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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the fifth 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 tenth 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. — In the Maritimes generally favourable weather conditions have resulted in good crop prospects. Potatoes in Prince Edward Island appear good. Grain harvesting commenced last week with good yields reported. Most other crops on the Island are reported to be progressing well. Throughout Nova Scotia most crops range from good to excellent but in some areas pastures are poor due to dry weather. Also the dry weather is causing a rather large apple drop but a good crop is still forecast. There has been little harvesting of grains as yet but yield prospects are good. Silage corn looks better than average. Some farmers are working at the second cut of hay. In New Brunswick growing conditions have been favourable for most crops. Sweet corn is growing well and maturing favourably. Grains are being harvested with good yields reported. Wet weather in the northeast part of the province has interfered with final haying operations but in the southern counties farmers are harvesting the second cut. Pastures are continuing to yield well. Fruit and vegetable crops look promising.

Quebec. — High temperatures have prevailed throughout the province of Quebec in recent weeks. In certain districts rains have been frequent and there have been some losses through hail in apple orchards, tobacco, corn, sugar beet and vegetable crop fields. Night time temperatures started to drop on August 24. Haying is finished in nearly all districts with good yields reported. Pastures are also good and livestock are doing well with a satisfactory milk flow being obtained.

Agriculture Division
Crops Section

5502-508

Ontario. — In general harvesting of spring grain and winter wheat is progressing well in most parts of Ontario, although some counties in Central, Eastern and Northern districts report considerable hail and water damage. Reports from all counties indicate that the corn crop is progressing well and in many cases better than was expected earlier. Hay and pastures are reported to be in good condition with very few counties reporting insufficient moisture for satisfactory growth. Reports from two of the important tobacco growing counties, Brant and Elgin, indicate that the tobacco harvest is progressing well. Picking of peaches and early apples and a good crop of sweet corn is under way in southern Ontario and harvesting of processing cucumbers is nearing completion.

Prairie Provinces. — With high temperatures advancing maturity, harvesting operations are under way in most parts of the prairie provinces. Significant proportions of all crops have been swathed in Saskatchewan and swathing is general in Manitoba while some farmers in southern Alberta have already completed harvesting. Most reports indicate good yields are being obtained or in prospect.

RUST REPORT FOR THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station in Winnipeg states that most crops are mature or approaching maturity and there will be no important changes in the amount of rust. Wheat and barley are maturing with little or no rust damage. Most oat fields will mature without rust damage but yields of some late fields in Manitoba may be reduced by crown rust.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

While weather conditions varied from cold and unsettled in Coastal areas to sunny and warm in the Interior of the province, crop conditions have remained generally close to seasonal norms. At the Coast, the blueberry harvest is nearing completion with below average yields reported; however, indications are for a good cranberry crop. Early potato varieties are now being harvested and late crops are growing well while cabbage and lettuce yields have been irregular. An average crop of early onions has been harvested and carrots are continuing in good supply. In the Okanagan, harvesting of early apple varieties is about over and Bartlett pears are past their peak. Reports indicate good colour and sizing on late apple varieties. The canning tomato harvest is in full swing with good yields and quality being reported, and a generally good late onion crop is maturing satisfactorily. The late potato harvest will commence in one week. In the Peace River District, fair to good grain crop prospects continue in all sections.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island excellent growing conditions continue. Pastures have been good all summer and haymaking is about completed. The high humidity hampered drying and some poor quality hay has been stored. Grain crops are ripening and a few farmers have started harvesting with average to good yields being reported. Potato crops are doing well although there is some blight. The broccoli harvest is in progress and good yields are being obtained. Processing peas are still being taken off with above average yields. Cauliflower and brussel sprouts look promising. Fertilized pastures and meadows are providing good grazing for livestock. Silage corn and tobacco crops are making satisfactory growth. Apples are sizing well and the crop looks promising.

