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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the second of the 1969 series of six telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the fourth of a series of eleven telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, private crop observers and grain men supply the information on which these reports are based. The weather data included in this release are furnished by the Meteorological division, Department of Transport.

SUMMARY

Maritime Provinces - Throughout the Maritime Provinces favourable weather generally has prevailed for the last couple of weeks. In Prince Edward Island, there has been adequate rain and heat to promote excellent plant growth. Pastures are normal with new hay fields looking promising. Tobacco and potato plantings are 35 per cent, 80-85 per cent done respectively and 90 to 95 per cent of the grain crops have been sown. Both strawberry and early grain crops look promising. Nova Scotia reports that seeding of crops has been approximately 75 per cent completed. Reports from the Cumberland County area indicate that the grain crop has been 75 per cent seeded with increases in grain and silage acreages. In central Nova Scotia seeding operations are two weeks behind last year's comparable period. In the eastern Nova Scotia area, weather conditions have been cold until the last few days. Reports from the Annapolis Valley indicate that fine weather has prevailed for the last week and that seeding of grain and corn has been nearly completed. In New Brunswick the cool weather during the last week of May did not severely impede the growth of pastures and forage. Orchard grass is in head and is in the process of being utilized as green chop by farmers practicing zero grazing. Large acreages of cereal grains were seeded during the week of May 26 with the wetter fields being planted during the week of June 2. Tobacco plantings have commenced with no frost damage occurring. Strawberry plantations in all areas of the province are in bloom. However, frost on May 27 caused some damage to early blossoms in most areas of the province. Early seeded vegetables are making good growth in all commercial vegetable areas.

Quebec - Wet, cold weather has delayed farm work in Quebec. However, in spite of seeding being from one to two weeks later than normal this year, most of the field crops, including potatoes, grain corn and sugar beets, have been sown in the

Agriculture Division,
Crops Section

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south and central parts of the province. Elsewhere work is progressing rapidly. Generally, moisture conditions are normal on light soils but heavy, poorly drained land is still too wet and field work is being delayed. Haylands and pastures vary from average to excellent and cattle have been on pasture since the end of May. The maple syrup crop was smaller than that of last year.

Ontario. — An early cold spring and heavy rains during the last two weeks in April erased all hopes of early planting in most regions of Ontario. Generally, conditions for over-winter crops have been favourable. Winter wheat, hay and pastures are growing well after suffering little or no winterkill. In most counties milk cows were reported not on pasture until the last few days in May. Despite this late date for coming on pasture, both dairy and beef cattle are reported in good condition and the milk flow has been maintained. Due to frost in most tobacco districts on May 25 and 26 many growers of flue-cured tobacco had to replant parts of their fields. Transplanting of Burley tobacco has been delayed because of wet soil conditions.

Prairie Provinces. — Seeding has now been practically completed throughout the prairie provinces. In Saskatchewan and Manitoba the crops have made a good start but in parts of Alberta conditions are less favourable with germination described as spotty in some districts due to a lack of moisture. Rain is urgently needed in Alberta and would be most welcome in Saskatchewan, and also in the northwestern part of Manitoba. Fall-sown cereals are in head or almost at that stage. Summer-fallowing and herbicide spraying are under way.

RUST REPORT FOR THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station in Winnipeg reports that traces of stem rust are present on winter wheat in north-central Kansas but it has not been found farther north. Wheat leaf rust is present as far north as Minnesota but cold weather has delayed further developments. Cereal rusts have not yet been observed in Western Canada.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Warm dry weather has been general throughout British Columbia during the past two weeks resulting in good growing conditions. Pasture and hay crops are generally good in all areas particularly those under irrigation. The strawberry harvest at the Coast is underway and lettuce production is at its peak. Prospects for raspberries and early potatoes remain encouraging with harvesting due by the end of the month. In the Okanagan the tender tree fruit picture remains spotty with no peach crop and reduced yields of cherries, plums and pears in prospect as a result of winter damage. However, current indications point to an average apple crop with a good set on younger trees offsetting indicated declines from older trees, particularly in the northerly parts of the Valley. Asparagus harvesting is almost complete and heat loving crops show improved growth with the warmer temperatures. In the Peace River District grain seeding is largely completed with exception of barley. Soil moisture conditions are reported generally satisfactory but rain will be needed to permit seedings to become established.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Prince Edward Island reports that the weather during May was cool and plant growth was backward. However, June began with seasonal growing conditions and grass is growing rapidly with pastures looking promising. Practically all potato plantings

have taken place and most of the grain crop is emerging. Turnip plantings have been limited but it is expected that most of the planting will be completed within the next few days. Peas for processing are being widely seeded with early seedings up. Strawberries generally wintered well but some frost injury was reported in early varieties. Early seedings of fodder corn are just emerging.

