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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the third of the 1964 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 Throughout the Maritime Provinces, weather conditions have been dull and showery, with excessive moisture reported in some areas of Nova Scotia. As a result, haymaking has been delayed although crop prospects are generally good. In Prince Edward Island, all crops are growing well although late-planted potatoes and grains are developing slowly. Farmers in the western part of Nova Scotia have started haymaking. The pea crop and strawberry picking have been retarded by weather conditions. In the central and eastern parts of the province more moisture is reported, with the result that both ripening and harvesting of forage crops and strawberries have been retarded. In the extreme eastern areas excessive moisture conditions are becoming serious. In New Brunswick, recent heavy rains provided badly needed moisture but have made field work difficult. Crop growth is generally good and pastures are holding up well. Hay-
ing has begun.

Quebec During the month of June, dry weather conditions accompanied by strong winds throughout the Three Rivers, Eastern Townships, Montreal and Ottawa districts, adversely affected crop growth. In addition, some damage was caused by hail and late frost to horticultural crops in these areas. Elsewhere in Quebec the weather has been wet and cold, which has favoured pastures but held up work on the land and slowed crop growth. In the Richelieu Valley, large areas of vegetables on muck soils were destroyed by the heavy winds. However, this acreage has now been reseeded. Haying is from 20 to 70 per cent completed in the south and east of the province but yields are low. Harvesting of processing peas was started on July 4 in St. Hyacinthe County and it is anticipated that digging of first potatoes will start next week in the Napierville district. Beans, turnips and early beets are about two weeks late. Reports from Montreal indicate

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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that head lettuce and cucumbers suffered adverse effects from drought. Fall vegetables, particularly tomatoes, are greatly in need of improved weather. In those regions affected by the drought, pastures are insufficient and milk production has fallen. On the other hand, in the Gaspé district, Lower St. Lawrence area, Lake St. Jean, Quebec to Three Rivers, Abitibi and Temiscaming, where there has been considerable rainfall, pasture conditions are sustaining satisfactory milk production. Tobacco crop prospects are good, however, in spite of some damage from bad weather to certain plantings. In the Montreal region and Eastern Townships, strawberry picking is well advanced and yields are good on irrigated land but poor elsewhere. The raspberry crop has been reduced significantly in certain producing districts. In the Lake St. Jean district and at Quebec reports indicate heavy weed and insect infestations.

Ontario Crop conditions are variable across the province of Ontario. In the southern part of the province the crop outlook is good. Wheat is turning rapidly and indicates a good crop, while spring grains are headed and also look promising. Corn and truck crops are growing well with early potatoes and other vegetables being harvested. Haying is nearing completion and the yields are about average. The outlook is promising for all tree fruits in Southern Ontario and harvesting of sweet cherries is under way. Insects and disease have been generally well controlled. In Western Ontario, however, rain is badly needed and growth has been slower than in the southern counties. Wheat is turning and looks promising, while spring grains are short but filling well. Corn growth is variable due to a combination of hot weather and lack of moisture. Haying is about two-thirds completed. In Central Ontario spring grains are growing well but pastures need rain. In Eastern Counties the hay crop is at least one-third less than normal. Spring grains are heading on short straw and pastures are very short. Growth is generally improved due to recent rains and corn is now making good progress. Cold, wet weather during June retarded crop development in Northern Ontario. Spring grains are later than usual, the hay crop is variable, but pastures in this region are good.

Prairie Provinces Crop prospects remain generally favourable in the southern districts of all three Prairie Provinces, although some damage from flooding has occurred in the Red River Valley of Manitoba. Recent rains in northern Manitoba and eastcentral Saskatchewan have improved crop prospects in those areas, but a hard core of drought still exists in large areas of central and northern Saskatchewan. Dry conditions also prevail in many parts of west-central Saskatchewan and in adjacent areas of Alberta, extending in spotty fashion as far west as Barrhead. Except for most southern districts, hay crops are generally light and pastures are poor.

RUST REPORT FOR THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station at Winnipeg reports that leaf rust of wheat is generally distributed throughout southern Manitoba, but infections are still light on resistant Selkirk and Pembina varieties. A trace of stem rust was found on July 7 on susceptible wheat varieties but none has been noted on Selkirk or Pembina. Oat crown rust is present in trace amounts in experimental plots at Morden and Winnipeg but no cases of stem rust have been noted. Given suitable conditions for rust development in the next few weeks, susceptible varieties could be damaged by stem rust.

British Columbia As subnormal temperatures continue, delayed maturity in most crops is widespread in British Columbia. At the coast, strawberries are now past their peak with generally good yields although mildew is reported in some areas. The early potato crop is spotty reflecting setbacks incurred by cool temperatures in early spring. Harvesting of beets and turnips is under way and an excellent crop of processing peas is shaping up. In the Okanagan Valley thinning of apricots, peaches and pears is completed and picking of cherries has commenced. Apples are variable with current prospects indicating an average crop but below the 1963 level. Picking of cucumbers and tomatoes is on the light side. Pasture and range conditions are generally fair to good and the Peace River grain crop is reported shaping up well. In the Lower Fraser Valley, because of the cool weather, the crops are ripening slowly though prospects are good.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island, excellent crops of timothy and clover hay, are in prospect but harvesting is being delayed due to humid, showery weather. Pastures are also doing very well. Grain crops are making good growth although late-seeded fields are slow and weed infestation is heavy. Late potatoes are also slow but the potato crop is promising. Processing peas also look good. Cole crops are now being transplanted and prospects are good. Strawberries are beginning to ripen but sunny weather is required to mature the fruit. Vegetable crops and tobacco also require warmer weather. In spite of the showery weather, however, rainfall during June was below average and temperatures at Charlottetown were 3 degrees below normal.

