière is that frequent and heavy rains have fallen during July, bringing relief to hay meadows and pastures in the district. Haying is about 25 per cent completed, having been retarded by the rain which also reduced hay quality. Cereal crops, which suffered at first from drought, recovered somewhat following the rain, although yields are expected to be lower than normal. Yields of corn and root crops grown for livestock feed are also expected to be lower than normal. The potato crop, on the other hand, looks promising.

Precipitation during the last twenty-two days at Normandin in the Lake St John region totalled 3.58 inches. The rain brought relief from the drought and has considerably improved crops but delayed haying. Hay meadows are medium to good and pastures excellent. The grain crop in this area is headed and looks promising. Potatoes and vegetable crops are also doing well. Strawberries improved considerably with the rain. The blueberry crop also looks promising. In the Caplan area 4.23 inches of rain have fallen since July 1 with very heavy rains on six consecutive days. The cutting of hay for silage in this area is generally completed and haying is now underway. The adverse weather conditions are expected to cause poor quality hay. Pastures are still in good condition and volunteer white clover is abundant. Cereal crops have improved with the good moisture supply but a large aphid population is feeding on barley. Most of the vegetable crops appear normal and some early potatoes have already been dug.

ONTARIO

In Simcoe County of Western Ontario quality of first-cut hay was excellent although yields were slightly below normal. Most farmers will have just enough hay to meet their own requirements. Some winter wheat has been harvested and yields are reported to be good. Yields of spring-sown grains will be quite variable and below average in straw length. Outturns of both oats and barley are expected to be below average. New seedings are somewhat thin due to the dry weather but recent rains will help this situation. The corn crop is coming along well. Strawberries yielded poorly. Recent rains in Bruce County have improved prospects for grain crops. Haying operations are almost completed and above normal yields are reported. Corn is making good progress but is ten days late for this time of year.

In Waterloo County, recent rains have revived spring grains, corn and pastures but more moisture is required to maintain pastures. Harvesting of winter wheat is fairly general and some lodging of wheat and oats has occurred. Dry weather has affected crops in Halton County with spring grains short and maturing rapidly. Late-planted spring grains will yield lighter than usual. Fall wheat harvesting has commenced and yields are expected to be average. Growth of the corn crop has been fair to average. Pastures are in short supply and second-crop hay will be light. Although recent rains will assist crop growth, more precipitation is required.

In Middlesex County, fairly adequate showers have fallen. Fall wheat and spring grains both look generally promising. Hay was a good average crop. In Essex County, harvesting of most crops is a week to ten days behind that of last year. Harvesting of winter wheat has just commenced and, although good yields are reported, quality is only fair. Harvesting of oats will begin in another week. Yields of spring grains are expected to be light because of the drought. Harvesting of peas is completed while harvesting of sweet corn, tomatoes and other in-season vegetables is proceeding. Picking of late tomatoes will not likely begin until after the middle of August. Corn, soybeans and sugar beets are making good growth despite the dry weather. The tobacco crop looks fairly good. Prospects for tree fruits are extremely variable, with peaches light and pears very light but apples about normal.

Harvesting of fall wheat is underway on Pelee Island and early reports indicate that yields are 40 to 45 bushels per acre. Soybeans are making fair growth. Rains over most of Kent County on July 13 ended a drought which had prevailed for twenty-nine days. All crops are greatly improved but more rain is needed in some sections of the county to maintain continued good growth. Harvesting of winter wheat is later than usual and combining has just commenced with both yields and quality better than previously anticipated. Corn, soybeans, and white beans have made good growth since the rains. Present yield prospects for corn indicate a smaller harvest than in the two previous years while soybeans and white beans indicate about average production. Sugar beets have made excellent development and prospects for this crop are good. Burley tobacco is somewhat spotty and the crop lacks the uniformity of the past two seasons. No serious insect problems are reported at present.

Recent rains have relieved the drought situation in Norfolk County. Harvesting of winter wheat is expected to commence in about a week. In Lincoln County, two to three inches of rain fell between July 14 and 20. Harvesting of a good quality crop of sweet cherries is almost completed. Picking of sour cherries has begun and this crop is of excellent colour. Insects and mites are generally less troublesome than usual although downy mildew has become prevalent due to recent rains.

Recent rains have improved the moisture situation in Prince Edward County. Canning of the late pea crop is continuing, although yields are reported to be low. Rain on July 14 in York County has revived all crops from a fairly serious slump. Winter wheat looks good, although spring-sown grains are both thin and short. Average crop conditions are reported in Peterborough County, although pastures and corn need more rain. Yield prospects for wheat look good but only fair for oats. Milk flow is below average.