Throughout Nova Scotia weather conditions have been favourable during the last two weeks. The Cumberland County area reports that the grain crop has been 75 per cent seeded with increases in grain and silage acreages. Corn acreage has been increasing. Growers expect a good strawberry crop and an average blueberry crop. In Central Nova Scotia seeding is two weeks behind last year. However, the weather has been favourable for the last two weeks. Corn seeding has been 90 per cent completed with a 100 per cent increase in the total corn acreage over last year. Cereals are 70 to 75 per cent sown. Pastures and haylands are behind due to unfavourable spring weather but plant growth is beginning to proceed rapidly with the recent warmer weather. In Eastern Nova Scotia cold weather has occurred the last few days. The grain crop is 50 per cent to 66 per cent sown with the early grain up. During the last two weeks, plant growth on pasture and hayland has been coming along well. Haying is expected to begin by the end of June. Early vegetables have been planted. The Annapolis Valley reports fine weather during the last week. Grain and corn plantings have been 75 per cent and 85 per cent completed, respectively. Hayland and pastures are showing good growth and haylage and silage operations will commence next week. Tobacco growers are busy with 60 per cent of the acreage planted. It is expected that lettuce will be marketed in three weeks. Tomatoes and peppers have been transplanted. The Amherst region reports that weather conditions have been very good for plant growth during the past month. Hay fields and pastures appear to be slightly above average for this time of year. Crop farming has just been completed but this is a little later than usual because of the excessive dampness and cool temperatures in the month of May. In the Truro area, moisture has been adequate during the past couple of weeks with sunny, warm days and cool nights now prevailing. Seeding of grain should be completed this week and early-seeded potatoes are now showing through. However, some late varieties of potatoes are still being planted. Strawberries are now in full bloom with prospects for a good crop. Winterkill and frost damage were very light. Reports from Kentville indicate that apples are in blossom with pollination taking place. Weather conditions have been good with only minor pest problems to date. Aphids, mites and winter moths are under control but bud moths increased over previous years and the overwintering codling moths population is high.

In New Brunswick, cool weather during the last week of May did not retard plant growth. The farmers were approximately four days later this year in putting cattle on community pastures, and most cattle were out by May 31. Soil moisture is adequate at the present time to ensure an average or a slightly better than average yield of hay, but warm weather is presently required for continued growth. Practically all cereals are now seeded and emergence is general and satisfactory throughout the area. Tobacco plants are in good condition for field transplanting with 50 per cent of the acreage planted by June 7. Apple trees are in the calyx stage with a few blossoms still showing colour. The bloom period was retarded in the St. John River Valley this year. Strawberry plantations in all areas of the province are in blossom with green fruit showing on early varieties. In most areas of the province, frost damage to early blossoms occurred on May 27. Plant stands in bearing fields which are thin due to the very dry weather experienced in 1968 show very little, if any, winter injury. Blueberry fields have been in full bloom during the past week, and honey bees for pollination were placed in the fields during the first week in June.

Early vegetable transplants have already been set out, while tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, squash and other frost tender crops are presently being transplanted. Fields in the Maugerville-Sheffield area are now drying off to permit planting and seeding. Heavy fertilized hay is in excellent condition but unfertilized meadows show very little plant growth. The growth of corn is very slow and potatoes are just breaking through the ground. A period of critical moisture condition is approaching. In the Perth area, planting is approximately 80 per cent completed with seeding later than normal due to the cold weather up until the first week of June. Early strawberries have been affected by the cold weather with a reduced early crop in prospect. Early grain has emerged three to four inches and grass and pastures are showing good growth. Aphids are distributed generally and tent caterpillars are abundant.

QUEBEC

Tobacco growers in the l'Assomption area have now planted about one-half of the flue-cured crop and are starting work on cigar leaf. Seeding of grasses and cereals is not quite finished yet. Reports from St. Jean indicate temperatures during May average 2 degrees below normal with very variable precipitation in the district. Severe frosts on May 26 and 27 damaged apple and strawberry blossoms. Apple orchards reached full bloom on June 1 which is about ten days later than normal. Growers have applied five or six sprays to control scab. Vegetable planting on much soils is now nearly finished except for later crops and transplanting of celery. On mineral soils frequent rains and low temperatures in May greatly delayed seeding of peas, beans and corn as well as the setting out of cole crops.

During May weather conditions at Lennoxville were cold and wet which delayed seeding of cereals, forage corn and garden crops. Plant growth has been slow but pastures are in good condition. Growers have finished potato planting and about 50 per cent of the cereals is in the ground. On June 9 frost occurred with temperatures falling to 30 degrees. Cattle were being fed up until the end of May. At La Pocatiere cool, fair weather during the last two weeks enabled farmers to practically complete seeding operations. The early-sown crops are emerging evenly and no winter damage has occurred to haylands. Pastures are growing well but development is late because of low temperatures and lack of rain. The presence of insect pests on rapeseed and turnips is reported. Fruit trees wintered well. During the last week there has only been one-half inch of rain.

At Normandin in the Lake St. John district temperatures during May were normal and rainfall totalled 2.18 inches. By the end of May seeding had been completed. Rain at the beginning of June benefited pastures and cattle were out on June 2. Milk production is very good. In the Caplan district temperatures during May were low and precipitation was below normal with 2.65 inches of rain reported. Seeding has been held up. The last frost occurred on May 28 and since the beginning of June the weather has continued cold and wet. Pastures are late but improvement is apparent since the end of May and milk production is heavy. In some parts of the district the potato crop is up and vegetable seeding has been completed.

ONTARIO

In Essex county of southern Ontario cold, wet weather has delayed spring planting operations. Corn is now 60 per cent seeded and only a small acreage of soybeans has been planted. Winter wheat is now headed and early-planted peas are in bloom with harvesting of peas expected to commence in about ten days. Cauliflower,

cabbage and head lettuce are now being harvested and quality of the lettuce is excellent. Transplanting of processing tomatoes is proceeding. Haylage operations are under way. On Pelee Island fall wheat is well headed and prospects are for a fair crop. Planting of corn and soybeans has been delayed by almost continuous rain with corn seeding about 30 per cent completed and only about 5 per cent of the soybeans seeded to date. Warm, dry weather is needed for growth of all crops. Wet, cool weather in Kent county has delayed planting and growth of corn, soybeans and other spring grains up to three weeks. Warm, clear weather is urgently needed. Some land has not been worked at all as yet. Winter wheat is in head and pastures are in good condition. Frost on May 25 destroyed many acres of tomatoes. Alfalfa weevils are plentiful in the Merlin area while scab and anthracnose are showing up on fruit and ornamentals.