Reports from Amherst, Nova Scotia, indicate that grains and hay crops are progressing very favourably and are equal to those of last year on the same date, which is attributable to abundant moisture supplies. Ensilage making has been finished at the Experimental Farm. Gardens in the district are doing well but the corn crop is not so promising. At Truro, very muggy, wet weather has made the land very wet and soft. Although some silage has been put up no haying is yet underway. The crop appears short and very green. Early potatoes are in bloom with heavy tops. Most vegetable growth is slow due to lack of sunshine and low temperature. For the same reason, the strawberry harvest is late.

At Windsor, moisture supplies are adequate for all crops. Pastures are excellent. Farmers have just started haying and reports indicate that the crop is good where fertilizers were used but poor elsewhere. The Strawberry crop is being harvested with fair to good yield being reported. Canning peas are nearly ready for market. At Kentville, the weather continued cool, with moisture optimum until July when supplies became almost excessive. Picking of the heavy strawberry crop is now nearly at the peak. Apple prospects are somewhat poorer than previously expected. Haying has already started with progress delayed by rain. However, hay crops and pastures are excellent. Potatoes, canning peas and beans also are very promising. Fresh, green peas, beets and cabbage are now on the market. Heat and sunshine are needed for all crops.

Reports from Fredericton, New Brunswick, indicate that recent heavy rains have provided badly needed moisture but also made field work difficult. Grain and grass crops are excellent and truck crops generally good. Early potato plants are touching between the rows and showing good growth. Farmers have started haymaking with yields described as fair. Pastures are holding well. Spraying potatoes for insect and disease control is general. Many potato fields are in blossom and the crop development is about normal to date. A heavy crop of strawberries is reported although mould is present as a result of damp conditions. Apples are sizing well. Garden crops are about average. Warmer weather is needed.

QUEBEC

In the l'Assomption district of Quebec almost all crops except tobacco suffered from dry weather. Crops affected include hay, cereals, corn, sugar beets, fruits and vegetables. The strawberry crop is poor except on irrigated fields. Considerable damage was caused to leafy crops by wind erosion in the muck soil areas of Chateauguay and Joliette. At St. Jean, reports indicate damage to vegetables and field crops from lack of rain and high winds. Early peas and hay yields will be considerably reduced. However, recent and frequent rains have greatly benefited later crops such as grains, peas, corn and beans. Apple scab is reported in many orchards. At least 50 per cent of the apple crop was destroyed by frost. Mites are an increasing threat in some orchards.

Farther east, at Lennoxville, night temperatures have been below normal with only six nights in June of over 60 degrees. Frequent and heavy winds damaged vegetables. Plant growth has been slow because of the drought and the lower than normal temperatures in June. Farmers are now making silage and have commenced haying. First-year fields are very good but in others the quality is average. Recent rains have helped pastures. Cereals are heading on short straw. Forage corn is developing slowly. Milk production is keeping up. At Ste. Anne de la Pocatière abundant and frequent rains have helped development of hay meadows and pastures. Hay yields are good. The cereal crops are promising and corn and root crops are looking well.

In the Lake St. Jean district the last frost occurred on June 1, and rainfall in June totalled 5.5 inches. The cool, wet weather in June delayed growth. However, meadows are now improving with warmer temperatures but there is a high percentage of clover winterkilled. Pastures are good but grain crops are short and potatoes were seriously damaged by the rain and unfavourable weather. At Caplan, the temperatures were slightly above normal in June with rain reported on sixteen days. Tender crops and ornamentals were adversely affected by a drop in temperature to 28 degrees at mid-June. In the first six days of July 3.20 inches of rain fell. As a result silage-making was hampered by the soaked soil. First-year meadows are in excellent condition but long-time pastures are poor. The weed population is heavy. Potatoes and horticultural crops are doing very well although some damage by insects is reported on leafy ornamentals.

ONTARIO

In Middlesex county of Southern Ontario the weather has been seasonable. Most areas have received adequate rain while some sections are quite dry. Some isolated hail damage is reported. Harvesting of first-cut hay is nearing completion and yields are average. Wheat is turning while spring grains are heading well and look quite promising. Some fields of corn are in excellent condition. Tobacco is a little uneven. Set of the fruit crop is good. Wheat is turning rapidly in Essex county and prospects for this crop are excellent. Spring grains look good in most districts. The first cut of hay is completed and the crop was average. Pastures are in fair condition and new seedings appear to be satisfactory. Processing tomatoes and corn are growing well but more moisture is required for all crops. Early potatoes, tomatoes, sweet corn and other in-season vegetables are being harvested. Processing peas are yielding well. In Kent county all crops are making excellent growth. Wheat is ripening rapidly and indications are that both yield and quality will be good. Harvesting will probably commence about July 10. Some fields are showing slight damage from heavy rain and rust. Oats and barley are well headed and the stands are good. Corn, tobacco, beets, beans, canning and truck crops are developing well. There are no serious insect problems and in general conditions are excellent.

