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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the third of the 1965 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

Maritimes Provinces The Maritime Provinces have been experiencing very dry weather recently and in many areas crops are showing signs of lack of moisture. The fair weather, however, has enabled farmers to get haying and silage-making under way and good progress is reported. Shortage of moisture has restricted hay and pasture growth and reduced yields. Rain is needed for the development of a second cut. Strawberry yields are reduced because of dry weather. Growers have started picking this fruit in most producing districts.

Quebec Dry, hot weather, with localized strong winds, has resulted in a general drought throughout the Province of Quebec. However, the intensity varies in different districts and is generally most severe in the western part. As a result, plant growth has been retarded with hay and pasture particularly affected. Milk production has declined. Haying is under way in many areas with a considerable reduction in yields reported. Strawberry and canning pea yields are also lower as a result of the dry weather.

Ontario Varied crop conditions prevail across Ontario with parts of the province still suffering from a prolonged drought, while other areas have received ample moisture. Unseasonably cool temperatures in some regions have further retarded plant growth. In the southern part of the province harvesting of a very light but good quality hay crop is nearing completion. Pastures are very poor for this time of year and spring grain is heading on very short straw. The sweet cherry harvest is in full swing and strawberries are about finished. Haying is progressing favourably in western Ontario but yields are below average. Recent showers in

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several parts have helped spring grain and corn although the corn crop is two weeks later than normal. Cool weather has also slowed crop growth. In central Ontario, haying is under way with yields ranging from 30 per cent to 75 per cent of a normal crop. Corn and spring grains are growing well especially since recent showers at the end of June and the first of July. In eastern Ontario fairly widespread rain on July 2nd and 3rd relieved the drought situation somewhat but much more rain is required to bring back stunted crops. Pastures are very poor for this time of year and the milk flow is diminishing. Haying is well under way with yields between 30 and 55 per cent of normal. Cool weather, together with the drought, retarded growth. Very cool weather and some frost is reported in northern Ontario while moisture conditions range from excessive to drought. Haying is starting with approximately two-thirds of a normal yield expected. Spring grains and corn are making little growth in many areas.

Prairie Provinces Moisture conditions remain very favourable in practically all areas of the Prairie Provinces. Although growth was generally rapid during the past week, crops remain a week to ten days late and warm weather is needed to promote rapid development. Early-seeded wheat crops are now coming into the shot blade. Hay crops are generally heavy and pastures are in good condition.

RUST REPORT FOR THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The Canada Department of Agriculture reports that wheat leaf rust is generally distributed throughout southern Manitoba but individual fields show marked differences in severity. Early-sown wheat fields, which are now heading, have from one to three per cent leaf rust on the lower leaf but only trace amounts have been observed in late fields. A large percentage of the pustules are of a moderately susceptible type. Small amounts of wheat leaf rust and stem rust are widely distributed on susceptible varieties in Saskatchewan. Leaf rust is common on early-sown but scarce on late-sown susceptible varieties at Regina. Leaf rust has also been found at Saskatoon and Biggar. Traces of stem rust are present on susceptible wheat varieties at both Regina and Saskatoon. Spore traps show heavy spore showers occurred from June 15 to June 20 and from June 23 to June 28. The greatest number of spores, mostly leaf rust, were caught at Regina. The showers were lighter to the east and much lighter to the north of Saskatoon.

British Columbia Warm temperatures during the past ten days have hastened maturity of most crops but lack of rainfall over the southern half of the province is tending to reduce yields. At the Coast, the strawberry harvest is past its peak and the harvesting of raspberries as well as other small fruits has commenced. The digging of early potatoes is in full swing with average yields being obtained. Harvesting of processing peas will begin this week. In the Okanagan Valley, a small cherry crop has been taken off and apple thinning is progressing on an expected light crop. In most areas, the prune crop is sizing well. Field cucumbers are in good supply and tomatoes are expected in volume by July 10. In areas other than where irrigation is possible, pastures and hay crops are showing signs of retarded growth. In the Peace River area, heavy rains have saturated fields and grain crops are growing well.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island weather during the past month has been extremely dry with the June rainfall totalling 0.89 inch, the second lowest on record. The accumulated rainfall for the year stands at 8.65 inches which is below the fifty-five year average. As a result, crops are suffering from a lack of moisture and this is particularly marked in the case of late-planted fields. Haying is under way. The hay crop is short and yields are considerably below normal. Pastures are growing slowly. Where the fertility level is low the effects of the drought are more severe. Early-sown grain is still a good colour but will be short in the straw while the late-sown crop is poor. Potatoes, however, are growing well. Strawberry picking has started but the crop will be light. Insects in general are more numerous than usual, especially root maggots and cutworms.

In the Annapolis Valley and to the west of Nova Scotia, weather conditions have been very favourable for haying and silage making. Work is progressing well. However, due to the continued dry weather which has aggravated the earlier moisture shortage, yields are considerably reduced. On fertilized land, however, some good yields are reported. An early rain would mean a second crop and also maintain strawberry production. Except where irrigation is being applied, strawberry yields in these counties will be reduced by the dry weather. Vegetable crops, grain and tobacco are doing well although growth is slow. Unless there is rain, however, these prospects will not be realized. Apples appear promising and are relatively unaffected by the dry weather so far.