In Middlesex county continuing wet weather has delayed all field operations particularly planting of corn and soybeans. In Lincoln county similar weather has seriously delayed sowing of spring grain and perhaps about 20 per cent of the land will remain unseeded. Excess moisture is killing some peach and cherry trees on marginal soils. Tree fruits blossomed well and the set appears to be generally good. Some winter damage occurred on strawberries but surviving plants have provided a good set.

In Simcoe county of Western Ontario rainfall has recently been confined to only a few night showers and only a few farms without tile drainage are yet to be seeded. If warm weather prevails growth and development of all spring crops should be good. Haying operations are about to begin. The season has been very late in Bruce county with about 10 per cent of the spring grains and 40 per cent of the corn still to be seeded. Continued cool weather and frost has delayed development of the hay crop and harvesting will commence ten days later than usual. Pastures are in only fair condition but cattle are making satisfactory gains. In Waterloo county below-average temperatures have delayed growth of all crops. Most of the corn is planted but is slow in germinating. With clear, warm weather over the past week end cutting of hay for silage has commenced on some farms.

Seeding of spring grains and planting of potatoes should be completed in all areas of Wellington county this week. Moisture supplies are adequate and hay and pastures have recently made good growth due to warmer weather. In Halton county cool, damp weather during the past month has delayed planting and growth of all crops. It is expected that about 10 per cent of the acreage will not be seeded at all. Vegetables are developing slowly. Haying operations have not yet commenced and growth of pastures is slightly below normal. Winterkill of alfalfa is serious.

In Durham county of central Ontario considerable corn remains to be planted. Fairly extensive yellowing has been noted on a number of spring crops due to excess moisture and cold weather. Fall rye is heading and pastures are in excellent condition. In Peterborough county the month of May was wet and cold and seeding of spring grains and corn is only now being completed. Germination and growth of early seeded fields are satisfactory. Winter wheat and forage crops are growing very well on higher land but only average on lower fields.

In Leeds county of eastern Ontario weather conditions have now become more favourable and farmers have resumed work on the land and many fields will have to be reworked. Early-sown fields are showing good growth but this is only a small percentage of the acreage still remaining to be seeded. Growth of hay and pastures has improved

In Carleton county continued wet, cold weather has seriously delayed planting of spring grains and corn. However, recent clear weather has given rise to great activity and most of the acreage has been seeded during the past week. Much of the corn crop is being seeded at close to borderline dates and will need an extended period of hot weather to reach maturity before frost. Pastures and hay crops have been delayed somewhat but growth is now excellent on all but a few low-lying areas which suffered from excess moisture. Spring seeding operations should be completed in Renfrew county by June 14 which is three weeks to a month later than average. Fall wheat is in excellent condition and the hay crop appears to be average. There is wide variation in planting of corn with some fields well above ground and others not yet seeded.

In the Thunder Bay district of northern Ontario cool, wet weather has greatly delayed the seeding of spring crops but early-seeded fields look good. Warm, dry weather is now needed for growth and development of all crops. Haylage operations have commenced and haying should be general by next week.

MANITOBA

Throughout Manitoba seeding is almost completed except in the St. Claude district. Some buckwheat and some flax still remain to be seeded. Germination has been good and the early cereals are in the four leaf stage. Some frost damage has occurred to flax, rapeseed and mustard. Some of these crops have been reseeded. The northwest area of the province is in need of more moisture. Weather has been cool and grass growth has been slow. The rye crop is beginning to head out. Herbicide spraying is under way. Flea beetles and cutworms have been kept in check by insecticides.

In the southeast at Vita a considerable amount of field activity has been carried on along the Red and Roseau Rivers which were flooded this spring. It is expected that seeding will be almost completed this week, weather permitting. Some weed spraying has been carried out on early crops. At Altona seeding is almost completed except for some flaxseed and feed grains. Some seeding has been delayed on account of wild oat and other weed control. There has been the odd early field worked down and reseeded. Early crops are generally in excellent condition but some of the later sown ones are uneven. Cutworms have been active in the beet crop; however spraying has commenced. Forage crops are reported to be in excellent condition. In the Morden area one-tenth of an inch of rain was received last week. Crops are emerging well and cereals are approaching the spraying stage. Heavy wild oat growth continues to be a problem but spraying will become general this week. There has been heavy cutworm damage reported on scattered fields of sunflowers and other special crops. Fall-seeded rye is beginning to head. Early potatoes are emerging and the cultivating of sunflowers and beets will begin this week.

In the Pilot Mound area seeding is mostly completed except for the odd wet field as well as those fields with a lack of surface moisture. The acreage that remains to be seeded will be mostly flax. Precipitation has varied between a trace to one-half an inch. In general, crop conditions are good. Weed spraying has commenced but wild oat spraying has been limited. Hay and pasture conditions are good.

In the area around Winnipeg at Stonewall approximately 75 per cent of the seeding was completed due to the dry weather the past week. Some places are late due to waterlogged soils. There has been an increase in the summerfallow acreage in this area.

Hay and pasture conditions are very good. There has been some frost damage on gardens.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports seeding almost completed. Crop emergence has been uniform except on heavy soil where cultivation occurred to eradicate wild oats which dried out the soil. Cereal crops, pastures and hayland generally look promising. There has been no significant rainfall since the last week of April and moisture is needed soon to maintain the present favourable prospects. In the Virden area seeding has nearly been completed and the early sown fields are in the three-leaf stage. Germination has been good and growth appears to be excellent. Wild oats are a problem in certain areas with controls being obtained by applications of Avadex and Carbyne. There has been a limited amount of flea beetle activity reported. Fall rye crops headed out early and stands are in fair condition. Rain occurred recently in the southern part of the district but in the Virden area the topsoil has dried out considerably.