Harvesting of a heavy crop of good quality hay is nearing completion in Leeds County. The recent drought was broken by good rains on July 15. Pastures, aftermath, oats and corn will benefit greatly from these rains. Early-seeded oats look average while late-sown oats is short and below normal condition. Winter wheat looks average. Milk flow is below normal but is now improving. Welcome rains have recently occurred in Dundas County but more rain will be required to ensure a fair crop. Although early-seeded fields look

reasonably good, much of the grain crop will be short. In Renfrew County, rains which occurred since July 6 have been very beneficial to all growing crops. Second-crop alfalfa is making rapid growth while harvesting of the first crop is about 95 per cent completed. Spring grains are on short straw but recent rains will improve the quality of the grain. Fall wheat has turned but harvesting has not commenced as yet. All crops in Carleton County have picked up considerably since recent heavy rains brought relief to a month long drought. Late-seeded spring grains, corn and second crop hay should now recover sufficiently to yield close to normal. A fair to good crop of hay has been harvested although much baled hay still remains in the field. Approximately 60 per cent of the crop was stored with little or no weathering. Present weather conditions are ideal for maturing of high quality wheat as well as spring grains. Harvesting of a good crop of winter wheat should commence about the end of the month.

A report from Kapuskasing indicates that lack of moisture during June retarded development of the hay crop. However, a four inch rainfall during the weekend of July 13 has greatly improved the outlook. Cereal crops have been fully headed for the past two weeks.

MANITOBA

Crop progress in Manitoba continues to be favourable. Light to moderate rains fell at some locations during the past week and there has been only scattered hail damage but western and southern regions will require more rain during the next ten days to realize the promising yields. Late-seeded crops are in the shot blade stage and most wheat is headed. Rye swathing has started and yields are expected to be quite variable. Hot weather has hastened maturity in isolated areas and early wheat swathing will take place at Altona this week. The hay harvest has been completed in the Red River Valley and about two-thirds elsewhere with good yields. Except for isolated aphid damage losses from insects have not been serious.

High temperatures with humidity have increased chipped blast in wheat and leaf rust of oats in the Altona area. Rye swathing is underway and some early wheat and barley will be swathed this week. Field peas have passed full bloom and sunflowers are starting to show colour. Sugar beets are developing excellently. The Morden district has had recent showers varying from one-quarter inch to one and one-half inches but with the weekend temperatures near 90 degrees, haying is again in progress. There is considerable evidence of leaf and stem rust in the district and hot weather is reported to be affecting the canning pea harvest adversely.

The south-central and southwest area of the province will require more moisture during the next ten days to promote good filling. A report from Somerset states that crops are all headed and most flax is in bloom but more moisture is required. No recent precipitation has been received in the Melita district and late seeded crops are deteriorating with the excessive heat. About 25 per cent of the rye in this district has been swathed.

The Brandon district is reasonably assured of an above average grain crop.. Early crops are well filled and beginning to turn. Moisture supplies here are just adequate and more rain is needed soon. Leaf rust is heavy on wheat and there is some evidence of crown rust developing in oats. At Virden, wheat is reported to be 70 to 75 per cent in head and about 50 per cent of the coarse grains are also headed. Early wheat is filling well. Aphids are present in some crops but damage is not expected to be serious. Haying is proceeding rapidly after having been stopped by showers on July 16.

Crop conditions are good to excellent in the west-central part of the province. Good stands of early wheat and oats in the Neepawa district are filling well and late-sown grains are starting to head. Heavy rains caused considerable local damage around Gladstone. Apart from indications of spotty leaf hoppers in gardens and rape crops, insect problems are normal. Wheat and barley are 90 per cent headed in the Minnedosa district and while leaf rust is present, damage is not expected to be great. Shoal Lake had heavy rains on July 17 and 18 and some barley fields are lodging. Apart from this, all cereal crops are reported to be in excellent condition. Flax is in full bloom and haying about 70 per cent completed with excellent yields, except that low lying areas are too wet to cut. Very good thundershowers have maintained moisture in the Binscarth district and crops continue to look very good. There has been some spotty hail damage and haying was delayed until the return of excellent weather during the past few days.

The Dauphin and Swan River areas have excellent stands of all grains but some lodging is reported from Dauphin. Haying is well advanced and yields have been heavy. Special crops, gardens and summerfallow are in good condition and moisture supplies appear to be adequate to carry the crops to maturity.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 36 per cent above normal compared with 37 per cent above normal a week ago, 43 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 26 per cent above normal at the same time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 22 was 0.8 degrees above normal compared with 0.9 degrees above normal a week ago, 1.4 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast with 1.8 degrees below normal for the week ending July 23, 1962.

SASKATCHEWAN

With ideal growing conditions the crop outlook in Saskatchewan continues excellent throughout the province. Showery weather during the past week, followed by higher temperatures resulted in rapid advancement of wheat crops. Other grains, including oats, barley, flax and rapeseed also look good. Insect damage has been negligible so far this season but there have been some scattered hail losses. The showery weather has restricted haying and summerfallow operations but with the return of more settled conditions these activities are again underway.