Haying is almost completed in Norfolk county and a good crop is reported. Wheat and rye show excellent promise with harvesting expected to commence in about two weeks. Spring grains are heading and indicate an average crop. Corn, tobacco and vegetables are growing well and there is a heavy set of tree fruits. Moisture conditions are excellent and crop yields will likely be above average. The strawberry harvest in Lincoln county is completed and picking of sweet cherries is under way. Prospects for all tree fruits look good. Growing conditions are excellent following three-quarters of an inch of rain last week. Insects and diseases appear to be generally well controlled.

In Simcoe county of Western Ontario rain is badly needed as extremely dry weather has slowed growth of most crops and pastures are becoming bare. Haying is about 65 per cent completed. Growth of the corn crop has been slow and cereal grains are heading on short straw. Wheat is beginning to turn and yield prospects for this crop appear promising. Haying is nearing completion in Bruce county. Pastures are unusually dry. Spring grains are short but are filling well. A light rain on July 2 brought some relief but much more moisture is urgently required. Excellent haying weather has prevailed in Wellington county and harvesting is about two-thirds completed. Rainfall has varied greatly over the county and some areas are showing results of drought. Wheat is turning and yield prospects look promising. Spring grains are heading but some fields will be shorter than usual. Corn is growing well. Haying operations are 75 per cent completed in Halton county and yields are slightly above average. The second growth looks very good. Spring grains are headed but shorter than usual. Wheat is ripening. Corn is growing rapidly due to the hot weather. Moisture conditions are generally regarded as adequate with rainfall varying from light to heavy. Strawberry yields were good. Root maggot in cabbage is a problem.

Haying operations are progressing very well in Hastings county and quality of the crop is very good, but yields will be lower than last year. The northern part of the county received a good rain last week but rain is badly needed in the south. Average or above average hay yields are reported in Peterborough county and harvesting is 75 per cent completed. Pasture growth is becoming slow as rain is needed. Spring grains are growing well and yields are expected to be average or better. Recent rains have relieved the drought situation in Durham county and all crops have shown remarkable improvement. The tobacco crop looks excellent. Spring grains are short but yield prospects are good. Haying is well advanced and quality of the crop is good. A few apple orchards report hail damage varying from 10 to 60 per cent.

In Leeds county of Eastern Ontario haying operations are about two-thirds completed but the crop is only about 60 to 70 per cent of normal. Hot, dry weather during the latter part of June affected all crops. Rain during early July has been very beneficial but more moisture is required. Oats are heading on short straw and pastures are showing some improvement. Haying operations are about half finished in Dundas county with yields only about two-thirds of normal. Pastures are very short. Spring grains look well. Recent rains were very beneficial but more moisture is required. The apple crop in the St. Lawrence area has suffered serious losses due to hail. Rains in the southern portion of Renfrew county were very beneficial, but the northern part received no rain and crops are suffering. Some hail damage is reported. Haying operations are nearing completion with the first cut much below average in many cases. In Carleton county all crops have benefited considerably from recent rains which came at a critical time for some crops, particularly spring grains and pastures. About half the hay crop has been

stored with yields averaging about two-thirds of normal. Spring grain is heading and barley looks especially promising. Both silage and grain corn are making good progress. Some hail damage is reported on corn and grain crops.

A report from Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario indicates that abundant rainfall accompanied by low temperatures retarded growth of hay and pastures during June. Timothy and brome grass are headed and haying operations have commenced. Grain crops are much behind normal for this time of year. Haying is under way in the Thunder Bay district and the crop varies considerably. Pastures are good. Grain crops and potatoes are showing fair growth.

MANITOBA

Good crops are reported in most of southern Manitoba due to recent showers, but some flooding has occurred in the southern part of the Red River Valley. The northern districts need more moisture for crops and pastures. Hail has been reported from a few spots south and east of Russell. Hay cutting is well under way with yield prospects ranging from fair in the south to poor in the north. Special crops appear good, except rapeseed, at Swan River. Weeds are thick and the weather is poor for spraying. Grasshoppers are numerous on light soils but damage has been reported from only one or two locations.

Reports from Altona in south-central Manitoba indicate that haying was in full swing when it was slowed down due to showers last Monday. Wheat and barley are in head and early fields are excellent with oats in shot blade. Beet thinning is four-fifths completed. Flax, peas and sunflowers were growing fast but now some loss has been reported in flax due to excess moisture. Peas are excellent generally but flax and sunflowers fair. Buckwheat acreage is up where flax went down. At Morden early wheat and barley are in head. Early flax is blooming, haying has been started, and sweet clover fields are good. Considerable weevil damage to seedling sweet clover has occurred and some chlorosis and aster yellows in flax has been reported. Corn and sunflower growth has been slow. There has been some chemical weed control on summerfallows.

From Pilot Mound in the south-central area excellent moisture conditions due to continuing scattered showers have been reported. Field crops are looking excellent and most are now headed or in the shot blade stage. Haying has commenced although showers make it difficult. Hay supplies should be adequate but with little surplus. Several rape and mustard stands look ragged due to very uneven germination. Thunder showers and localized hail occurred last week in this area but damage was not extensive. Wheat is reported excellent with some fields in the shot blade. Oats and flax are uneven. Spraying is nearing completion. Haying has started with yields fair to good. Sweet clover weevils are prevalent but no other insects are evident. Good moisture conditions and a good crop outlook are reported from Melita. Early wheat is fully headed, rye is filling and flax is 50 per cent in bloom. Partial hail damage has occurred to 5,000 acres in the Melita, Waskada, and Goodlands areas. The hay crop is only fair. Precipitation during the week ranged from .8 to 2.7 inches in this area.