In the Interlake district at Teulon about 80 per cent of the seeding is completed and the early-seeded crops are above ground. Cool weather has delayed growing. Tame forage crops appear to be quite good but native grass has been slow. At Arborg about 90 per cent of the crop is in the ground. However, it is expected that some of the remaining 10 per cent will be summerfallow. Seeding operations have been handicapped by poor drying conditions following the rain of May 31 and on June 3 there was a further quarter inch of rain. Some farmers have sprayed for wild oat control and it is expected that spraying will be general next week.

In west-central Manitoba at Neepawa 90 per cent of the crop is in the ground and the balance will consist mainly of flaxseed. In the areas of good moisture the early-seeded cereals are emerging and germination has been excellent. Farmers have begun their spraying operations but weed growth has not been too extensive as yet. Some fall rye has headed out. Pastures are doing well in areas with good moisture reserves. At Minnedosa about 98 per cent of the crop has been seeded and summer-fallowing operations are under way. Subsoil moisture conditions are good and surface moisture is fair. Some seeding has been delayed while the farmers wait to obtain good wild oat control. Flea beetles have been reported in rapeseed. Pasture growth has been good.

At Shoal Lake in the west-central region one-half an inch of rain fell over the area on Friday but more rain is needed for hay and special crops. Fall rye is in the shot blade stage. Carbyne spraying and spraying for broadleaf weeds are being carried out. Crops are germinating evenly and very little reseeding has occurred.

In the northwest region at Dauphin almost all of the crop has been seeded. Moisture conditions are satisfactory and crop germination has been good. Weed spraying has started and will be general by the end of this week. Fall rye is heading out on average stands but more warm weather is needed. At Swan River seeding is about 80 per cent completed and it is expected that the remainder will be seeded to rape and flax. Present growing conditions are excellent. The early-seeded crops are progressing well and spraying for broadleaf weeds has commenced. Flea beetles on rapeseed have been reported.

The Canada Agriculture Research Station in Winnipeg reports the Aster Leafhopper Vector of the Aster Yellows Pathogen and Oat Blue Dwarf Virus migrated into Manitoba the last week of May. There was light, spotty hatching of grasshoppers which commenced in the Neepawa and St. Claude districts during the same period.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 14 per cent below normal as compared with 5 per cent below normal a week ago, 28 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 25 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 9 was 1.6 degrees below normal compared with 2.1 degrees above normal a week ago, 6.4 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and 0.9 degree above normal for the week ending June 10, 1968.

SASKATCHEWAN

Crops throughout Saskatchewan got off to an excellent start, with wheat averaging four inches in height and fall rye in the heading stage. Recent winds have depleted surface moisture particularly in the southwest area but subsoil moisture is in good supply throughout the province. Rains are needed to maintain hay and pasture crops. With the exception of army cutworms in the extreme southwest, no serious insect problems have yet been reported. Summerfallow operations in many districts are well advanced, with 65 per cent completed. Chemical spraying of weeds is now under way in many areas. Rain would be most welcome.

In the southeast part of the province at Moosomin seeding is now completed and germination is good except for the later sown fields where tillage to destroy wild oats and weeds tended to dry the topsoil. Many farmers in the district would welcome a good rain. Summerfallow fields are being worked and some spraying for wild oats infestation is going on at a rapid pace. Crops are looking good at Yellow Grass but rain would ensure even germination of later seeded crops. Subsoil moisture is good in the area but the surface soil is rapidly drying up. First summerfallow operations are about completed and the odd field is being sprayed for weeds, particularly for wild buckwheat and cowcockle which are very prevalent. A considerable increase in the acreage sown to flax has taken place in this district.

Seeding operations are now all completed at Indian Head in the southeast part of the province and the emergence of all crops has been excellent. Surface soil moisture, however, is being depleted and a good rain is needed to keep the crops progressing satisfactorily. Early-seeded crops are six to seven inches high while later-seeded ones are just emerging. Dry weather conditions have enabled farmers to make good progress with their first summerfallow operations and excellent weed kills have been obtained. There is no evidence as yet of soil drifting in the district, nor have there been any reports of cutworm or wireworm damage. Growth on hay and pasture fields is being retarded, due to a lack of moisture, but growth has been very good up to now. Livestock remain in excellent condition.

At Big Beaver in south-central Saskatchewan surface moisture is poor due to lack of rain and high winds in May, which baked the topsoil to a depth of four inches. First summerfallow operations have been completed with a good kill of emerged weeds. Crops in the area are fairly weed-free although some weed spraying is expected to start this week. Natural pasture is showing the effects of the dry weather. Livestock are in good condition. All seeding in the Gravelbourg district has been completed and additional moisture to promote growth would be welcomed. The lack of soil moisture will favour deeper rooting of plants to escape the warmer weather normally expected in July. Early-seeded crops average about four to five inches in height. Weed infestations in most sown fields are light. Pasture conditions are rated as good for this time of year. Farther west at Eastend seeding is nearing completion and rain is needed for both crops and pasture. Ten thousand to 20,000 acres in the district have suffered moderate to severe damage from army cutworms. First summerfallow operations have been completed. Cattle are reported to be in good condition.

The Experimental Farm at Swift Current reports that spring-seeded crops are making good growth although fall rye is showing signs of drought due to the warm weather and dry conditions. Spraying for weeds is in progress in early-seeded fields which have considerable weed growth. First operations on summerfallows are practically completed. Rain is urgently needed in the district to prevent further deterioration of grass. Livestock are in good condition. At Leader good moisture reserves are bringing crops along satisfactorily. Early-seeded crops are stooling out heavily. Flax has now emerged.

In the east-central part of the province at Melville seeding has now been completed and early-sown crops are looking good. Pastures and forage crops are also looking very well. It was very cold on June 10 and some frost was forecast in the district. Rainfall to date has been 2.38 inches compared with 1.88 inches last year for the same date and the longtime average of 3.08.