In the Amherst area the Experimental Farm reports that grass silage making has been completed with a very light crop harvested. Haying has started but yields are low. Grain and corn growth is very slow because of the dry weather. Wells are very low in the district and moisture is needed. Rainfall in the Truro area is well below normal. Haymaking is progressing under ideal weather conditions, with yields slightly below average. Pastures are short. Root crops are doing well but need moisture. Local strawberries will reach market by the end of the week, with yields somewhat less than expected earlier. In potato fields top growth is good with plants beginning to cover the rows. In the Pictou area dry weather has slowed plant growth. However, hay yields on fertilized fields are about average. Other haylands are showing the effect of the drought and pastures are also suffering. The strawberry crop needs rain. At Antigonish silage is being made and haying has started. Cape Breton has experienced good growing conditions during the past two weeks but moisture is needed now. The farmers have just started haying, with good yields reported on fertilized fields and light yields on other lands. Pastures are good with average vegetable and strawberry crops anticipated.

In New Brunswick unseasonably cold and dry weather prevailed until mid-June and since then conditions have been hot and dry. Haying started on June 15. Yields on fertilized fields are very satisfactory but elsewhere production is down due to dry weather, with an overall drop of between 30 and 40 per cent estimated. Pastures are also suffering from lack of moisture. Cereal crops are heading while the grain is short and corn growth has been retarded. Potatoes are also suffering from the drought while strawberry prospects in some areas are being seriously damaged. Local fruit is on the market. Vegetable crops are making fairly good growth in most districts. However, weed insect and disease-controlling operations are proving very effective under these weather conditions. Nevertheless, a good rain bringing 2 or 3 inches of moisture is needed.

In the Perth district our correspondent reports that the hot, dry weather has reduced prospects for early crops. Farmers have started haying with a fair, but short stand reported. Grain crops are promising, not yet suffering from dry weather. Potato development is slow and pastures are short. The strawberry crop is down with small fruit being picked. Showers on July 3, provided some relief but more moisture is needed.

QUEBEC

In the Montreal district farmers have completed about 70 per cent of the haying and elsewhere in the province this operation has started. Yields are from 25 to 50 per cent below normal and in order to avoid a sharp drop in milk production, dairymen are finding it necessary to use second-growth hay meadows and oats for pasture. Others are feeding their herds on dry hay and supplements. In the central part of the province, yields vary from poor to good. Cereals are also suffering from the drought and growth is slow. In Ste Hyacinthe county growers are harvesting green peas with poor yields reported. Strawberry growers near Montreal have nearly finished picking, while elsewhere this harvest is still in progress. Yields are generally low but prices are high. Hail occurred on June 7 and 9 in Rouville County. Insects are plentiful with stem borers particularly causing damage in tomato, corn, potato and strawberry plantations. Maggot damage is also reported to onion fields. Although more rain is needed, recent showers have helped the situation somewhat.

In the L'Assomption district farmers started haying in the fourth week of June. About average yields are reported with production having been reduced due to lack of rain. Strawberry growers started picking on June 25. Weather conditions have favoured the development of a good root system on tobacco plants. Last week end 0.86 inch of rain fell and this has proved helpful to all crops. More moisture is needed. At St. Jean June precipitation totalled 0.45 inch and as a result all crops are seriously affected by lack of moisture. Strawberry picking is in progress but yields are greatly reduced by winter damage and drought. In apple orchards, however, crop prospects are still excellent with the June drop practically over. Green apple aphids, red mites and scab are the main pests reported.

Farther east at Lennoxville conditions were not as dry but nevertheless not as much rain was received as needed. Precipitation for the month reached 2.08 inches. Forage corn, pasture and cereal growth is slow. Grass silage making is under way and haying has started. New meadows are yielding good crops of hay. At La Pocatiere high temperatures and dry conditions are reported. June rainfall was 36 per cent below normal, and as a result hay meadows and pastures are below average. Grain crops and potatoes, however, are promising. Some rain fell on July 3 which helped all crops but more is needed.

At Normandin June was dry with precipitation reaching only 2.12 inches. Although no frost occurred last month, cool nights slowed plant growth. Grain crops are short and rain is needed for the improvement of pastures and hay meadows. Considerable winterkilling of clovers is noted but grasses are doing well. At Caplin the latter part of June was warm and dry with precipitation well below average. Recent rains of 0.82 inch helped all crops. Pastures, however, are still in poor condition. Barley fields are showing leaf tip yellowing. Silage filling has been started but quality is poor due to heavy weed infestations. Some damage to vegetable crops by low night time temperatures has occurred.

ONTARIO

In Essex County of Southern Ontario fall wheat is ripening rapidly and prospects are for a fairly good crop. Oats are in head and yield prospects are good. Haying has been completed with good yields and quality obtained. Rain is needed in all parts of the county. Corn and soybeans have made good growth to date but need moisture. Late tomatoes and tobacco are progressing satisfactorily. Without rain, prospects are poor for a second crop of hay and pasture regrowth. First planted canning peas have been harvested and a good yield is reported. Harvesting of early vegetables is continuing. On Pelee Island, fall wheat is ripening rapidly. Soybeans are generally making normal growth. The corn crop is very good and making excellent growth. To the east in Kent County, all field crops are growing well. Wheat is ripening rapidly and appears to be well filled. Corn has made rapid growth and soybeans on the average look exceedingly good. White beans are also excellent and harvesting of an excellent crop of peas is 35 per cent completed. Burley and flue tobacco look very good. Recent rains have been most beneficial although scattered sections of the county are still very dry. Effects of dry weather on field crops have not been serious and little insect damage has been reported to date.

To the east in Middlesex County recent showers have alleviated the drought situation somewhat but lack of moisture must still be considered serious. In Norfolk County, moisture conditions have been below average although recent showers have helped all crops. The fall wheat crop is shorter in the straw than usual and is starting to ripen. Spring grains are heading out on very short straw. Corn growth is generally good but uneven. Hay yields have been about normal and tobacco and tomato crops are making satisfactory growth. Farther east in the Niagara area, June rains totalled three-quarters of an inch. Approximately one inch between July 2 and 5 relieved the drought situation for shallow-rooted crops. The amount of rain varied considerably throughout Welland and Lincoln Counties. Spring grain and pastures are poor. The corn crop is spotty and hay crops are somewhat below normal. The sweet cherry harvest has started and good quality is reported. Cherry fruit flies are still emerging but the insect damage has been light to most fruit crops. The strawberry harvest has almost been completed.