Throughout Nova Scotia most crop prospects appear to be good. At Amherst the silage corn is about average for this time of year. The weather has been very good and some farmers have started to cut the second crop of hay which is of good quality. The harvesting of silage corn is about to commence at the Experimental Farm in Nappan. Weather has been very favourable for farming operations and crop growth in the Truro area. The grain is in head and early crops are being harvested with about average yields. Harvesting of the blueberry crop is under way. The berry size is very good but in some areas the set is patchy due to the dry season last year. The potato crop is showing excellent prospects and the blight situation is under control. The second growth on hay fields and pastures is above average.

In New Brunswick the Research Station at Fredericton reports that the corn is as well as the hay aftermath growth has been excellent the past month due to plentiful moisture supplies and warm temperatures. Maturity of corn is slightly behind normal. Recent heavy rains have lodged a considerable amount of grain and retarded maturity. Combining of barley is well under way and yields are about average. Potato crops show excellent top growth and prospects are good. Pastures are above average for this time of year.

Truck crops are in general supply as the harvesting is well advanced. Insect activity is normal for the time of year. In the Perth area wet humid conditions for the past three weeks have hindered all farming operations. Farmers are finding it difficult to complete their haying. The quality is naturally deteriorating and some hay has been intentionally left in the fields due to poor quality. The grain harvest is in progress and good yields are being reported. However, some is maturing slowly due to inclement weather conditions. Farmers are having difficulty in spraying for disease control. Potato fields are being killed down in preparation for harvesting in about three weeks time. Some earlies have already been harvested.

QUEBEC

In the southern part of the province farmers have started putting up corn silage and reports indicate good yields. Harvesting of fall wheat and barley is well under way while farmers are starting to cut the oat crop in southern and central districts. Good grain yields are in prospect. Early apples and potatoes are now on the market and the late varieties look promising. In the tobacco growing counties of L'Assomption and Montcalm harvesting started on August 15. Generally speaking vegetable crop prospects are normal in most districts and grain corn is good.

At St. Jean weather conditions during August were generally warm and very wet with rainfall being 25 per cent above normal. Apple orchards are in very good condition although apple scab is prevalent. A very good crop of the Melba variety is expected. Growers picked an excellent raspberry crop in spite of some losses due to mildew. Early potatoes produced a below normal yield, however. The spinach crop was reduced and quality cut due to cold nights. Growers are starting to harvest a good quality celery crop and good yields of carrots are in prospect. The onion crop, however, will be about average. Sweet corn on undrained land is showing very unequal maturity and it is expected that yields will be about 15 per cent below normal.

At Lennoxville temperatures have been normal and there have been frequent violent storms so that soils are very wet. Farmers have started to cut the grain crops and a good deal of lodging is reported. The second hay cut is also in progress and grasses are growing rapidly. As a result, pastures are in good condition. Forage corn looks promising and satisfactory yields of early potatoes are reported.

At La Pocatiere frequent heavy rains during the last four weeks have stimulated pasture growth and the development of the second hay crop. Cutting of this hay is under way. Livestock is in good condition in this district. Thirty per cent of the barley has been harvested and farmers are starting to cut oats on high land, with harvesting expected to be general in two weeks' time. It is anticipated that grain, forage corn and potato yields will be about normal.

In the Lake St. Jean district a reduced blueberry crop is in prospect. Reports from Caplan indicate extremely wet weather. Farmers have almost completed haying operations in spite of low temperatures which delayed curing. In certain parts of the district harvesting of oats and barley has been started. Pastures are in excellent condition as a result of the frequent rains, so that milk production is excellent. On the whole garden crops are very good also.

ONTARIO

In Essex county of southern Ontario harvesting of oats is nearly completed with both yield and quality much below normal. Preparation of land for winter wheat is now under way. Harvesting of processing tomatoes has commenced but the crop is late and much below average yields are expected. Picking of cucumbers for pickling is continuing. Corn and soybeans have improved but these crops are still late and prospects are for below-average yields. In Kent county harvesting of winter wheat was completed two weeks ago with most of the crop of lower grade due to sprouting. Hot, dry weather during the past week has been ideal for growing and harvesting. About 80 per cent of the oats is harvested and picking of sweet corn is well under way. Third crop alfalfa and clover is ready for haylage or baling. White beans look poor due to bronzing and blighting. Harvesting of tobacco began last week and prospects are for a good crop. Picking of early tomatoes is under way. The set of fruit was good and although size is small in the Fireball variety the main crop varieties are very good. Some corn leaf aphids are showing up and infestations of army worms have occurred in some corn fields.