Farther north at Togo seeding has been completed and most summerfallow work is well advanced. Chemical spraying for weeds has started and weed growth has been reported as heavy. The fall rye crop shows a good stand and is now in head. Pasture and hay crops are in fair condition although a good rain would be most welcome. In the vicinity of Endeavour seeding of all grains is now complete. Early-sown crops have germinated evenly but growth is slow due to a lack of surface moisture. In late-sown coarse grains and rapeseed, however, germination is poor. Growth on pastures and haylands has also been delayed. Spraying for weeds and wild oats is just getting under way. Rainfall to date in the district has been 1.14 inches.

Seeding has been completed at Drake in the central part of the province and summerfallowing and chemical weed spraying are getting under way in the area. Early-sown grain is now 6 inches in height. Recent light rain has been adequate for cereals although hayland and pastures need additional moisture. Wheat acreage in the district has been reduced but mustard, rape and buckwheat acreages have been increased. Rye is now heading and sweet clover stands are good. Some cutworm activity has been noted in the area but at the moment does not appear to be a problem. Cattle are in good condition. At Craik seeding has been completed, resulting in a slight increase in coarse grains and durum wheat. Some wheat is up three inches in height and fall rye is now in head. Recent showers have left pastures in good condition.

Warm weather and good soil moisture in the Saskatoon district have brought crops along rapidly. Stands are uniform and average four to six inches high with early-seeded fields up to ten inches in height. Fall rye has headed and should fill well. Rapeseed and mustard are looking good although some fields have been damaged by flea beetles and frost. Red-backed cutworms are reported to be damaging a few stands of barley at Dundurn. The Entomology Laboratory reports cutworm activity at Cutknife, Melfort, Davidson and Regina. Grasshopper eggs are now hatching but the infestation is not expected to be severe.

Crops look good and wheat is now three to four inches in height at Rosetown in the west-central part of the province. Most summerfallow fields are black or are being worked. Some farmers are now spraying for weeds. Pastures and haylands have shown good growth. It was very cool on the morning of June 10 with temperatures of 35 degrees and there was some risk of frost expected on the morning of June 11. A good rain would be most welcome any time.

In the northwest part of the province at Meota seeding has been completed and crops generally are looking good but wild oats and weed growth is quite heavy and will pose a problem. Weed spraying is expected to be general by June 15. The one inch of rain falling this past week has maintained excellent prospects. Rainfall since April 1 has been 2.89 inches. Pasture and haylands are lush and heavy. Some spraying for flea beetles is now in progress on rapeseed.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 18 per cent below normal compared with 13 per cent below normal a week ago, 9 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 20 per cent below normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending June 9 was 4.4 degrees above normal compared with 1.5 degrees below normal a week ago, 1.4 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 0.1 degree below normal for the week ending June 10, 1968.

ALBERTA

Southern Alberta reported rapidly deteriorating surface moisture conditions except in the Foothills this week. Fall rye and winter wheat are heading or about to head and there is spotty germination of late-seeded crops. From Red Deer north and east, drying surface conditions are reported but conditions are not critical yet. In the Peace River region surface moisture is badly depleted and rain is needed. In the province as a whole all crops are seeded with the exception of small percentages of late barley and green peas. Wild oat growth has been good and chemical and cultural control are required.

In the southeast area of Alberta around Manyberries rain is needed as late crops have not germinated. Hot, dry weather in the past few days has resulted in some crop burning with some sections of the prairie turning brown. Fall rye is heading and is 18 inches high. At Medicine Hat the crops are all seeded and the first summerfallow operations are mostly completed. The early crops are about 8 inches to 1 foot high with fall rye heading and in bloom. Conditions are dry and rain is needed soon.

In the south at Lethbridge most crops are doing well as one and one-half inches of rain were received this week. Winter wheat has headed early and spring wheat is in the four to five-leaf stage. The seeding of canning peas and corn is nearing completion but germination is uneven in corn and carrots. Severe damage by field mice has been reported to several fields of corn. Some early-seeded cereals have been destroyed by army cutworms. Farther west at Cardston moisture conditions are good with fall rye in the shot blade stage or in head. Spring grain germination has been very good and hay and pasture crops are doing well. Cereal seeding is completed with oilseeds 90 per cent finished. Livestock are in good condition.

In east-central Alberta around Calgary seeding is now completed and crop growth has been rapid due to very warm weather. Rain is needed to ensure good crop conditions. There has been no hail of any significance to date. Around Olds, hot, dry winds have depleted topsoil moisture. However crops are holding up well due to good subsoil moisture reserves.

At Sedgewick in the northeast central area 8/10ths of an inch of rain has resulted in good growing conditions despite reports of frost on June 9. Springwheat has just started to germinate with wild oat infestations varying from light to heavy. In the area around Vermilion seeding is now 95 per cent completed with only green feed crops still to go in the ground. Moisture is at 100 per cent due to 7/10ths of an inch of rain last week. Severe winds June 9 caused some wind erosion. There were several reports of frost early in the week. Crops are looking very good and spraying will be general in a few days.

In central Alberta at Stettler wheat seeding is completed but very dry topsoil conditions prevail. Germination is good in early-sown crops. Dry winds have caused some soil drifting. The hay crop is only fair and no spraying is yet reported on wild oats.

At Lacombe crops have emerged well and are making good growth with wild oats heavy in some areas. Seeding is completed but hay and pastures are standing still due to dry weather. Around Eckville seeding is nearly completed. The surface moisture is fair and subsoil moisture is good; crops are generally very good but hay and pasture growth is only fair. Summerfallows have received the first cultivation of the season.