In Simcoe County of Western Ontario, heavy rains last week relieved drought conditions and promoted growth, although frequent rains are still needed. Haying is 50 per cent completed and yields are estimated at about 80 percent of normal. Spring grain crops are short and have headed out while corn crops are growing well but are behind other years. The weather remains unseasonably cool. In Bruce County to the west, scattered showers have been of some help to the drought situation. Haying operations are continuing with an 80 per cent yield reported. Spring grains and corn need rain. To the southeast in Waterloo County, haying is approximately 75 per cent completed with yields of about 80 percent of normal being reported. One inch of rain on July 3 alleviated the drought. Spring grain is very short in the straw and pastures are poor. These crops require more rain. To the east in Wellington County, haying operations are proceeding well with average yields being reported where the soil fertility levels are adequate. Although three-quarters of an inch of rain has fallen since July 2, additional moisture would be appreciated.

Spring grains are now heading out and the straw is very short. In Halton County, haying is nearing completion with yields at 60 per cent of normal. Second growth is favourable so far due to recent rains. Fall wheat is maturing with a below-average yield anticipated. Spring grains and corn are very short with poor germination owing to the drought. Pastures are below normal but are improving, while strawberry and vegetable yields were quite good under irrigation.

In York County of Central Ontario, hay harvesting is almost completed. Yields are from one-third to one-half lower than normal. Pastures are quite short. Rains on June 28 and July 2 totalled over two inches, relieving the drought conditions. Spring grain and corn crops are now growing well. Prospects for a second cut of hay and pasture regrowth will depend on further rainfall. To the east in Durham County, over three inches of rain since the first of July will benefit all medium and late crops. To the northeast in Peterborough County, recent rains have slowed haying operations. Spring grains and corn are growing well. Pasture regrowth is slow but the recent rains will help.

In Leeds County of Eastern Ontario, the drought situation is critical. Some rain on July 2 temporarily relieved the situation but much more rain is required. Haying is approximately half completed with a 50 per cent yield reported. Pastures are considered to be approximately 25 per cent of normal or less. Early-sown oats are heading out on short straw and are at the critical stage for moisture. Corn crops are at a standstill and need warm nights and moisture to develop. Milk flows are below normal. In Carleton County, an inch of rain around July 1 brought temporary relief to drought conditions throughout the county. This will help spring grain, corn, new hay seedlings, pasture, supplementary crops and aftermath hay. However, much more moisture is needed. In fact, this much rain weekly for five or six weeks would be in order. Despite these problems, most of the corn is doing well and spring grain is heading out. The corn crop varies from freshly germinated to two feet tall with most of the crop about one foot high. Spring grain is short but thick and could still be a good crop. Hay harvesting is well advanced with close to 75 per cent of a light crop already cut. Many pastures are now non-productive and cattle are grazing on hay and spring grain fields or are being fed other supplementary feeds. To the northwest in Renfrew County rain is still very badly needed in all sections. Haying is almost completed with yields about 25 per cent of normal and pastures are almost nil. A good many of the late-sown crops have not germinated. Early-sown oats are starting to head on very short straw.

Around Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario, dry weather throughout June resulted in a total rainfall of only two inches. This was poorly distributed with one and a half inches falling in two days. Hay and pasture growth is slow and below normal. Timothy is just heading and pasture regrowth, although still very slow, is improving. Early barley and oats have started heading and some barley is showing signs of Yellow Dwarf virus. Haying operations commenced on June 29.

MANITOBA

Generous rains over the province have improved growing conditions with early-seeded cereal crops coming into head. Some flaxseed is now in bloom while prospects are excellent for good crops of sugar beets, peas and potatoes. Haying has been delayed by rain but weather permitting, it should be general by the week end. Pasture growth is good and livestock are doing well. There has been very little insect damage so far. Weed spraying has been delayed by rain but is now near to completion.

In the Vita area of southeastern Manitoba 2.06 inches of rain fell during the last week end. All crops are doing well while haying of alfalfa and brome is in full swing. Drier weather would be welcome to enable beet hoeing and weed spraying to be completed. To the west in the Altona region, spraying and beet thinning is not yet finished and a considerable amount of checking remains to be done. Early flax is now in bloom and most early cereals are either in the shot blade stage or are headed. Peas are in bud. Recent rains and warm weather have encouraged both crop advancement and regrowth of weeds. Pastures are excellent and haying is well advanced. The recent 1.1 inches of rain around Morden has provided an excellent reserve of moisture. Crops are growing rapidly and early flax is in bloom. Wheat is generally in the shot blade stage while early wheat is already in head. With the warmer weather the corn crop is making reasonable growth. Haying is now general and both yield and quality are excellent. Sunflowers are approximately one and a half feet tall. In this area very little barley is being grown this year.

In the southwest corner of the province around Melita precipitation has varied from three-quarters to one and a half inches and moisture conditions are fair to good. The rye crop is filling early while flax is now in bloom. Haying operations have now started with yields ranging from fair to good. Corn is progressing well. Pasture conditions are good.

East of Winnipeg around Beauséjour crops are progressing slowly. Weed infestation is heavy as many fields in this area were not sprayed even for mustard. Some flax has germinated unevenly and, in general, below average crop yields are expected. In contrast, in the Stonewall district to the north of Winnipeg crop progress is reported as excellent though some yellowing has occurred in the flax crop. To date spraying is approximately 75 per cent completed. Pasture and hay growth is good although hay stands are rather shorter than normal. Haying has already begun and will become general next week. There have been no reports of insect damage in this area.