Crops are excellent in the southeast part of the province around Yellow Grass with the stage of development ranging from just starting to head to fully headed and beginning to turn colour. Recent hot, dry weather has promoted growth and enabled farmers to resume summerfallowing and haying. Moisture reserves

are ample to complete the crop and to date has been confined to flooding in the odd field. Flax crops are good and in the flowering stage. The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that hot, dry weather during the past week has promoted excellent development of grain crops which are now fully headed and 30 to 36 inches high. Leaf rust is present on susceptible varieties. Minor lodging has occurred in low spots where the stand is heavy but damage from this source is expected to be light. Early wheat crops are in the milk stage of development with mostly six-rowed heads. Dry weather has enabled farmers to make better progress with haying and summerfallow operations. Livestock are in excellent condition on good pastures.

In the southwest part of the province around Gravelbourg steady, warm weather was experienced during the past week and crops are headed and in excellent condition. Early fields are showing signs of colouring and a record yield is expected. Some hail was reported in parts of the district but damage was light. Summerfallows are in good condition. Grain deliveries have been heavy and elevator space is limited. The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that crops are generally good to excellent but moisture reserves have been seriously depleted following several days of hot, dry winds. Some burning of leaves is evident and further rains will be required over the next week to ensure the making of an above average crop which is now in prospect. Subsoil moisture reserves in cropped land are very low.

South of Swift Current at Val Marie the hot, dry weather is advancing the crop rapidly and some heat damage to late-seeded crops is expected unless rain is received soon. However, the prospects are for much above average yields throughout the district. Scattered showers with some hail are reported from the Eastend district with damage from hail in some local areas having caused up to 100 per cent losses. Grasshoppers are also doing some damage. Our correspondent estimates average yields as follows: wheat 25, barley 35, oats 50 and fall rye 35 bushels per acre. Livestock are in good condition and hay supplies will be sufficient for winter feeding. Clear, hot weather has advanced crops in the Leader district and most fields are beginning to turn colour. Fall rye has been swathed and some has been threshed.

Crops continue to make excellent growth in the Togo district in the east-central part of the province. Early-sown wheat is forming heavy heads and coarse grains are 75 per cent headed. Some hail is reported but damage so far has not been heavy. The warm, dry weather has improved haying conditions and harvesting is now 50 to 75 per cent completed with good yields. Pastures remain in good condition but further rains will be needed to fill crops. Rainfall in the Melville district since April 1 has totalled 11.66 inches and, with hot weather during the past three days, all crops are now headed. Haying is in full swing but some difficulty is being experienced taking off wild hay because of water in low spots. No hail damage is reported and grasshopper damage is very light. Our correspondent at Sturgis says that it looks like yields will be very good for both wheat and coarse grains in that district. It is estimated that about 1,000 acres of cropland received 80 per cent hail damage and another thousand some 50 per cent damage.

In the Rosebown district of the west-central part of the province, the hot, dry winds and heavy stands of grain have sucked up a lot of moisture and more rain would be welcome soon. However, crops are not yet suffering and look

exceptionally good with maturity being about average for this time of year. The warm, sunny weather has promoted rapid crop development in the Scott district. All crops are headed and early-sown fields are filling rapidly. Polish rape fields and fall rye are beginning to mature and the grass seed harvest is starting. Damage from insects has been negligible and crop prospects are excellent. Haying operations are progressing well. Crop prospects are good in the Drake district in the central part of the province, but moisture will be required soon to mature the heavy stand. Light hail damage was received last Thursday and local showers have delayed haying operations. There are some signs of leaf rust. Swathing of rye will commence in four or five days. Pastures and cattle are in good condition.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort, in the northeast part of the province, reports that ideal temperature and moisture supplies are providing near-perfect growing conditions for all crops. Stands are the heaviest in years and barring any unforeseen circumstances should provide many record yields. Hail damage has been scattered and light. Russian wild rye is now being harvested and seed yields are excellent. Crops are also the best in years in the Nipawin district and nearly all headed. Rye crops are now turning colour. Rapeseed and potato crops are also very good and haying is now in full swing, with yields being heavy. Moisture conditions are excellent.

In the Meota district of the northwest part of the province, crops are very good and are headed. Moisture reserves are still adequate. Hay crops are also above average. The weather has been hot and dry in the northern half of the Paradise Hill district and moisture will be required there to stop crop deterioration. The southern half of the district still has sufficient moisture for the present and wheat prospects are excellent. Haying is in progress.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports major hail storms since last week at the following points: July 14 - Maryfield, Estlin. Pense, Allan, Blucher, Viscount, North Battleford, Cut Knife, Edam; July 15 Carnduff, Oxbow, Browning, Griffin, Weyburn, Fillmore, Briercrest, Rocanville, Oakshela, McLean, Markinch, Earl Grey, Quill Lake, Leroy, Revenue, Radisson; July 16 - Alida, Alameda, Redvers, Talmage, Bateman, Glen Bain, Vanguard, Odessa; July 18 - Davidson, Imperial, Simpson, Kandahar, Jansen.