In the vicinity of Colinton seeding operations are nearly 100 per cent completed with grains, oilseeds, hay and pastures progressing favourably due to warm weather and very good moisture conditions. Farmers are starting summerfallow operations and haying should commence around June 20. Temperatures are reaching a high of 85 degrees in day time and 38 degrees at night.

In the Peace River district at Beaverlodge early cereals and oilseeds have germinated well. Forage and pasture stands are badly in need of rain and completion of seeding has also been delayed due to severe lack of surface moisture. At Peace River late-seeded crops have not germinated due to dry topsoil conditions. Pastures are extremely dry. Some flea beetle activity has been reported in rapeseed.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 28 per cent below normal, compared with 31 per cent below normal a week ago, 32 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and 0.3 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 9 was 7.2 degrees above normal, compared with 0.3 degree below normal a week ago, 2.2 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 0.4 degree for the week ending June 10, 1968.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

At Victoria the weather has been hot and dry with one inch of rain in the past thirty five days. Strawberry picking commenced on May 26. Crop prospects are good with a heavy set of all tree fruits with the exception of plums. Greenhouse tomatoes and cucumbers are available in volume. Blotchy ripening of tomatoes is causing serious losses. Forage yields are good and early potatoes are growing rapidly. Precipitation will be needed for all crops.

Reports from Agassiz show a precipitation deficiency with temperatures about 4 degrees above the average highs. Corn and peas for processing are developing rapidly. Hay yields appear average and of excellent quality. Strawberry picking is commencing with expected yields 80 per cent below 1968 because of winter damage. However, raspberry plantations are normal. Pastures are in good conditions with irrigating general in the area.

At Summerland, because of the warm weather, the cherry harvest will start June 20. Production will be only fair because of severe winter injury in the Kelowna area. The apple crop will be down due to a poor set especially at Kelowna. Pear

trees are showing good recovery from winter injury but only a light crop is expected.

At Vernon in the north Okanagan hot, dry weather is forcing crop development. Fall wheat is headed and haying operations are half completed under ideal conditions, with a heavy yield. Soils are drying rapidly and rain is needed for cereals and pastures. Weather conditions have been ideal for field corn.

Reports from Creston in the south Kootenay indicate all spring cereals are seeded and the early plantings have emerged. Pasture and hay growth are excellent due to the intermittent cool, rainy periods. Stone fruits received severe winter injury and the cherry crop will be greatly reduced. Prospects for an average apple crop are good but only fair for pears.

The Research Station at Kamloops report silage corn and early potatoes are well advanced because of the very hot weather. Haying is well under way with excellent weather conditions. Ranges are in good condition but starting to dry out with only one-half inch of precipitation since May 1.

The Prince George, Vanderhoof and Robson Valley has experienced hot, dry weather for the past four weeks. A good fall of rain in the Prince George area relieved the farming community of possible drought for the time being but Vanderhoof and Robson did not receive any appreciable amount of moisture and are in a very serious position. Grain sown has not sprouted and forages are starting to head out. Moisture is definitely needed in the area if proper growth is to be maintained.

At Smithers in the Skeena River Valley the weather was cool for the first two weeks of May, warming gradually the latter half of the month. Spring seeding and fertilizing are completed. Light showers are reported with sufficient moisture to guarantee hay crops on most soils but rain is needed for new seeding.

In the Fort St. John area of the Peace River Block dry and windy conditions have prevented many seeded crops from emerging. Early-seeded crops have advanced into the three-leaf stage. Late-seeded crops are emerging very slowly due to the drying winds. Mid-May snowfall increased the moisture reserves. Numerous fields are being summerfallowed due to heavy stubble in frosted fields in 1968. Injury to recommended winter wheat varieties is about 30 per cent. Forage and seed crops are advancing slowly. Additional moisture will be required for normal crop yields.

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. June 9, 1969 | since April 1 | since April 1 | 8 a.m. June 9 | |
| | | | inches | | 1969 | Normal |
| | | | | | | degrees F. |
| <u>MANITOBA</u> | | | | | | |
| 1 | Boissevain | 1.18 | 2.92 | 4.10 | 59 | 57 |
| | Pierson | .58 | 3.18 | 3.80 | 59 | 58 |
| | Waskada | .88 | 2.30 | N.R. | 60 | N.R. |
| 2 | Baldur | .03 | 1.88 | 3.98 | 57 | 58 |
| | Pilot Mound | .04 | 2.65 | 3.94 | 56 | 58 |
| 3 | Altona | .23 | 3.71 | 3.76 | 57 | 61 |
| | Deerwood | .15 | 2.35(2) | 3.86 | 54 | 60 |
| | Graysville | .19 | 3.06 | 3.53 | 55 | 59 |
| | Morden | .18 | 2.65 | 4.12 | 58 | 60 |
| | Morris | .13 | 2.42 | 3.45 | 53 | 60 |
| | Portage la Prairie | .13 | 3.89 | 4.65 | 57 | 60 |
| | Roland | .16 | 2.40 | 3.85 | 57 | 60 |
| 4 | Stonewall | .17 | 4.35 | 3.97 | 55 | 58 |
| 5 | Emerson | .26 | 4.19 | 3.75 | 57 | 60 |
| | Steinbach | .27 | 3.71 | 3.75 | 56 | 59 |
| | Winnipeg | .22 | 4.63 | 3.90 | 56 | 59 |
| | Starbuck | .19 | 4.16 | 3.70 | 57 | 60 |
| 6 | Seven Sisters Falls | .22 | 2.89 | 4.16 | 55 | 58 |
| | Great Falls | N.R. | 2.27(2) | 2.93 | N.R. | 58 |
| | Sprague | .52 | 6.34 | 4.03 | 52 | 57 |
| 7 | Rivers | .10 | 2.93 | 3.62 | 56 | 58 |
| | Virden | .09 | 2.60 | 3.47 | 58 | 58 |
| 8 | Brandon | .04 | 3.10 | 3.90 | 55 | 58 |
| | Cypress River | .05 | 3.54 | 3.70 | 59 | 59 |
| 9 | Gladstone | .14 | 2.60 | 3.84 | N.R. | 58 |
| 10 | Birtle | .56 | 3.28 | 3.55 | 56 | 57 |
| | Rosburn | .66 | 2.79 | 3.22 | 57 | 56 |
| | Russell | .79 | 2.64 | 2.86 | 57 | 56 |
| 11 | Dauphin | .13 | 2.26 | 3.88 | 59 | 58 |
| 12 | Arborg | .18 | 3.28 | 3.68 | 55 | 57 |
| | Gimli | .18 | 4.04 | 3.79 | 56 | 57 |
| | Steep Rock | N.R. | .46(2) | N.R. | N.R. | N.R. |
| 13 | Swan River | .15 | 3.25 | 3.19 | 59 | 57 |
| | The Pas | trace | 1.89 | 3.22 | 57 | 55 |
| MANITOBA AVERAGE | | .28 | 3.21 | 3.72 | 56.6 | 58.2 |