Around Brandon optimum moisture conditions have been restored as a result of recent heavy thunderstorms which caused some water erosion damage to sloping land. Early grain is now in head with the bulk of the wheat crop being in the shot blade. The barley crop ranges from the late tillering to the heading stage. Fall rye is showing both a good stand and a good seed set. In general grain crop prospects are very good with warm weather now required. Haying is now in progress and the yield is reported as being good. To the west around Virden haying operations are also under way. Rapeseed, mustard seed, flaxseed and forage crops are all in bloom. Cereals appear to be in good condition. Heavy rains fell again last week in this district and the moisture supply is now excellent. Around Arborg in the Interlake region north of Winnipeg two inches of rain which fell during the past week flooded low land and caused some damage. In spite of this, the rain was generally welcome and crop prospects are now excellent. Despite increased use of sprays weed growth is heavy. Haying operations have already begun and with dry weather, will soon be general.

In the Minnedosa area warm weather is now needed to produce more rapid crop growth following the rain which has fallen over the last two weeks. This wet weather has delayed haying operations which are just beginning. Insects are proving to be a problem on horticultural crops. Crops are looking very good around Russell with ample moisture supplies reported. The slight frost which occurred on Sunday night did no apparent damage. Although haying has not yet started, there should be plenty of feed for livestock this winter. Gardens are in good condition. In north-western Manitoba around Dauphin it is reported that cereal crops never looked better with early-sown crops being in the shot blade stage. Haying operations became general this week with a good crop being harvested. Moisture conditions are satisfactory and warm, sunny weather is now needed. It is reported that .82 inch of rain fell during the past week in the Swan River region and mention is made of a 100 per cent hail damage in one area. Early rapeseed is now in bloom and early cereals are coming into the shot blade. Haying operations are now starting. Generally, crop growth has been rather slow and warm weather is now needed to bring the crop along.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that grasshoppers continued to hatch during the past two weeks and economic populations are now present throughout pastures in the Raywood district. Generally, however, the inclement weather during hatching has reduced population. Limited spraying has been carried out in the Carberry district. It is unlikely that economic damage will be caused except possibly later in the season.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 26 per cent above normal, compared with 21 per cent above normal a week ago, 23 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and 20 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 5 was 6.3 degrees below normal, compared with 1.5 degrees below normal a week ago, 4.0 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 0.1 degree above normal for the week ending July 6, 1964.

SASKATCHEWAN

With recent warmer temperatures, combined with good moisture conditions in all areas, crops in Saskatchewan are making favourable advancement. However, progress remains a week to ten days late and wheat averages 12 inches in height and 40 per cent in shot blade. This is in contrast to a year ago when 75 per cent of the wheat had reached this stage. Warm weather is needed to promote rapid crop development and enable farmers to complete haying operations under suitable conditions.

Crops in the Willmar district in the southeast part of the province look very good but a little on the short side. Most wheat is in shot blade. Although 7.87 inches of rain have been received since April 1, more moisture would be useful now because of the heavy growth. Pastures and forage crops are very good and farmers are putting up hay. There are no reports of grasshoppers. Moisture conditions at Yellow Grass are generally excellent but there is considerable yellowing of crops due to excess moisture, and our correspondent estimates about 20 per cent water damage in the district. Wheat ranges from 2 to 12 inches in height and hot, dry weather is needed to speed development. Weed spraying has been completed but summerfallow operations are being delayed by wet fields. Crops are from ten days to two weeks late.

Moisture conditions remain very good at Fillmore and, although crop growth was rapid during the past week, development is still behind normal. Many fields are heavily infested with green foxtail and some wild oats. Spraying and summerfallowing have been difficult because of frequent showers. Very heavy hay crops are now being

out. The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that all crops are making excellent growth and moisture supplies are ample. Early-seeded fields are heading and most wheat is in the shot blade and late-seeded crops are advancing rapidly. Although rain showers and wet ground hampered weed spraying for a while last week, good progress has been made during the last few days. Summerfallow operations also are in full swing again. No grasshopper damage has occurred and no rust has been found to date even on susceptible varieties. Haying operations are under way on one of the heaviest yielding crops on record. Pastures are extremely good and livestock are in excellent condition and making rapid growth. Warm, dry weather is required for putting up hay and advancing cereal crop growth.

In the south-central part of the province at Big Beaver some ten inches of rain have been received since April 1 and crop stands are heavy. However, advancement is about two weeks behind normal and early-seeded wheat is in the shot blade. About 10 per cent of the crop has been sprayed for weeds and second summerfallow operations are now under way. Haying has commenced with good yields reported. Farther west at Val Marie one and a half inches of moisture has been received in the last two weeks and wheat is now coming into the shot blade. There has been no grasshopper damage. Haying has started.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current in the southwest part of the province, reports that precipitation for June was considerably above average and, although crop stands are heavy, plants are shallow rooted. Moisture reserves are good but the heavy growth will require continued above-average moisture supplies to ensure proper development. With hot weather during the past few days crops are growing rapidly and early-seeded fields will soon be heading. Fall rye stands are good and are filling. Hay crops and pastures are also very good. At Eastend moisture reserves are very good and should be sufficient to carry crops until mid-July. Crops in the northern part of the district run from five to ten days late. Pastures are good and haying is in progress, weather permitting. Cankerworms are very abundant on maples and elms and causing severe defoliation.