Hot, dry weather in Middlesex county has greatly facilitated harvesting of spring grains and storing of straw. Most of the county can be considered as dry and a general rain would be very welcome by the end of the week. Rain is also needed in Norfolk county where harvesting of wheat, rye, second-cut hay and cucumbers has been completed. Harvesting of tobacco is about half finished. A small amount of spring grains remains to be cut and yields and quality have varied from fair to good. Picking of processing tomatoes is just getting under way. Early apples and peaches are finding ready markets. Pastures are reported to be short in some areas.

Favourable weather during August has allowed normal progress with grain harvesting in Bruce county, with operations over 50 per cent completed. Yields have generally been about average. Second-crop hay is yielding well and corn is making excellent growth but is still behind normal. Although pastures are drying up in some areas conditions are generally good in most areas of the county. The turnip crop is making good growth. Recent clear, warm weather has greatly favoured harvesting operations in Waterloo county. Harvesting of grain crops is almost completed and yields have varied from light to average. Cutting of second-crop hay is now in progress.

In Wellington county harvesting of spring grains is later than usual due to delayed seeding. Yields are expected to be average or better and quality of the grain looks very good. Maturity of grain corn will also be delayed and much will depend on a frost-free September. Pastures are short and dry and although some second crop hay is being harvested most of this acreage is being used for pasture.

In Halton county harvesting of grains is 75 per cent completed and yields were considered to be about 10 per cent below normal. Corn, hay and pastures are growing well due to excellent moisture conditions. About 40 per cent of the winter wheat crop suffered from sprouting. The apple crop is about normal.

In Durham county the weather has been excellent for harvesting but both yield and quality of winter wheat have been generally poor. Quality of spring grains varies from average to good but yields are somewhat below average. Straw is light on many farms. Pastures are generally good for this time of year.

In Leeds county of Eastern Ontario recent heavy showers have caused cereal crops to lodge. The winter wheat crop was average with excellent quality of both grain and straw. Some fields of soybeans should reach maturity within two weeks. In some areas sweet corn is badly infested with corn borer. In Renfrew county of Eastern Ontario hot, dry weather has promoted rapid development of the corn crop. Harvesting of winter wheat is completed with yields varying from about 55 bushels to a low of 20 bushels per acre. Harvesting of spring grains is just under way. A large acreage of second-crop alfalfa remains to be harvested.

A report from Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario indicates that very heavy rain storms occurred on July 21 when three inches of rain fell in five hours and on August 18 when 2.3 inches of rain was received. As a result, severe lodging has occurred in cereals, especially in barley. About 50 per cent of the sunflowers are at the flowering stage and will be harvested for silage. Harvesting of second-crop hay is under way and yields are average. Pastures are in fair condition. In the Thunder Bay district hot, dry weather during the past week has greatly hastened maturity of spring grains. Some barley has already been harvested. Cutting of first-crop hay is nearing completion. Pastures are adequate but would benefit from rain. Harvesting of potatoes is continuing with yields above average and quality good.

MANITOBA

Crops are maturing rapidly in most districts of Manitoba with some fields combined and swathing being general. The hot weather is causing premature ripening. Yields are expected to be above average in most districts although there are instances of light bushel weights reported. Corn and sunflowers are progressing well but peas are poor to good. Flax is almost ready to harvest. The rye yield is expected to be 10 to 20 bushels per acre and the second alfalfa crop is above average.