North of Winnipeg at Stonewall crops seem to be doing well generally with wild millet a problem in many fields. Above average weed spraying is being done although this operation is being hampered by periodic showers. There has been no serious insect damage as yet. Pastures are good but livestock are bothered by mosquitoes.

Beausejour reports excellent moisture conditions with the early-seeded wheat going into head. The crops in general are looking excellent. Haying operations are under way and approximately 10 per cent of the hay has been cut and no shortage is anticipated. A little farther west at Portage la Prairie moisture conditions are also reported abundant with crops progressing favourably. Early-sown cereals are in head and some flax is blooming. The overall picture points to a good crop. Late germination in some crops is making timely weed spraying difficult. Grasshoppers have been reported in the southwestern portion of this district.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports a good moisture supply although dry weather would be beneficial at this stage. Heavy crop growth with some lodging has occurred as a result of a recent storm. Much of the crop is headed and the remainder is in late shot blade. Prospects are generally good. Haying is now general although interrupted by frequent showers. Hay yields are expected to be average. Pastures appear excellent but corn is backward. Considerable hail damage this past week has occurred in several localities in the Virden area. Those crops that were unaffected by the hail storm are progressing nicely. Haying operations are also progressing well. General rainfall is ample and pastures and crops are growing vigorously.

Good crop prospects with some crops headed is reported from Teulon. Weeds are plentiful with the spraying nearly finished. Hay prospects look fair and have improved considerably due to rains. In the west-central area at Neepawa early crops are heading but later stands are very uneven in growth. Some haying has started on sweet clover but hay yields are expected to be lighter than average. Moisture supplies are still on the short side but pastures have somewhat improved. Localized damage due to grasshoppers has been reported as well as some other minor insect outbreaks. Summerfallow is in excellent condition. A little farther south at Minnedosa rain and hot weather have produced rapid crop growth. Spraying operations are nearly completed with haying operations beginning. A shortage of hay is predicted due to short tame hay crops and lack of wild hay. At Shoal Lake recent rains have improved cereal and oilseed crops. Spraying has been completed. Pastures are in good condition but the hay cut is poor and shortages are a possibility. An outbreak of pink eye in cattle is general. Early cereals are reported in the boot stage. Rye is maturing and harvesting of tame hay has commenced.

Good rains have brought moisture to a satisfactory level at Russell. Crops are looking good but some hail damage has been reported along the Saskatchewan border. First cut of hay will be short and thin.

In northern Manitoba, at Dauphin, early crops are headed and of average stand. Late crops are reported very uneven and patchy but with good root system development. Scattered showers have occurred but there is a need for a good general rainfall. Less than a 50 per cent hay crop is expected. Pastures are reported poor. Farther north at Swan River most parts of the Valley received some rain during the past week and up to an inch fell in the Bowsman area. Wheat is heading out but is very short and oats and millet are being sown to offset the hay shortage. Dry pastures will be improved by the recent rain.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg states that grasshoppers remain a problem throughout the light soil area of Manitoba. The dominant species in these areas is the lesser migratory grasshopper. Damage is occurring in pasture and hay lands with some movement into cereal crops where leaf stripping and head clipping is taking place.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports that on July 1 there was hail from Russell to Miniota to Souris to Crystal City.

The average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 20 per cent above normal compared with 19 per cent above normal a week ago, 34 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and 43 per cent above normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending July 6 was 0.1 degrees above normal, compared with 4.8 degrees above normal a week ago, and 6.7 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and 1.4 degrees above normal for the week ending July 8, 1963.

SASKATCHEWAN

Across southern districts of Saskatchewan ample rainfall and warm temperatures have resulted in generally good appearance and crop prospects, and in the northeastern area the drought situation has been relieved somewhat by showers but further rains are needed to ensure crop development. However, conditions are generally only poor to fair in an area between Prince Albert, Davidson, North Battleford and Meadow Lake where immediate rains are needed to improve the outlook. Wheat now averages 19 inches in height in southern districts, 12 inches in the central areas, and 10 inches in northern districts with about 75 per cent of the crop in the shot blade.

In the southeast part of the province, around Fillmore, crop conditions are very good and most cereals are in shot blade or heading. Growth is very rank. Thunder showers gave rain of varying amounts throughout the district and there were some reports of hail damage in scattered areas. The continued damp weather conditions have made summerfallowing and haying operations difficult. The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that precipitation since April 1, at 5.93 inches, is slightly below normal. Early-sown wheat is headed and all summerfallow crops are making strong growth and display excellent colour. These crops have shown no signs of lack of moisture to date but some stubble fields have deteriorated. Fall rye sown on summerfallow is filling well and the yield is expected to be heavy. Newer fields of brome-alfalfa mixtures have averaged one ton per acre but older stands of brome and alfalfa sown alone are turning out much below normal. A second cultural operation has put summerfallows in good condition.

The weather has been hot and dry for the last week at Gravelbourg in the southwest part of the province and rain will be needed soon to help fill the crop which is heading out at about 15 to 18 inches in height. Hay yields are not too favourable and pastures are dry. The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that with warmer weather during the past two weeks crops have made rapid growth. Early-seeded fields are heading with short heads and straw but later seedings are making good growth. Grain crops are not suffering from drought as yet but additional rain will be needed before long. Pastures are only fair and hay crops are poor. About 50 per cent of the grain is headed at Big Beaver and moisture conditions are adequate to carry the crop for about two weeks. Heavy hail was experienced in parts of the area on Saturday. Tame hay yields are poor due to the dry spell in June. Summerfallows are in good condition and no insect damage is reported.