In the east-central part of the province at Melville crop conditions are good but growth is slow. Haying is getting under way and pastures are in good condition. Rainfall since April 1, at 6.9 inches, is above the long-term average of 5.3. At Togo crop progress continues to be good and early-seeded wheat fields are heading. Moisture supplies are sufficient, but not excessive, and warmer weather is needed to promote growth. Weed spraying is finished and summerfallows are in good condition. Haying is in progress with good stands and pastures are excellent. At Sturgis early-seeded wheat fields are in shot blade and later-sown crops are doing very well under good moisture conditions. The hay crop is excellent and wild pastures are in very good shape. The rapeseed crop looks very good at the moment.

At Drake in the central part of the province early-sown wheat is now heading but generally crops are about one week behind normal due to cool weather. Some 12.5 inches of rain have been received since April 1 and although chemical weed spraying has been completed, haying operations which are under way have been hindered by rain. Crop prospects are very good, pastures are good and livestock show good gains. However, warmer weather is required to speed crop development. All crops have made rapid strides in the past week in the Craik district due to ample moisture supplies and warmer weather. Temperatures ranged up to 80 degrees and while little moisture has been received recently, rainfall since April 1 has totalled 8.52 inches compared with 3.49 inches a year ago.

At Saskatoon the excellent three-day rain a week ago, followed by warm weather, has promoted rapid growth. Crops are looking very good with wheat now 8 to 10 inches high and coming into shot blade. Stands of grass and other forage crops are good and haying operations are under way. There have been no reports of serious insect infestations.

Crops look very good around Rosetown in the west-central part of the province, with early wheat about 24 inches high and coming into head. Flax is about 6 inches tall. Moisture conditions are good at the present time but the district will require rains in about two weeks' time to advance the heavy crop. Haying has begun and most farmers are working summerfallows again. Moisture conditions are now very favourable at Scott due to 3.23 inches of rain which fell during the past two weeks. Growth has been rapid during the past week. The hay crops are excellent but warm, clear weather is needed to get this crop harvested. Pastures are good. Although some leaf diseases are reported on grain, these are not expected to be serious.

The Experimental Farm at Melfort in the northeast part of the province reports that rains have promoted heavy stands of hay and grain crops but have hampered haying, spraying and summerfallow operations. Hay stands are excellent and yields are expected to run from 2 to 2.5 tons per acre from the first cut. Early-seeded wheat has stooled well and is from 25 to 30 inches tall and in the late shot-blade stage. Early-seeded rape has made good growth and is in the late bud to early bloom stage. Late-seeded fields are growing rapidly. Some flooding has occurred on low-lying lands in many areas of northeastern Saskatchewan, especially around Tisdale, Archerwell, Prairie River, Arborfield and Smokey Burn. Ten days of hot weather is now required to complete haying and summerfallow operations, followed by timely moisture for filling cereal and special crops.

Crops are also very heavy at Meota in the northwest part of the province. Moisture conditions are excellent and rainfall since April 1 has totalled 6.91 inches compared with the longtime average of 4.34 inches. Spraying for weeds has been completed and summerfallowing is under way. Hay crops are excellent.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports widespread hail storms but mostly light losses during the past two weeks. Some of the larger storms were as follows: June 24, Baidon, Briercrest, Rouleau, Crane Valley, Spring Valley, Scott, Unity, Reward and Salvador; June 25, Estevan, Neptune, Yellow Grass and Chamberlain; June 30, Lacadena, Maple Creek and Viceroy; July 1, Blucher, Young, Rosetown and Tessier. The Canadian Hail Underwriters' Association reports the following storms: June 24, Unity, Wilkie and Briercrest; July 1, Biggar and Blucher.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has totalled 39 per cent above normal, compared with 46 per cent above normal a week ago, 31 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 12 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 5 was 3.4 degrees below normal, compared with 2.2 degrees below normal a week ago, 1.5 degrees above normal two weeks ago, and 0.9 degrees below normal for the week ending July 6, 1964.

ALBERTA

Moisture conditions are generally excellent over practically all areas of Alberta and recent warm weather has been very welcome. However, heavy stands in some districts, particularly east-central areas will soon be needing rain to maintain prospects for a good crop. The northern Peace River area, including Fort Vermilion, is dry and crops are beginning to suffer. Crop development is variable across the province, with barley coming into head at many points and early-seeded wheat in the shot blade. Although some wheat has headed in the Peace River area, late-seeded crops have a long way to go. The cool weather has favoured field peas and many are in bloom. Although potatoes are doing well, corn, beans and other canning crops are slow. Sugar beets are late and the wet weather has delayed thinning. Some fields are being ploughed down because beets are too large for thinning. Pastures are in excellent condition and cattle are gaining well. Haying operations have been delayed by wet weather and some fields are too far advanced to make good forage. Little damage from insects has been reported except for some losses due to cutworms in the Lethbridge-Taber area. However, the incidence of plant diseases such as leaf spot on grain and blight on vegetables is higher than usual. The wet weather has resulted in a heavy growth of weeds and delayed spraying operations.

In the southeast, at Manyberries, there have been 8.4 inches of rain since May 1, with some soil erosion occurring. The quality of alfalfa hay is poor due to the rainy weather. A few fields of wheat are heading and early-sown barley is headed.

Both pastures and hay stands are excellent. Continual rains have kept crops in excellent condition around Medicine Hat with wheat and barley commencing to head. Haying operations have been difficult due to the wet weather. Both pastures and livestock are in good condition.

According to a report from Lethbridge, in the southwestern part of the province, moisture conditions are excellent and hot weather during the past week has been very favourable for crop development. Winter wheat and rye are headed and slightly above-average yields are anticipated. Spring-sown wheat and barley are just beginning to head and stands of flax look good. Haying has commenced and yields are above average. Some damage from alfalfa weevil is reported in the immediate Lethbridge area. Sugar-beet thinning is about completed. Conditions are ideal around Cardston with winter wheat and some barley in head. Both pastures and hay are good and cutting of hay has commenced. Crops which had suffered from too much moisture are now recovering. No insect damage is reported. Crops look very good around Claresholm. Winter wheat and rye are headed and spring-seeded grains are coming into the shot blade. Hay and forage crops are excellent. Moisture supplies are ample but warm weather is needed.