The unweighted average precipitation for Saskatchewan since April 1 has been 42 per cent above normal as compared with 46 per cent above normal a week ago, 34 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 2 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 22 was 0.4 degrees above normal compared with 0.2 degrees below normal a week ago, 3.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 2.5 degrees below normal for the week ending July 23, 1962.

ALBERTA

Crops continue to make good progress in most areas of Alberta. No major change is reported from the south of the province. Very warm weather with adequate moisture is providing good growing conditions in the south of the province and crops are coming along well. The winter wheat which survived the drought well and sugar beets that were damaged by hail are recovering. The first cut of hay in this area is 80 per cent completed but considerable spoilage has occurred due to the wet weather. Harvesting of second cut hay has started in some districts and a good yield is expected. The canning pea harvest is now in full swing and yields appear to be slightly better than last year. Excellent crop prospects are being maintained in central and east-central regions with all grains now in head. Second-cut hay also looks very promising in these regions. Good rains fell in the Peace River district recently with some points recording two inches but the area south of the Peace River received less rain. It is still too early to predict the extent of crop improvement but the moisture should prevent further crop deterioration and improve the feed situation.

In the southeast of the province, the weather has been hot and growing conditions good. At Manyberries, crops are progressing well but continuing hot weather is depleting the soil moisture supplies. Range vegetation in this area is making good growth and livestock are in good condition. Crop conditions in the Medicine Hat area also remain good following the rains. Heat in the last few days is reported as severe. The crops are filling well and hay yields look good. Pasture and livestock are also in good condition.

Condition in the southwest of the province are also good. Crops in the Lethbridge area generally have made good growth in the past week. Fall rye and fall wheat are being swathed. For the first time in twenty years it is reported that stinkbugs are present in fair numbers between Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Although the infestation is general, damage is taking place only in localized areas where Russian thistles were prevalent last winter and this spring. Cattle, pastures and all grain crops in the Cardston area are good. Fall crops are nearly ripe. The hay crop, however, is light. Winter wheat and fall rye in the Claresholm area are nearly ready for harvest and yields are expected to be below average. Spring-sown grains are mostly good and are heading or already headed with yields expected to be close to average. Hay and pastures have made a good recovery since the rain. There is sufficient moisture now in the ground to finish the crop.

Hot, dry winds are beginning to blow again in the south-central part of the province. At Brooks, the first cutting of alfalfa hay is almost finished with quality fair to good. There are some good fields of peas for seed. Cereal crops and flax are looking good, and the odd barley field is turning colour. Hot, dry winds prevailed in the past few days and more rain would be welcome. Hot, dry weather has also prevailed at Vulcan for the past week and has advanced crops very rapidly with over 50 per cent now headed. Fall rye crops will be ready to swath in two weeks. Haying is still underway and yields are averaging half of normal. Slight hail damage was reported in the southern part of this district.

One-half to one inch of rain was received by the Hanna area since the last report and crop conditions are very good. Wheat is around two feet tall and larger-than-average heads are beginning to fill. There has been no damage to crops in this district to date. Grassland is greatly improved although hay crops will be light. Green feed crops are good. Since last week, the weather in the Calgary district has been hot and under favourable moisture conditions crops are making good progress. Wheat is almost completely headed and oats and barley are 75 to 85 per cent headed. Crop prospects in this area are good. Moisture supplies in the Olds area are also ample and a period of warm, dry weather would be most beneficial. Early barley is beginning to turn colour. Present prospects are for a heavy crop in this area.

Dry, warm weather is reported in the central region of Alberta. A week of dry, warm weather in the Sedgewick area has brought crops along rapidly. Wheat is filling well, oats and barley are headed, and early fields of barley are filling. Fall rye is turning and soon will be ready to swath. Haying is in full swing and gardens are doing very well. At Donalda, all crops are reported to be in good condition. Wheat is in head and filling well and coarse grains are heading fast under clear, warm weather. Haying, which had been delayed on account of wet weather, now is in full swing again. Crop prospects in this area remain good.

Crop prospects in the west-central region of the province are excellent. Crop conditions and growth in the Red Deer area continue favourable. Practically all crops are now headed. Haying is general and prospects are good for a heavy second cut. The Experimental Farm at Lacombe reports that the weather in this area was dry during the past week and haying operations are again general with yields averaging one and one-quarter to one and one-half tons per acre. Cereal crops are heavy and the yield outlook is excellent. Moisture conditions at Eckville are reported to be ideal. Haying in this area is 60 per cent completed, but one more week of fine weather is needed. Pastures are good and summerfallows are in fair condition. Cereal crops are looking well and early barley is starting to turn. From three to four inches of rain fell on July 15 and 16 in this area.