For footnotes, see page IV.

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. June 9, 1969 | since April 1 | since April 1 | 8 a.m. June 9 | |
| | | | inches | | 1969 | Normal |
| | | | | | | degrees F. |
| <u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> | | | | | | |
| 1A | Carlyle | .38 | 3.25 | 3.08 | 58 | 57 |
| | Estevan | .79 | 2.83 | 3.47 | 61 | 58 |
| | Oxbow | .16 | 2.58 | 3.03 | 57 | 58 |
| | Willmar | .19 | 2.73 | 3.46 | N.R. | N.R. |
| 1B | Broadview | .06 | 2.44 | 3.52 | 56 | 55 |
| | Moosomin | nil | 3.20 | 3.44 | 60 | 57 |
| 2A | Yellow Grass | .18 | 2.44 | 3.12 | 61 | 58 |
| | Weyburn | .24 | 2.84 | 3.08 | 62 | 58 |
| | Midale | .47 | 3.23 | 3.01 | 60 | 59 |
| 2B | Moose Jaw | .15 | 2.36 | 3.35 | 64 | 59 |
| | Regina | .29 | 2.09 | 3.18 | 61 | 58 |
| | Francis | .07 | 3.10 | 2.75 | 57 | 56 |
| | Indian Head | .06 | 1.76 | 3.15 | 59 | 57 |
| 3AS | Ormiston | nil | 2.58 | 3.28 | 62 | 58 |
| | Cardross | .04 | 3.13 | 3.32 | 64 | 58 |
| | Ceylon | .07 | 3.18 | 3.34 | 61 | 57 |
| | Chaplin | .46 | 1.29 | 2.63 | 63 | 58 |
| 3AN | Gravelbourg | N.R. | 3.23(2) | 2.78 | N.R. | 58 |
| 3BS | Shaunavon | trace | 2.94 | 2.97 | 66 | 57 |
| | Pambrun | trace | 3.85 | 3.14 | 63 | 57 |
| | Aneroid | nil | 3.83 | 2.91 | 61 | 58 |
| | Instow | nil | 3.74 | 2.82 | N.R. | 57 |
| 3BN | Swift Current | .01 | 3.06 | 3.30 | 63 | 57 |
| | Pennant | nil | 2.30 | 2.88 | 64 | 57 |
| | Hughton | .08 | 2.16 | 2.58 | 64 | 58 |
| 4A | Maple Creek | trace | 2.49 | 2.88 | 66 | 59 |
| | Consul | nil | 1.75 | 2.44 | 63 | 57 |
| 4B | Abbey | nil | 2.48 | 2.62 | 66 | 57 |
| | Leader | nil | 3.17 | 2.49 | 65 | 59 |
| 5A | Cupar | .16 | 1.11 | 3.02 | 64 | 57 |
| | Balcarres | N.R. | 1.28(2) | 3.22 | N.R. | N.R. |
| | Lipton | .21 | 1.22 | N.R. | 58 | N.R. |
| | Melville | .76 | 2.58 | 3.26 | 58 | 57 |
| 5B | Yorkton | .54 | 2.22 | 3.09 | 59 | 57 |
| | Bangor | .81 | 2.88 | 3.40 | 58 | 58 |
| | Wynyard | .99 | 1.89 | 3.29 | 61 | 56 |
| | Foam Lake | 1.01 | 2.76 | 3.41 | 60 | 56 |
| 6A | Kuroki | .88 | 2.04 | 3.42 | 57 | 55 |
| | Kamsack | .33 | 1.99 | 2.88 | 58 | 57 |
| | Davidson | 1.23 | 2.61 | 3.06 | 63 | 57 |
| | Strasbourg | .41 | .97 | 3.35 | 62 | 56 |
| | Watrous | .64 | 2.06 | 2.74 | 62 | 57 |

For footnotes, see page IV.