Growing conditions have been excellent in the south-central area of the province. Wheat is in the shot blade and some fields are headed around Brooks. There are some excellent stands of fall rye. Field peas are in bloom and some flax is coming into bloom. Haying has commenced but showers have bleached some of the crop. Most crops and pastures are showing lush growth.

Moisture conditions are good and growth is excellent over most of the Hanna district. About half of the cereals are in the shot blade and about 5 per cent is headed. Some showers have occurred during the past two weeks and the warmer

weather of the past ten days has hastened development. Fall rye looks very good and the haycrop is the best in years. In the Calgary district moisture conditions are good and hot weather is producing rapid growth. Most crops are coming into the shot blade and present prospects look very good. Around Olds crops have also progressed rapidly due to the hot weather. Some fields of barley are beginning to head and rapeseed is in bloom. In general, crops prospects are good.

At Sedgewick in the east-central part of the province, crops have grown rapidly due to a combination of warm weather and showers. Haying has commenced and stands are very heavy. Pastures are good. Around Vermillion 20 per cent of the wheat is in the shot blade and coarse grains are growing nicely. Although crops are still about one week late, high temperatures during the past few days have advanced growth considerably. Rapeseed looks good but re-seeded fields are a little late. Haying has just begun and operations will be general by the middle of the week.

Around Stettler, recent rains of about 2 inches were welcome and moisture reserves are good. Windy weather plus wet land has delayed spraying operations and as a result wild oats continue to be a problem. The hay crop is excellent.

Warm weather during the past week has advanced crops rapidly in the Edmonton district. Moisture conditions are reported to be very good. Rapeseed is in bloom. Crop prospects remain good to excellent. Grain and forage crops are making rapid growth around Stony Plain. Prospects for grain crops look good with early-sown wheat and oats nearing the shot blade stage at a height of about 15 inches. Several days of dry, warm weather are required for harvesting a heavy crop of hay. Some flea beetle damage is reported in rapeseed.

Around Lacombe heavy rains have produced good growth of cereals. Early-seeded rapeseed is in bloom. Haying is general with the outlook for yields well above average. At Eckville crops are improving rapidly but more warm, dry weather is needed to promote continued good growth as crops are ten days behind normal. Haying operations have commenced and will be general by the end of the week. Weed spraying is about 85 per cent completed and summerfallows are in fair condition.

Around Bonnyville in the northeast, conditions are favourable and all crops are making rapid progress. However, more rain will be required for filling. An excellent hay crop is being harvested and another week of dry weather will ensure top quality forage.

Nearly 5 inches of rain around Beaverlodge in late June, followed by warm weather, have improved crop prospects considerably. Early-seeded grain is heading and rapeseed and flax are in flower. Much of the late-seeded crops are a week or two behind normal. Pastures and hay crops are good and haying is in progress. New seedings of fescues show a heavy set, while older fields are only fair. To the northwest, around Berwyn, wheat and barley are heading on short straw. Rapeseed is in flower but many fields are thin. The hay crop is excellent due to last year's moisture. There has been mild drought damage in the area from Grimshaw to Fairview, but crops are still fair to good. However, from Grimshaw through the Nampa and Manning areas the drought damage is very severe and the situation is serious. Farther north at Fort Vermillion rain is desperately needed. Crops on light soil are scorched but crops on heavy soil will recover if rain comes soon. Pastures and forage are poor.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports that there had been no hail of any consequence until the night of July 4-5, when a severe storm occurred ten miles west of Irricana and continued to Strathmore.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 35 per cent above normal compared with 47 percent above normal a week ago, 15 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and 17 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 5 was 1.3 degrees below normal, compared with 4.0 degrees below normal a week ago, 2.5 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and 0.4 degree above normal for the week ending July 6, 1964.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

In the Kamloops area, hot, dry weather continues and all first-cut haying operations have been completed with excellent quality and quantity obtained. The outlook for the second cut is good. Irrigated potato crops are in good condition. Due to dry range conditions, cattle have now moved up to the higher ranges for the summer.

On Vancouver Island, a heavy, good quality hay crop was harvested. But due to dry weather, pastures are poor. A good yield of early potatoes was obtained and an excellent price was received. The second-early and late potatoes are growing rapidly and yield prospects are good. The strawberry picking has passed its peak with average yields and good prices obtained. Loganberry picking has started and a fairly good yield is expected. At Agassiz, the June rainfall was .49 inch, the second lowest on record in seventy-four years, however, the mean temperature was close to average. The pastures and second crop of hay are suffering from drought. All irrigation equipment is in full operation and new installations are going in at a rapid rate throughout the region. Early varieties of raspberries are being picked and the picking of later varieties will be started about July 12. Crop prospects are deteriorating because of dry weather. Strawberry picking is continuing on limited surviving acreages and, where irrigation is available, the crop is holding up well. The corn crop is improving although conditions are variable due to cool night temperatures throughout May and much of June. The bean crop appears above normal and potatoes are in full bloom. The continued dry weather is expected to take its toll of all vegetable crops. Oats are fully headed and crop prospects are average.