Farther north more rain is needed. Grain in the Edmonton area is approximately 75 per cent headed and crop conditions are described as fair. More rain will be needed to fill crops properly. The moisture situation at Stony Plain was becoming serious but with rains in the past two weeks it is now described as fair. Most grain crops are headed. Harvesting of first-cut hay is nearly completed with yields lower than last year. The potato crop is doing well although it was damaged by frost in June.

Northeast of Edmonton at Bonnyville, hot, dry weather has promoted rapid crop development but reduced prospective yields. A light hay crop has been harvested in good condition. Some of the grain crops are starting to mature and an early harvest is indicated. A heavy rain and windstorm on Monday laid down some fields.

Some rain has fallen in the Peace River area although for much of the crop, relief has come too late. Cool showery weather is reported from Beaverlodge although there has yet to be general precipitation. The moisture that has fallen is assisting with kernel development. Fair yields of seed are now anticipated on new forage stands. Spring cereal yields are expected to be half of normal.

As yet there has been no regrowth on hay and pasture fields in this area. In the Berwyn area on July 22 and 23 a heavy general rain of up to four inches brought relief from drought and improved the outlook somewhat. Before then the drought had been described as severe. Large acreages were plowed under and many cereal fields were harvested for feed. Livestock are being fed roughage on dry pastures and many herds have been culled heavily to relieve the feed shortage.

A general rain fell at Fort Vermilion on Monday with precipitation ranging from one and one-half inches to three inches. In some areas, lodging is reported on heavy rapeseed stands. Moisture supplies in this area are now described as adequate and crops are generally good. There have been a few isolated reports of poor stands in late-seeded rapeseed. Grasshoppers are numerous in some areas and spraying has been done to control these insects.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports no hail of consequence since the last report.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 10 per cent above normal compared to 8 per cent above normal a week ago, 4 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 9 per cent above normal at the same time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 22 was 0.5 degrees below normal compared with 1.0 degrees below normal a week ago, 6.6 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 3.3 degrees below normal for the week ending July 23, 1962.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

July weather has been wet with much less than normal sunshine on Vancouver Island. There has been considerable difficulty with haying due to wet weather but yields are above average. There is an excellent yield of early potatoes and prospects are good for forage crops, late potatoes and vegetables. The strawberry yield on the Island was also above average.