Moisture conditions are good in the Shaunavon area and the present prospects are for above normal crops. All cereals are past the shot blade stage with about 55 per cent of the coarse grains in head and wheat just starting to head.

The height of the crop varies from 24 to 30 inches. No insect damage is evident. Hay supplies are expected to be good. Moisture conditions are rated as fair to good at Val Marie and with recent warmer weather crops are progressing favourably. Considerable stooling is occurring in late-seeded crops but stands on early-seeded fields are thin, but healthy. Grass is very good.

Local showers have temporarily relieved the drought conditions which existed in the Togo district in the east-central part of the province, but a good soaking rain is needed to ensure a crop. Summerfallow wheat is heading on short straw and is poorly stooled. Second-crop fields are very variable ranging from fair to some which never germinated due to the dry conditions. However, poorer stands are being left in the hopes of salvaging some fodder supplies. The hay crop is very poor and pastures are short and it is anticipated that the district will be short of feed. Wheat is heading at Sturgis and all crops have a good colour now because of good showers. Yield prospects for grains and rapeseed range from fair to good while hay crops are only fair. Farther south at Melville heavy showers this past week ranging from one to one and a half inches have maintained good crop conditions and wheat is now heading. Hay crops are thin but it is expected that fodder supplies will be sufficient for winter requirements.

Local storms throughout the Drake district in the central part of the province, ranging from 1.5 to 2.5 inches since June 27, have greatly improved crop prospects. However, early-sown cereals have headed on short straw. Weed growth on summerfallows is vigorous since the rain and pastures have improved. Legume hay crops are fair. Although scattered thunder showers have brought temporary relief to small areas, the Saskatoon district in general continues to be extremely dry. Crops are heading out at 8 to 10 inches on light soils and burning badly, but are from 15 to 20 inches on medium and heavier soils and are still green. Grasshoppers, which developed in roadside ditches, are now flying into crops and leaves from the margin of a few fields have been stripped. Native pastures have dried up and growth on seeded pastures is very light. Forage yields are also light. Rain is urgently needed immediately to save the grain crop and improve the feed situation.

No rain of significance has been received in the Rosetown area since May 15 but cool weather has helped to prevent deterioration and as a result conditions are still fairly good. Rainfall in the district to date totals 3.40 inches compared with 8.65 inches last year and the normal of 5.20 inches. There has been no other damage to crops to date and summerfallows are black. Continued dry weather is causing further crop deterioration each day in the Scott area. Only traces of moisture have been received during the past two weeks and early crops are heading at 10 to 12 inches in height. The hay harvest is partly completed but yields have been light and pastures are very dry. Livestock are still holding well. Farther north at Paradise Hill wheat is also heading out at about 11 inches in height and coarse grains, hay and pastures are rated as poor. Rain is required immediately to halt the continuing deterioration.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort in the northeast part of the province reports that except for spotty showers serious drought continues throughout the district. Summerfallow wheat and coarse grains are heading at approximately 20 inches but stands are thin. However, given moisture soon they could still produce a light crop. Stubble crops germinated poorly and will produce only light yields. Pastures are poor and the hay crop is extremely light. A few thunder showers are occurring in the Nipawin district but no general rain has been received and, as a result, crop conditions are very spotty and rated at about 33 per cent of normal. Pastures have dried up and numerous clover crops have been worked down. Hay crops and rapeseed fields are very poor in this area.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports numerous hail storms with the major points being as follows: June 22, Churchbridge, Melville, Wroxton; June 26, Outlook through Davidson to Imperial, Govan through Strasbourg to Cupar, Cactus Lake through Luseland, Kerrobert, Kelfield, Biggar to Perdue; June 27, Laporte to Kindersley, Cabri, Pennant, Richmond and Fox Valley, Constance, Big Beaver, July 1, Rocanville; July 4, Bengough to Estevan. The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports storms on June 26 at Tramping Lake to Perdue, Simpson to Dysart; June 27, Fox Valley area; July 1, Parkerview to Calder, Bredenbury to Marchville, Tantallon to Welwyn.

Average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 12 per cent below normal as compared with 10 per cent below normal a week ago, 8 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 34 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 6 was 0.9 degrees below normal, compared with 2.7 degrees above normal a week ago, 5.0 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 3.7 degrees above normal for the week ending July 8, 1963.

ALBERTA

Crop progress has varied a great deal throughout Alberta in the last two weeks. Good rains came to western and Peace River regions and recent warm weather has promoted rapid development. Widespread showers in the south have generally maintained the good crop prospects but stands are heavy and in eastern regions especially, more moisture will be needed to maintain the crop because in some areas soil moisture reserves are low. In north-central districts rains have been spotty and crop conditions vary accordingly. North of a line from Wetaskiwin and Lloydminster the crop and feed situation has become critical owing to drought. The Bonnyville district is perhaps the hardest hit but crops are suffering as far west as Barrhead. Hay crops are generally light in central and northern areas but good in southern, western and Peace River regions. Pasture conditions follow the same pattern. Grasshopper infestation has not been as severe as forecast and there has been relatively little damage from other insects.

In the southeast, at Manyberries, the early spring crops are heading and fall rye is ripening. Soil moisture in this district is reported to be good and crops continue to make very good growth. Recent scattered rains have improved the crop situation significantly in the Medicine Hat district. Pastures and livestock are in good condition but subsoil moisture is low and more rain will be required to complete the crop.