In Summerland in the southern Okanagan, the harvest of a small crop of good quality cherries at Oliver and Osoyoos is completed and canners are importing cherries and apricots from California. Our correspondent estimates the local crop of prunes at about 30 per cent, Anjou pears 50 per cent, and apples 70 per cent of last year. The Bartlett pear crop is also estimated to be low in yield. Fall wheat is almost a failure due to the drought. At Vernon in the northern Okanagan Valley, 30 per cent less precipitation and 20 per cent more sunshine than is average for the area has been received since February 1. Dry conditions exist on the unirrigated areas and fall wheat and early spring-seeded grains are now in head. Fields are spotty because of winter damage and uneven spring germination. Grain yields will be well below average. The first crop hay harvest is also well below average and no surplus of hay is foreseen this year. Irrigated crops are generally looking good.

At Creston in the southern Kootenay, an above average yield of first-cut hay is being harvested. Fall wheat and early-seeded spring cereals are headed out and small fruit yields are lower than average because of winter injury.

In the central Interior at Prince George, prolonged hot, dry weather is retarding growth. Perennial forage crops are being harvested but yields are very light and grain crops are very poorly developed.

At Dawson Creek in the Peace River district, moisture was adequate after the June 27 rainfall and growth was rapid. Seeding was completed two weeks later than usual but early-seeded grain is heading out. The crop outlook is excellent and hay and pasture growth is good. Haying has started and the forage seed crop is excellent. Our correspondent estimates that there is less acreage of wheat and oats, and more barley, fescue, alsike and summerfallow. At Fort St. John, crops are doing extremely well. Early-seeded crops are beginning to head out and the rain received in the early part of June was very beneficial. Some grains are showing yellowing of lower leaves with the cause yet unknown. It was thought that this could be a disease or just abnormal growing conditions in certain areas. In general, a very good crop year is anticipated in this area.

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.	since	since	8 a.m.	
		July 5, 1965	April 1	April 1	July 5	
					1965	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Boissevain	.86	9.85	6.88	59	65
	Pierson	.34	5.55	6.81	60	66
	Waskada	.37	6.01(2)	7.04	62	65
2	Ninette	.42	4.36(2)	7.44	58	66
	Baldur	N.R.	6.67(2)	7.18	N.R.	66
	Pilot Mound	1.04	7.47	6.91	59	65
3	Altona	.83	9.00	6.50	63	67
	Deerwood	1.13	8.15	6.82	61	66
	Graysville	N.R.	7.35(2)	6.61	N.R.	67
	Gretna	.74	8.78	6.50	62	68
	Morden	.60	7.88	7.07	59	67
	Morris	1.69	9.90	6.14	60	69
	Portage la Prairie	.96	8.10	6.89	60	68
	Roland	1.60	8.55	6.60	61	67
4	Stonewall	2.59	10.31	6.61	59	67
5	Emerson	.64	8.01	6.51	62	68
	Steinbach	1.11	8.61	6.74	60	67
	Winnipeg	1.43	9.55	6.27	61	67
	Starbuck	1.59	8.91	6.27	62	67
6	Seven Sisters Falls	1.65	7.93	5.86	59	65
	Great Falls	N.R.	6.57(2)	5.49	N.R.	65
	Sprague	2.35	12.57	7.12	59	64
7	Reston	N.R.	6.91(2)	6.80	N.R.	66
	Rivers	.41	6.08	7.40	61	65
	Virden	.96	7.51	6.47	60	67
8	Brandon	2.56	9.66	7.22	60	66
	Cypress River	.65	6.90	6.69	60	67
9	Gladstone	1.00	7.22	6.72	N.R.	N.R.
10	Birtle	.24	6.60	6.29	58	63
	Rosburn	1.00	7.73	6.08	59	63
	Russell	1.01	7.50	6.06	57	64
11	Dauphin	.78	7.58	6.32	59	67
12	Arborg	1.46	10.22	6.29	57	66
	Gimli	1.58	10.55	6.68	60	66
	Steep Rock	1.27	6.02	6.38	56	64
13	Swan River	.96	8.55	5.59	57	64
	The Pas	.23	4.57	4.92	60	64
14	Grass River	1.56	8.16	6.84	58	66
MANITOBA AVERAGE		1.11	8.25	6.55	59.6	65.9

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 5, 1965	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. July 5	
			inches		1965	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	.17	7.45	6.34	60	64
	Estevan	.24	9.39	6.76	63	67
	Oxbow	.66	6.13	6.78	59	66
	Willmar	.61	7.08	6.33	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.44	8.37	6.81	58	63
	Moosomin	.65	7.41	6.90	59	66
2A	Yellow Grass	.34	9.86	6.04	63	66
	Weyburn	.70	10.96	6.09	64	66
	Midale	.43	10.34	5.93	63	66
2B	Moose Jaw	.76	8.79	5.78	65	66
	Regina	.40	9.49	5.97	62	66
	Francis	.68	7.57	5.48	59	65
	Qu'Appelle	.29	8.52	6.62	62	65
3AS	Indian Head	.43	9.69	6.05	61	65
	Ormiston	.23	8.89	6.16	63	66
	Cardross	.33	8.86	6.23	64	66
	Ceylon	.54	10.06	6.77	59	66
3AN	Chaplin	.22	6.66	5.27	64	66
	Gravelbourg	.59	5.65	5.65	64	66
	Coderre	.22	5.87	5.71	64	66
3BS	Shaunavon	.78	6.77	5.55	62	66
	Pambrun	1.00	8.45	5.87	63	66
	Climax	N.R.	2.28(2)	5.20	N.R.	N.R.
	Aneroid	.06	6.20	5.66	62	66
3BN	Instow	.77	7.00	5.60	60	66
	Swift Current	.79	7.05	5.78	63	66
	Pennant	.83	9.10	5.52	62	66
	Hodgeville	.41	6.23	5.76	62	66
4A	Hughton	.61	6.29	4.76	63	67
	Maple Creek	.67	7.48	5.38	64	65
4B	Consul	.60	7.02	4.85	62	64
	Abbey	N.R.	5.03(2)	4.74	N.R.	65
5A	Leader	nil	2.71(2)	4.87	68	65
	Cupar	.47	9.39	5.49	61	65
	Balcarres	.20	8.44	5.33	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	N.R.	8.40(2)	5.33	N.R.	65
5B	Melville	.42	5.40	5.76	59	64
	Yorkton	.70	8.08	5.73	60	65
	Bangor	.38	6.44	5.96	60	64
	Wynyard	1.29	10.69	5.61	60	65
6A	Foam Lake	N.R.	7.52(2)	6.28	N.R.	64
	Kuroki	1.74	13.03	6.19	57	62
	Lintlaw	.90	11.07	6.10	58	62
	Kamsack	1.39	6.90	5.47	58	64
6A	Davidson	N.R.	7.15(2)	5.51	N.R.	65
	Imperial	.40	9.18	5.48	67	65
	Strasbourg	.45	8.09	5.65	61	64