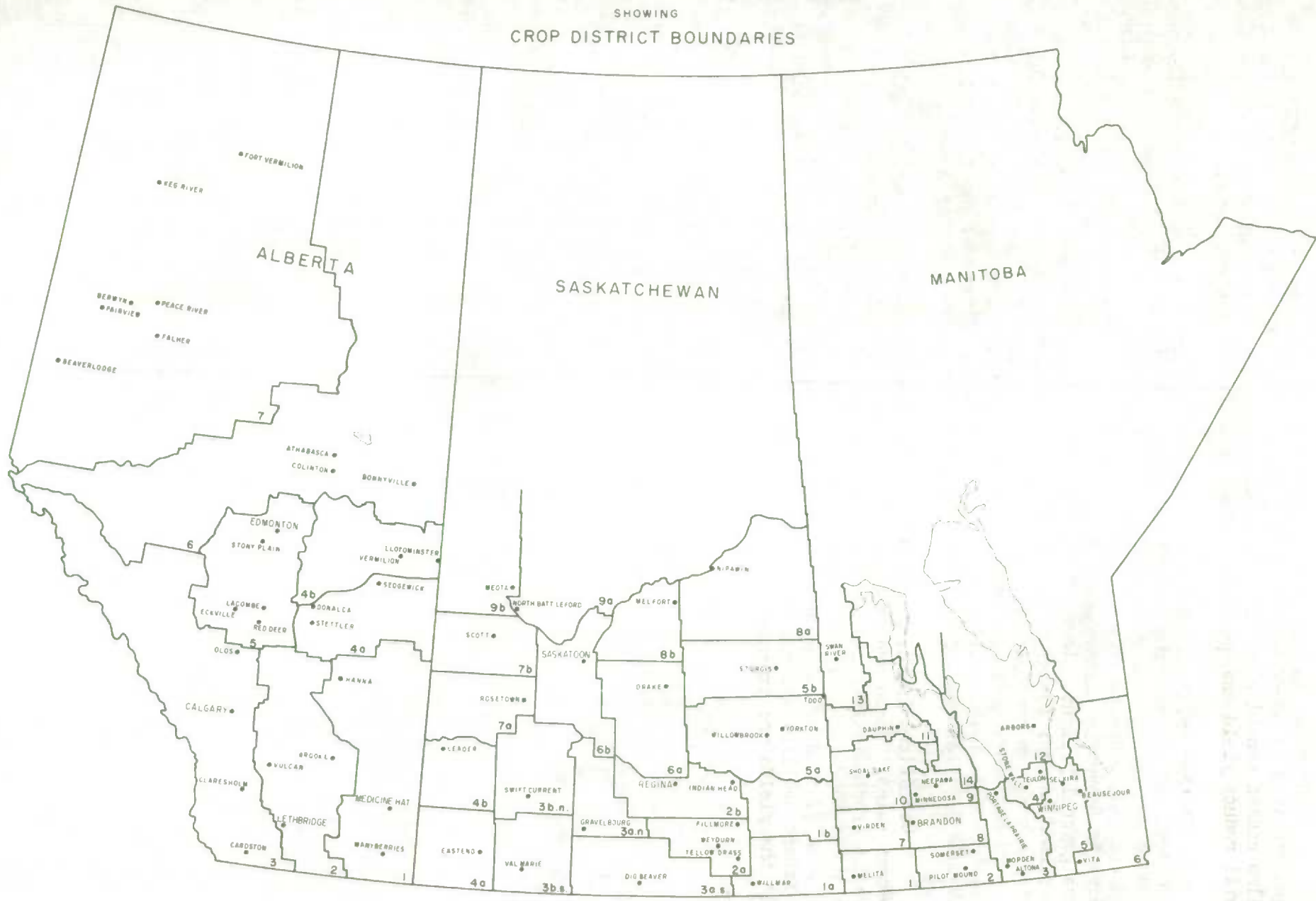
The report from Agassiz in the Lower Fraser Valley indicates that rainfall in July is already 1.69 inches above the average monthly total. The weather has been cool and higher temperatures are needed to promote development of the corn crop. The raspberry harvest is two-thirds completed with yield and quality about average. Harvesting of canning peas is now general and second-crop hay stands are excellent, but cutting has been delayed by rain. The report from Kelowna in the Okanagan Valley states that the harvest of sweet cherries will be completed this week and that the apricot harvest is at its peak but that yields may be slightly below earlier estimates. Peach harvesting is expected to commence by July 29 and a good crop of early tomatoes is now being harvested. Fall-seeded wheat yields in the Armstrong district, where combining started on July 17, are extremely variable. Late June rains which improved the prospects for spring cereals and hay on non-irrigated land were too late to bring about recovery of winter wheat. Upper range lands are reported to be in very good condition this year.

At Creston, in the southern Kootenay region above average precipitation has resulted in lowering the quality of the hay crop and the frequent rains have also caused considerable loss in the cherry crop. Severe lodging in winter wheat will reduce yield and quality. Forage crop stands are excellent.

Weather in the Kamloops and southern Cariboo area has been generally showery and cool and has hampered second-cut haying. Pastures are producing well and forest ranges are reported to be in good condition. A report from Prince George states that moderate rainfall combined with low temperatures during the past ten days is improving pastures and will promote normal filling of cereal crops, which are generally light. Lack of moisture and disease in clovers and alfalfa has resulted in poor forage yields in the Vanderhoof district. At Smithers the yield of hay has been considerably increased by late precipitation but this has also tended to reduce quality. With unfavourable weather for harvesting there are signs of some over-maturity in the standing crop. Prospects for the grain crops in this district are good but dry, warm weather is now urgently needed.

Conditions in the Peace River Block have improved considerably with recent rains. These are promoting the filling of a light grain crop in the Dawson Creek district but some trouble with second-growth may be encountered in harvesting. At Fort St. John, scattered rains up to two inches were received on July 7, 8 and 9 followed by heavy general rains on July 22 and 23. Moisture supplies are now ample to carry the crop to maturity in this district and the yields are expected to be only slightly below average.

OUTLINE MAP OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES
SHOWING
CROP DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