A report from the Lethbridge district states that the prospects are for a much better than average crop. Rain during the last three months has been about three inches above average. Winter rye and wheat are well headed, barley is starting to head and spring wheat is in the boot stage. A good hay crop is being harvested in this district and all irrigated crops are in good condition with sugar beets slightly later than normal. The canning pea harvest is about to begin. Range lands are in good condition. Grasshopper damage has been light but loss due to cutworm, now ended, was heavier than during any of the last ten years. At Cardston all grain, hay crops and pastures are good. Fall crops are headed and there is sufficient moisture for filling. No crop damage of any kind is apparent.

Showers during the past week maintained good conditions in the south-central region. The first cutting of alfalfa has been delayed by rain at Brooks. Potatoes and peas for seed look good in this district and growth has been rapid. The Vulcan district also received over an inch of moisture last weekend and healthy crop conditions indicate good prospects of a bumper crop. Haying will be general this week with above average returns expected.

Crops look exceptionally good at Hanna with 80 per cent in shot blade and a considerable portion headed out. Heavy stands will require more moisture for full development. Hay crops in this district are reported to be fair. Continued shower activity and warm weather have provided ideal growing conditions around Calgary where crops are thick and advancing rapidly. Present prospects are very good. Similar conditions exist in the Olds district but heavy showers have caused some yellowing and lodging of crops, and hot, dry weather is now needed to promote heading and maturity.

At Sedgewick in the east-central part of the province some crops are burning badly and most fields are suffering. The hay crop is only fair and pastures are poor in this district and without immediate rain, all crops will be light. At Donalda crops were in very good condition until last week. The very hot, dry weather following the spraying season set crops back to some extent. This has again been relieved by scattered showers during the past few days but more rain is urgently needed.

Crop conditions in west-central districts continue to be very good. Haying is under way at Red Deer with a heavy crop but the early cut has been of inferior quality due to rain. Most spring grains are entering the shot blade in excellent condition. A report from the Experimental Farm at Lacombe states that while moisture to date has been slightly below normal, the rains have been well-timed to maintain fair to good soil moisture conditions. Haying operations are general with yield outlook good. All cereal crops look very good with early-sown fields heading. Farther west, at Eckville, excellent growing conditions are also reported but recent weather has been unfavourable for haying.

Crop conditions are quite variable but generally suffering from lack of moisture in northeast to northwest central regions. Precipitation is badly needed in the Vermillion district. Wheat crops are about 70 per cent of normal, about 20 per cent headed with medium to small heads only. Some coarse grains crops look good while other fields are burned up with the recent intense heat. Haying is general but the crop is very light and pastures in this area are drying up. Hot, dry weather is also retarding growth of crops around Edmonton. Rain is urgently needed to prevent deterioration but immediate moisture would still produce a fair to good crop. Scattered showers over the past few weeks brought some improvement to the Stony Plain district but moisture reserves are being rapidly depleted and a general rain is needed to ensure crop development. Haying operations in this area are well under way and spraying for weeds has been completed.

Areas northeast of Edmonton are suffering seriously from lack of moisture. Extreme drought conditions have destroyed any hope of grain crop recovery at Bonnyville and practically complete failure is expected. The hay crop has been very light and feed shortages in this district are inevitable. Farmers are looking for assistance in moving in feed supplies and are faced with the prospect of reducing their livestock herds.

Crop conditions are generally fair in the Peace River area with considerable variation from excess moisture to near drought conditions in some local districts. At Beaverlodge recent heavy rains caused some erosion from flooding but there was little damage to crops. Rape, trefoil, alsike and white dutch clover are in bloom as are also alfalfa fields in the river valleys. Early-sown barley and wheat are headed and haying has been about 20 per cent completed. The crop outlook in districts around Berwyn improved considerably after good rains received during the last week of June. Wheat is 12 to 14 inches high and headed. Rapeseed is in bloom in good condition and good progress is being made with putting up above average yields of hay. Farther north at Fort Vermilion, however, there has been little rain since the end of May. Grain crops are 14 to 16 inches in height and heading. Tillering has been less than normal. Flax fields are starting to bloom but branching is restricted by drought. First-cut hay yields were near normal but pastures in this district need rain badly.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports a hail storm on July 2 from Bow Island to Medicine Hat. The Alberta Hail Insurance Board also reports numerous local hail storms in this general area but states that in many cases the moisture value offset the hail damage.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 17 per cent above normal as compared to 21 per cent above normal a week ago, 25 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 4 per cent above normal at this time a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 6 was 0.4 degrees above normal compared with 1 degree below normal a week ago, 2.9 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 6.6 degrees above normal for the week ending July 8, 1963.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

On Vancouver Island an excellent crop of strawberries is being harvested. Prospects are good for apples, cherries, cane fruits and potatoes. Most fruit is going to the fresh fruit market at good prices. The hay crop has been heavy and of good quality.

In the Lower Fraser Valley, the weather has been cool although there was some improvement during the past week. The grass crop is normal but weather has created a problem for haying. Bean and corn crops are developing slowly. The pole bean crop is causing concern as late maturity is expected. Peas look promising with harvesting expected to begin July 13. Transplanting of cole crops is about completed. Fresh market vegetables are in good supply. Strawberry picking is at peak but ripening is slow. Should the weather turn warm, the commercial raspberry harvest will begin this week. A two week overlap with strawberry harvesting is expected. The flood threat has now passed.