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. June 9, 1969 | since April 1 | since April 1 | 8 a.m. June 9 1969 | Normal |
| | | | inches | | | degrees F. |
| <u>SASKATCHEWAN — Concluded</u> | | | | | | |
| 6B | Harris | .20 | 2.01 | 2.54 | 63 | 57 |
| | Outlook | .23 | 1.73 | 2.41 | 65 | 58 |
| | Rosthern | .24 | 2.24 | 2.32 | 62 | 58 |
| | Saskatoon | 1.06 | 3.23 | 2.78 | 62 | 57 |
| | Elbow | .44 | 1.74 | 3.07 | 63 | 57 |
| | Tugaske | .35 | 1.63 | 3.14 | 62 | 57 |
| | Dundurn | .52 | 2.24 | 2.44 | 64 | 57 |
| 7A | Alsask | .03 | 1.67 | 2.82 | 64 | 58 |
| | Kindersley | .03 | 2.49 | 2.14 | 63 | 57 |
| | Rosetown | .10 | 3.00 | 2.66 | 63 | 58 |
| 7B | Macklin | .15 | 2.29 | 2.50 | 63 | 56 |
| | Denzil | .28 | 3.12 | 2.61 | 64 | 58 |
| | Scott | .62 | 2.59 | 2.89 | 61 | 56 |
| | Biggar | 1.07 | 3.39 | 2.75 | 62 | 57 |
| 8A | Hudson Bay | .09 | 1.01 | 3.26 | 58 | 56 |
| | Prairie River | N.R. | 1.00(2) | 3.45 | N.R. | 55 |
| 8B | Humboldt | .47 | 2.05 | 2.74 | 61 | 56 |
| | Melfort | .18 | 1.42 | 3.00 | 60 | 57 |
| 9A | North Battleford | .49 | 2.17 | 2.65 | 62 | 57 |
| | Victoire | .67 | 2.11 | 2.94 | 61 | 55 |
| | Prince Albert | .27 | 2.30 | 3.23 | 58 | 56 |
| 9B | Waseca | N.R. | 2.19(2) | 2.86 | N.R. | 55 |
| SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE | | .32 | 2.43 | 2.97 | 61.5 | 57.1 |

ALBERTA

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|------|---------|------|------|------|
| 1 | Empress | n11 | 1.74 | 2.64 | 70 | N.R. |
| | Foremost | .87 | 2.24 | 3.19 | 67 | 57 |
| | Manyberries | .46 | 1.26 | 2.79 | 68 | 58 |
| | Medicine Hat | .13 | 1.56 | 3.24 | 68 | 59 |
| 2 | Brooks | .26 | 1.73 | 3.04 | 66 | 58 |
| | Gleichen | .22 | .94 | 3.42 | 64 | 56 |
| | Hays | 1.02 | 2.75 | 2.76 | 67 | 58 |
| | Rainier | .51 | 1.70(2) | 3.06 | 66 | 58 |
| | Vauxhall | .93 | 2.41 | 2.84 | 65 | 57 |
| | Raymond | .82 | 1.64(2) | 3.88 | 64 | 58 |
| | Lethbridge | 1.52 | 3.45 | 4.20 | 65 | 57 |
| | Trochu Equity | N.R. | .65(2) | 3.36 | N.R. | 56 |
| | Queenstown | .34 | 1.92 | 3.70 | 65 | 57 |

For footnotes, see page IV.



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- IV -

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. June 9, 1969 | since April 1 | since April 1 | 8 a.m. June 9 1969 Normal | |
| | | | inches | | degrees F. | |
| <u>ALBERTA — Concluded</u> | | | | | | |
| 3 | Calgary | .40 | 3.78 | 4.29 | 61 | 54 |
| | Cardston | 1.53 | 3.68 | 4.68 | 62 | 55 |
| | Pincher Creek | 1.88 | 5.14 | 5.25 | 61 | 53 |
| | Fort MacLeod | 2.40 | 3.93 | 4.58 | 65 | 58 |
| | High River | .61 | 3.44 | 4.79 | 60 | 53 |
| | Magrath | 2.35 | 4.00 | 4.72 | 66 | 57 |
| 4 | Olds | .05 | 1.36 | 4.06 | 61 | 54 |
| | Alliance | .54 | 1.55 | 2.46 | 63 | 56 |
| | Coronation | .14 | 1.55 | 2.51 | 64 | 55 |
| | Hughenden | .38 | 2.94 | 2.59 | 62 | 56 |
| | Lloydminster | .58 | 3.19 | 2.68 | 62 | 56 |
| | Stettler | .18 | 1.27 | 3.12 | 62 | 56 |
| | Vegreville | .37 | 2.40 | 2.82 | 62 | 55 |
| | Ranfurly | .33 | 2.66 | 3.04 | 62 | 55 |
| | Vermilion | .28 | 2.13 | 2.57 | 60 | 55 |
| | Edmonton | .14 | 2.05 | 3.70 | 60 | 56 |
| 5 | Lacombe | .19 | 1.74 | 4.12 | 61 | 55 |
| | Red Deer | .04 | 1.21 | 3.75 | 61 | 55 |
| | Rocky Mountain House | .23 | 2.02 | 4.55 | 60 | 53 |
| | Wetaskiwin | .08 | 1.58 | 3.68 | 62 | 55 |
| | Campsie | .81 | 3.25 | 3.42 | 60 | 54 |
| 6 | Edson | .11 | 3.17 | 3.93 | 60 | 53 |
| | Elk Point | .37 | 3.31 | 2.79 | 59 | 54 |
| | Lac la Biche | .30 | 3.77 | 3.04 | 58 | 56 |
| | Whitecourt | .03 | 1.62 | 3.71 | 59 | 53 |
| | Beaverlodge | .03 | 1.93 | 2.99 | 61 | 55 |
| 7 | Fairview | .05 | 1.81 | 2.88 | 63 | 55 |
| | Ft. Vermilion | .11 | 3.46 | 2.33 | 61 | 55 |
| | Grande Prairie | .27 | 2.14 | 2.93 | 62 | 55 |
| | High Prairie | .13 | 2.41 | 2.98 | 62 | 55 |
| | Peace River | .06 | 1.36 | 2.19 | 61 | 55 |
| | Rycroft | N.R. | 1.76(2) | 2.78 | N.R. | 55 |
| | Wagner | .16 | 2.54 | 2.91 | 59 | 53 |

ALBERTA AVERAGE

.50

2.44

3.37

62.7

55.5

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