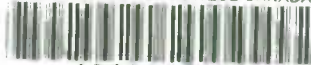
Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 22,1963	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 22 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	.75	12.34	8.24	69	67
	Pierson	.16	9.90	8.25	70	68
	Waskada	N.R.	8.69 ^{2/}	8.60	N.R.	68
2	Ninette	.46	8.44	8.85	68	68
	Pilot Mound	.40	12.25	8.44	69	68
3	Altona	1.13	11.69	7.99	69	70
	Deerwood	1.97	15.19	8.42	70	68
	Graysville	.46	11.20	8.18	69	69
	Gretna	1.17	9.79	7.99	71	71
	Morden	1.02	14.07	8.66	71	70
	Morris	.39	8.22	7.47	70	70
	Portage la Prairie	.62	12.48	8.46	71	70
	Roland	.53	10.62	8.18	70	69
4	Stonewall	.60	11.69	8.18	69	69
5	Emerson	.90	10.31	7.98	71	70
	St. Genevieve	.79	7.23 ^{2/}	7.98	N.R.	69
	Steinbach	.72	12.21	8.18	70	69
	Winnipeg	.39	10.41	7.79	71	69
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.33	11.48	7.28	69	67
	Sprague	1.89	13.06	8.69	66	66
7	Reston	.66	10.91	8.32	69	69
	Rivers	.82	9.59	9.40	68	68
	Virden	.27	10.54	7.83	69	69
8	Brandon	.82	9.18	8.91	69	68
	Cypress River	.51	8.74	8.23	70	69
9	Kelwood	N.R.	7.25 ^{2/}	8.50	N.R.	68
10	Birtle	1.03	12.38	7.91	67	65
	Rosburn	1.95	14.42	7.56	67	65
	Russell	.56	8.87	7.48	66	66
11	Dauphin	1.67	12.53	7.73	69	69
	Gilbert Plains	.43	8.93	7.73	67	69
12	Arborg	.38	11.87	7.68	68	68
	Gimli	.72	12.82	8.28	70	68
13	Swan River	.23	7.63	7.30	68	65
	The Pas	1.53	10.70	6.26	68	66
14	Grass River	.17	9.87	8.50	68	68
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.78	11.04	8.10	69.0	68.2
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	.71	13.03	7.84	67	66
	Estevan	.32	13.34	8.18	69	69
	Oxbow	N.R.	9.99 ^{2/}	8.21	N.R.	68
	Willmar	.32	11.81	7.70	N.R.	68

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 22, 1963	since April 1	since April 1	July 22 1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
SASKATCHEWAN (continued)						
1B	Broadview	.76	10.58	7.92	69	65
	Moosomin	.41	10.93	8.44	67	68
2A	Yellow Grass	.81	14.09	7.43	68	68
	Creelman	.24	9.20	7.38	67	67
	Weyburn	.53	11.30	7.52	68	68
	Midale	.29	13.87	7.22	70	68
	Claybank	N.R.	8.21 ^{2/}	7.48	N.R.	69
	2B	Moose Jaw	.35	12.37	6.83	71
Regina		.87	12.45	7.16	68	68
Francis		.05	12.05	6.53	65	67
Qu'Appelle		1.54	14.46	7.77	67	67
Indian Head		.62	10.68	7.17	67	67
Wilcox		N.R.	9.54 ^{2/}	7.31	N.R.	68
3AS	Ormiston	.24	11.82	7.41	68	69
	Minton	.04	9.60	7.98	67	68
	Cardross	N.R.	10.16 ^{2/}	7.41	N.R.	68
	Ceylon	.03	11.76	8.18	66	68
3AN	Chaplin	.12	11.20	6.22	68	68
	Gravelbourg	.12	10.70	7.03	68	69
	Coderre	NIL	8.54 ^{2/}	6.85	69	68
3BS	Shaunavon	.05	7.87	6.53	67	69
	Pambrun	.11	7.90	7.22	67	68
	Aneroid	.22	8.20	6.55	67	68
	Val Marie	N.R.	4.25 ^{2/}	5.54	N.R.	67
	Instow	NIL	8.64	6.53	N.R.	68
	3BN	Swift Current	.09	7.54	6.95	68
Hodgeville		N.R.	9.46 ^{2/}	7.08	N.R.	68
Hughton		.03	7.35	5.82	68	68
4A	Maple Creek	.09	7.61	6.40	69	68
	Consul	NIL	6.22	5.74	65	66
4B	Abbey	.18	6.16	5.64	67	67
5A	Cupar	.64	11.02	6.60	70	67
	Lipton	.49	9.05 ^{2/}	6.38	68	68
	Melville	.42	11.80	7.06	66	66
	Yorkton	.72	10.70	7.27	68	67
	Bangor	1.02	13.74	7.28	67	66
	5B	Dafoe	.84	9.80	7.29	67
Foam Lake		.25	6.48	7.43	69	66
Kuroki		.27	7.02	7.42	66	65
Lintlaw		.31	7.23	7.42	66	65
Kamsack		.22	6.42	7.02	68	66
6A		Davidson	.18	8.42	6.60	68
	Imperial	N.R.	11.60 ^{2/}	6.48	N.R.	67
	Strasbourg	.65	9.28	6.70	65	66
	Watrous	.41	10.20	6.20	67	67