In the Okanagan Valley thinning of apricots has been completed and a good crop is in prospect. A large cherry crop is being harvested with more than half of the crop having been picked at Oliver and at Osoyoos. Thinning of peach and apple crops is still progressing with a large peach crop in prospect. Apples are a little lighter than last year. There is a good pear crop with little thinning needed in some areas.

In the Kamloops area, continued cool and showery weather has maintained range grasses in green condition even at low elevations. All ranges show good productivity. Haying has been delayed with the result that much poor quality hay is being put up either because of being over mature or being rained on after cutting.

In the central interior, at Prince George, cool and wet weather has continued through late June. Perennial forage crops are excellent but late. High yields of hay and pasture are in prospect, but wet ground conditions have delayed the harvest. Root crops will be very late.

I

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	8 a.m.	8 a.m.
		8 a.m. July 6, 1964	since April 1	since April 1	July 6 1964	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Boissevain	1.06	7.58	6.95	67	66
	Pierson	N.R.	7.87(2)	6.90	N.R.	66
	Waskada	1.63	10.92	7.14	66	66
2	Ninette	1.31	9.31	7.53	66	67
	Baldur	.71	8.41	7.27	67	66
	Pilot Mound	.50	8.90	7.00	66	66
3	Altona	.06	8.01	6.60	68	68
	Deerwood	.10	6.97	6.92	67	67
	Graysville	.22	6.02(2)	6.71	66	68
	Gretna	.28	12.27	6.60	67	69
	Morden	.15	7.89	7.18	68	68
	Morris	.26	10.21	6.22	70	69
	Portage la Prairie	1.67	8.93	7.00	66	68
	Roland	.23	7.40	6.70	66	67
	Stonewall	.89	9.37	6.72	66	67
	Emerson	.03	13.01	6.61	70	68
5	Steinbach	.25	9.57	6.83	67	67
	Winnipeg	.55	8.48	6.36	67	67
	Starbuck	.63	7.27	6.36	N.R.	67
	Seven Sisters Falls	.25	8.73	5.95	67	66
6	Great Falls	.73	7.72	5.58	67	66
	Sprague	.04	11.23	7.21	67	65
	Reston	N.R.	1.34(2)	6.90	N.R.	67
7	Rivers	.62	7.02	7.54	66	66
	Virden	.98	9.71	6.56	67	67
	Brandon	.66	8.26	7.33	66	66
8	Cypress River	.44	7.89	6.79	67	67
	Gladstone	N.R.	5.16(2)	6.87	N.R.	N.R.
9	Birtle	1.83	6.59	6.40	63	63
	Rosburn	N.R.	4.42(2)	6.18	N.R.	63
10	Russell	2.00	6.53	6.16	63	64
	Dauphin	.41	3.33	6.41	66	67
11	Gilbert Plains	.51	3.49	6.41	65	67
	Arborg	.36	5.79	6.39	64	66
12	Gimli	.73	8.22	6.80	66	66
	Steep Rock	.18	3.05	6.45	66	64
13	Swan River	N.R.	4.05(2)	5.70	N.R.	64
	The Pas	.14	5.07	5.00	66	64
14	Grass River	.77	5.25	6.95	66	66
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.62	7.95	6.65	66.4	66.3

II

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 6, 1964	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending	
					8 a.m.	
					July 6	
					1964	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Carlyle	N.R.	6.31(2)	6.44	N.R.	65
	Estevan	2.47	9.26	6.85	67	67
	Oxbow	N.R.	5.56(2)	6.88	N.R.	66
	Willmar	.26	6.18	6.41	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.27	6.98	6.90	62	63
	Moosomin	1.03	7.60	7.00	67	66
2A	Yellow Grass	.23	5.76	6.14	64	66
	Weyburn	.07	6.42	6.19	64	66
	Midale	.76	5.79	6.01	65	66
	Claybank	.48	6.51	6.36	64	66
2B	Moose Jaw	.33	4.08	5.85	66	67
	Regina	1.64	6.82	6.05	64	66
	Francis	1.06	7.42	5.55	61	65
	Qu'Appelle	.31	5.21	6.70	63	65
3AS	Indian Head	.32	5.93	6.12	63	65
	Ormiston	.51	4.59	6.25	65	66
	Minton	N.R.	6.40(2)	6.75	N.R.	66
	Cardross	.10	3.65	6.31	64	66
3AN	Ceylon	.42	6.68(2)	6.87	61	66
	Chaplin	.19	3.94	5.33	64	66
	Gravelbourg	.33	3.76	5.75	65	66
3BS	Shaunavon	.30	8.73	5.62	62	66
	Pambrun	.24	4.33	5.96	67	66
	Aneroid	.61	4.50	5.72	64	66
	Instow	.26	5.63	5.65	62	66
3BN	Swift Current	.06	4.29	5.85	64	66
	Hodgeville	.49	5.09	5.85	63	66
	Hughton	.05	2.43	4.83	66	67
4A	Maple Creek	.32	6.72	5.45	63	65
	Consul	.73	5.31	4.90	61	64
4B	Abbey	N.R.	4.12(2)	4.80	N.R.	65
	Leader	N.R.	5.93(2)	4.93	N.R.	65
5A	Cupar	.06	3.81	5.56	66	65
	Balcarres	.37	4.96	5.40	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	.11	3.71	5.40	65	65
	Melville	.40	6.14	5.85	63	64
	Yorkton	.16	4.47	5.83	64	65
	Bangor	.21	6.31	6.05	62	64
	Dafoe	.35	4.58	5.72	63	65
5B	Foam Lake	1.91	7.08	6.36	63	64
	Kuroki	.51	8.49	6.28	63	62
	Lintlaw	.51	8.45	6.19	62	62
	Kamsack	.29	3.95	5.58	65	64
6A	Davidson	.18	4.34	5.60	65	65
	Imperial	.35	5.76	5.55	64	65