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.	since	since	8 a.m.	
		July 5, 1965	April 1	April 1	July 5	
					1965	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> - Concluded						
6A	Watrous	.56	10.19	5.18	61	65
6B	Harris	.20	7.09	5.03	62	65
	Outlook	.30	7.51	4.79	64	67
	Rosthern	.57	4.58	5.34	60	66
	Saskatoon	.62	5.84	5.38	61	65
	Elbow	.25	5.74	5.08	63	66
	Tugaske	.02	5.37	5.54	63	65
	Dundurn	.18	6.65	5.19	61	65
7A	Alsask	.07	3.19	4.52	62	65
	Kindersley	.77	4.72	4.45	62	65
	Rosetown	.78	7.43	5.42	62	64
7B	Macklin	.10	10.50	5.04	63	64
	Denzil	.15	8.06	5.04	61	64
	Scott	.17	6.79	5.09	60	63
	Biggar	.50	6.92	5.19	60	65
8A	Hudson Bay	.32	8.26	5.81	59	63
	Prairie River	.21	10.12	5.77	57	62
8B	Humboldt	.79	6.59	5.34	59	63
	Melfort	.49	8.24	5.40	57	64
9A	North Battleford	.37	8.58	4.89	62	65
	Victoire	.08	5.38	4.89	61	62
	Prince Albert	nil	4.72	5.72	59	64
	Island Falls	.21	5.38	5.09	60	61
9B	Waseca	.38	10.29	5.20	61	62
	St. Walburg	nil	10.69	5.15	61	61
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.48	7.79	5.59	61.4	64.8

ALBERTA

1	Empress	.34	3.55	3.66	63	68
	Foremost	.27	8.13	5.91	61	66
	Hanna	.12	4.23	5.13	62	63
	Manyberries	N.R.	12.04(2)	4.64	64	66
	Medicine Hat	.28	6.31	5.02	63	68
	Winnifred	.17	2.73(2)	5.05	N.R.	N.R.
2	Brooks	.11	7.22	4.73	60	66
	Drumheller	.53	5.15	4.88	64	66
	Gleichen	.60	7.25	5.56	61	63
	Hays	.21	7.30	4.85	62	68
	Rainier	.51	8.39	4.76	61	65
	Vauxhall	.25	8.04	4.79	61	64
	Warner	.08	8.75	6.57	60	65
	Raymond	.23	10.05	6.50	60	65
	Leithbridge	.21	9.84	6.64	60	63
	Trochu Equity	.28	4.79(2)	6.35	58	62



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	8 a.m. July 5	
		July 5, 1965	April 1	April 1	1965	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
ALBERTA - Concluded						
2	Vulcan	1.20	12.50	5.98	61	64
3	Calgary	.68	8.93	7.04	59	61
	Cardston	.26	9.20	7.31	58	63
	Pincher Creek	.96	11.30	8.29	58	61
	Fort MacLeod	.07	8.19	7.14	60	65
	High River	.02	8.26	8.11	55	60
	Magrath	.09	10.32	7.10	59	64
	Olds	.49	7.59	6.86	59	60
4	Alliance	.17	5.57	5.85	60	62
	Coronation	.34	4.46	4.77	62	62
	Hughenden	.34	7.43	5.09	61	62
	Lloydminster	.08	10.48	4.94	62	63
	Stettler	.16	7.03	6.27	62	62
	Vegreville	.08	8.11	5.20	63	63
	Ranfurly	.41	8.45	5.58	60	62
	Vermilion	.15	6.94	5.20	60	61
5	Edmonton	.31	9.67	6.30	59	62
	Lacombe	.39	9.29	6.86	60	61
	Red Deer	.17	7.57	6.50	60	59
	Rocky Mountain House	.37	11.07	8.41	59	59
	Wetaskiwin	.13	10.65	6.28	61	61
6	Athabasca	.24	6.69	5.40	56	59
	Campsie	.01	9.69	6.26	61	60
	Edson	.28	9.54	6.72	60	58
	Elk Point	.37	8.62	5.45	61	60
	Lac la Biche	nil	7.36	5.43	62	62
	Smith	.41	6.12	5.09	61	59
	Whitecourt	.53	10.07	6.64	60	58
7	Beaverlodge	trace	8.26	4.75	62	59
	Fairview	nil	6.19	5.02	65	59
	Ft. Vermilion	.04	1.71	3.88	67	61
	Grande Prairie	trace	7.01	4.72	64	60
	High Prairie	.11	5.76	5.51	N.R.	60
	Peace River	nil	2.60	4.48	65	60
	Rycroft	nil	5.97	4.66	63	61
	Wagner	.73	7.67	4.78	62	59
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.27	7.76	5.75	60.9	62.2

N.R. - No report.

(1) Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

(2) Incomplete; not included in average.