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature		
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 22,1963	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 22 1963	Normal	
		- inches -			- degrees F. -		
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)							
6B	Delisle	N.R.	6.94 ^{2/}	6.48	N.R.	67	
	Harris	NIL	7.89	6.11	68	67	
	Outlook	.31	7.57	5.78	70	69	
	Saskatoon	.41	8.94	6.84	68	67	
	Elbow	.11	6.61	5.97	69	68	
	Tugaske	.25	12.53	6.54	67	67	
	Dundurn	.17	7.25	6.19	70	67	
	7A Alsask	.38	8.35	5.73	67	67	
	Kindersley	.08	7.45	5.62	66	67	
	Rosetown	Trace	10.97	6.65	66	67	
7B	Macklin	.60	12.60	6.25	66	66	
	Denzil	1.37	14.27	6.25	66	66	
	Scott	1.08	8.99	6.23	67	65	
	Biggar	.12	10.05	6.34	68	67	
	8A Hudson Bay	.82	6.23	7.35	67	65	
	Prairie River	.82	7.54 ^{2/}	7.12	64	65	
	Armit	N.R.	1.23 ^{2/}	7.35	N.R.	65	
	8B Humboldt	.33	8.87	6.41	67	66	
	Melfort	1.65	8.86	6.68	65	66	
	9A North Battleford	.55	8.17	6.08	68	67	
	Victoire	1.21	11.68	6.21	64	63	
	Prince Albert	.77	9.70	6.93	65	66	
	Island Falls	.29	9.05	6.50	67	64	
9B	Waseca	1.02	7.74	6.39	68	64	
	St. Walburg	.14	5.60	6.54	66	63	
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.43	9.71	6.85	67.3	66.9	
ALBERTA							
1	Empress	NIL	6.33	4.42	68	71	
	Foremost	.03	5.17	6.70	66	70	
	Hanna	.45	6.38	6.39	66	65	
	Manyberries	.14	5.61	5.43	68	70	
	Medicine Hat	.12	6.93	5.79	67	71	
	Naco	N.R.	10.49 ^{2/}	5.51	N.R.	66	
	Winnifred	.06	6.69	5.71	N.R.	71	
	2	Brooks	.03	6.57	5.56	65	69
		Drumheller	.53	6.48	6.21	66	68
		Gleichen	1.13	7.23	6.72	65	65
Hays		.02	5.75	5.76	67	71	
Vauxhall		.13	7.04	5.70	65	67	
Raymond		.03	8.29	7.50	66	67	
Lethbridge		.03	9.60	7.60	66	66	
Strathmore		N.R.	5.69 ^{2/}	7.29	N.R.	64	
Three Hills	NIL	5.88 ^{2/}	7.04	63	64		



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces 1/

Province and Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperature	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 22	
		July 22, 1963	April 1	April 1	1963	Normal
		- inches -			- degrees F. -	
<u>ALBERTA</u> (concluded)						
2	Trochu	NIL	7.34	7.62	N.R.	64
	Vulcan	.72	9.84	6.95	65	66
3	Calgary	.29	8.99	8.38	64	63
	Cardston	.04	11.38	8.29	64	66
	Pincher Creek	NIL	13.03	9.25	61	63
	Fort MacLeod	.07	11.29	8.24	66	68
	High River	.41	16.73 ^{2/}	9.24	59	62
	Magrath	N.R.	8.30 ^{2/}	8.12	N.R.	66
	Olds	N.R.	6.37 ^{2/}	8.28	N.R.	62
	Alliance	1.53	13.48 ^{2/}	7.45	64	64
4	Camrose	N.R.	8.93 ^{2/}	6.97	N.R.	64
	Castor	N.R.	2.36 ^{2/}	6.23	N.R.	64
	Coronation	.48	9.47	6.23	66	64
	Hughenden	1.63	10.79	6.54	65	64
	Lloydminster	.15	8.22	6.33	67	65
	Stettler	.68	11.10	7.84	64	64
	Vegreville	.44	8.72	6.60	64	65
	Vermilion	.51	8.88	6.80	63	63
5	Edmonton	2.23	8.00	8.04	64	64
	Lacombe	1.12	10.16	8.49	62	63
	Red Deer	2.76	9.66	8.02	62	61
	Rocky Mountain House	2.40	11.62	10.44	60	61
	Wetaskiwin	1.20	9.18	7.96	64	62
6	Athabasca	N.R.	5.13 ^{2/}	6.97	N.R.	61
	Campsie	N.R.	6.53 ^{2/}	8.23	N.R.	62
	Edson	.14	5.95	8.66	62	60
	Elk Point	.23	5.43	6.87	65	62
	Lac la Biche	Trace	7.09	7.03	64	64
	Smith	.45	9.25	6.62	61	61
	Whitecourt	.15	8.05	8.72	61	60
	Beaverlodge	.15	2.96	6.06	60	61
7	Fairview	.02	2.17	6.27	62	61
	Ft. Vermilion	.09	3.81	4.90	64	63
	Grande Prairie	.04	2.68	6.16	62	62
	High Prairie	NIL	2.96	7.21	61	62
	Peace River	.06	1.70	5.77	62	62
	Rycroft	.23	3.18	5.99	62	62
	Wagner	.79	7.90	6.28	62	61
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.48	7.76	7.03	63.9	64.4

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