III

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	week ending	
		8 a.m. July 6, 1964	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. July 6	
					1964	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> - Concluded						
6A	Strasbourg	.16	3.05	5.71	66	64
	Watrous	.10	3.36	5.25	63	65
6B	Harris	N.R.	3.53(2)	5.11	N.R.	65
	Outlook	.11	3.73	4.86	65	67
	Saskatoon	.27	2.96	5.50	65	65
	Elbow	nil	4.22	5.15	66	66
	Tugaske	.41	4.53	5.60	64	65
	Dundurn	.28	3.13	5.26	63	65
7A	Alsask	N.R.	3.72(2)	4.60	N.R.	65
	Kindersley	.49	4.13	4.53	65	65
	Rosetown	.05	3.56	5.51	63	64
7B	Macklin	.96	6.16	5.12	63	64
	Denzil	.74	6.16	5.12	64	64
	Scott	.22	3.84	5.16	63	63
	Biggar	.27	4.13	5.27	65	65
8A	Hudson Bay	3.45	8.43	5.93	64	63
	Prairie River	.79	3.87	5.86	61	62
8B	Humboldt	.78	4.50	5.42	64	63
	Melfort	.16	2.14	5.49	63	64
9A	North Battleford	trace	3.92	4.97	65	65
	Victoire	.02	4.07	4.99	62	62
	Prince Albert	.02	.86	5.80	64	64
	Island Falls	.13	4.25	5.17	66	61
9B	Waseca	.05	4.35	5.27	64	62
	St. Walburg	trace	2.57	5.24	65	62
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.46	5.01	5.71	63.9	64.8

ALBERTA

1	Empress	.61	4.57	3.71	68	68
	Foremost	.82	8.62	5.97	64	67
	Hanna	2.54	7.77	5.21	65	63
	Manyberries	N.R.	4.80(2)	4.70	N.R.	67
	Medicine Hat	.37	4.47	5.07	68	68
	Winnifred	N.R.	6.67(2)	5.10	N.R.	N.R.
2	Brooks	1.15	5.08	4.78	64	66
	Drumheller	1.23	5.53	4.97	65	66
	Gleichen	1.23	6.10	5.64	62	63
	Hays	.24	6.95	4.91	66	68
	Rainier	1.44	6.57	4.82	65	65
	Vauxhall	.75	6.19	4.85	65	64
	Warner	.34	9.85	6.64	65	65
	Raymond	.38	10.38	6.57	64	65
	Lethbridge	.29	9.73	6.71	65	63

IV

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature		
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 6, 1964	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending		
					8 a.m.		
					July 6		
					1964	Normal	
			inches			degrees F.	
<u>ALBERTA</u> - Concluded							
2	Three Hills	N.R.	1.76(2)	5.90	N.R.	62	
	Trochu	.87	7.09(2)	6.44	62	62	
	Vulcan	2.23	7.91(2)	6.05	61	64	
3	Calgary	2.69	9.72	7.13	61	61	
	Cardston	.87	12.54	7.39	62	63	
	Pincher Creek	.41	11.24	8.36	61	61	
4	Fort MacLeod	.61	7.06	7.25	65	65	
	High River	.49	6.40	8.19	57	60	
	Magrath	.48	9.39(2)	7.18	60	64	
	Alliance	.29	5.48	5.96	62	62	
	Coronation	.10	4.56	4.86	61	62	
	Hughenden	.14	5.19	5.18	62	62	
	Lloydminster	.03	4.00	5.03	64	63	
	Stettler	.53	6.16	6.37	62	62	
	Vegreville	.65	4.61	5.29	N.R.	63	
	Ranfurly	.09	3.85	5.67	64	62	
	Vermilion	.31	4.82	5.30	63	61	
	5	Edmonton	1.24	5.12	6.41	63	62
		Lacombe	.64	6.40	6.96	61	61
Red Deer		.96	7.76	6.60	61	60	
Rocky Mountain House		.60	10.47	8.41	61	60	
Wetaskiwin		.07	4.93	6.39	63	61	
6	Athabasca	N.R.	4.58(2)	5.49	N.R.	59	
	Campsie	N.R.	4.96(2)	6.38	N.R.	60	
	Edson	.02	7.94	6.85	60	58	
	Elk Point	.18	4.07(2)	5.55	64	60	
	Lac la Biche	.07	3.17	5.52	64	62	
	Smith	.27	6.32	5.18	60	59	
	Whitecourt	.08	8.03	6.75	60	58	
7	Beaverlodge	N.R.	10.96(2)	4.84	N.R.	59	
	Fairview	.16	6.96	5.10	62	59	
	Ft. Vermilion	.04	3.13	3.94	64	61	
	Grande Prairie	trace	9.15	4.81	62	60	
	High Prairie	.51	7.63	5.62	62	60	
	Peace River	.08	7.19	4.55	60	60	
	Rycroft	.03	8.47	4.75	61	61	
	Wagner	.12	4.85	4.86	59	59	
	ALBERTA AVERAGE		.59	6.78	5.81	62.7	62.3

N.R. - No report.

(1) Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

(2) Incomplete; not included in average.

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