At Altona in the southeast of the province all crops, especially corn and sunflowers are progressing well due to continued hot and sunny weather. The threshing of cereal grains is in full swing with average to above-average yields. The sample weight of earlier crops has been below average. Threshing of rapeseed is under way and sugar beets and potatoes are doing well. In the area around Morden continued hot, dry weather last week advanced early crop maturity. Much of the barley and wheat was swathed with about 15 per cent combined. Early combined fields of barley have yielded a low bushel weight. Early rapeseed swathing has begun with prospects for a good yield. Canning and grain corn are filling well with the recent hot weather. Pasture growth is fair and second-cut alfalfa is progressing rapidly and should be cut in a few weeks. To the west at Pilot Mound about 30 per cent of the barley and 20 per cent of the wheat are swathed with combining started in the latter part of the week. Early indications show a fairly good sample average weight. Samples of wheat obtained would be graded at No. 2 Northern. Some farmers feel that grain may not yield as well as appearances indicate. At Melita harvesting of cereal grains is general with early barley crop yields ranging from 30 to 70 bushels. The crop outlook is better than usual and crops are maturing quickly with above average temperatures. Rye seeding has started.

In the Winnipeg area at Beausejour cereal crops swathing is general with harvested crop yielding very well. Warm weather is maturing crops very rapidly and combining will be general this week. Haying is generally completed and second-crop alfalfa will be ready shortly. Conditions in this area are generally very favourable. Crops are ripening very fast in the Selkirk area. All early fields are swathed and the warm weather this past week has allowed much of this to be combined. Average yields are expected over the whole area. The later crops are ripening well, but the heat of this past week has caused some crop deterioration. The potato crop is starting to come off and yields are quite promising. The second crop of hay is being cut. At Stonewall crops are ripening fast and harvesting will be general in ten days. Crops vary widely from very good to poor. The haying is slow in wet areas but good elsewhere. Swathing of wheat and harvesting of barley were general at Portage la Prairie last week. All reports indicate that the bushel weight of barley is low. A lot of hay is still being put up, but the quality is low and the supply limited. Harvesting of carrots has started.

In the area around Brandon high temperatures are causing rapid ripening of the crops with considerable barley already swathed and a good start on wheat. Above average yields of wheat and barley are expected. Leaf rust on wheat and oats is widespread and may affect kernel development of late-sown crops. Heavy lodging was noted in a few fields. The second cut of hay is reported to be good and silage corn is now developing rapidly.

At Teulon in the Interlake district hot, dry weather has quickly brought on cereal grains. Swathing has been general and combining of timothy and barley has commenced. The second crop of tame hay is good and pastures are also reported as good. Farther north at Arborg swathing was general at the end of last week and combining should be general in a week. Later-sown crops are ripening very fast. Yields of cereals and flax are expected to be good but barley may be light as kernels are not plump.

In the west-central part of the province at Neepawa hot, dry weather last week caused rapid maturing of all crops. Rye is 75 per cent swathed and 25 per cent harvested. Barley is 25 per cent swathed and wheat and oats are 10 per cent swathed. Prospects for a second hay cut are good. At Minnedosa hot, dry weather is hastening crop maturity. Threshing of fall rye, early barley and some early fields of wheat has begun and will be general towards the end of next week. In the area around Shoal Lake swathing has started but very little has been done to date. Fall rye has been swathed and combining is under way. Crop yields are expected to be average or slightly above. Hay yields are below normal. The Russell district reports that most hay was put up in good condition with fair to good yields. Fall rye has been swathed and about 80 per cent has been combined with yields of 10 to 20 bushels per acre. About 40 per cent of the cereals is swathed and combining has begun with yields reported good but samples light. Some rapeseed has been swathed and other special crops are ripening fast.

In the northwest part of the province at Dauphin some early crops are swathed and harvested with average yields reported. Swathing will be general by the week end. The hot weather is causing premature ripening and could affect yield and quality. Swan River reports that most rye is swathed with a few fields combined. Barley is being swathed along with some fields of rape, wheat and oats. Most crops will be ready in the next 10 to 12 days.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 2 per cent above normal compared with 8 per cent above normal a week ago, 2 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 49 per cent above normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending August 25, 1969 was 8.1 degrees above normal, compared with 2.3 degrees above normal a week ago, 2.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 4.3 degrees below normal for the week ending August 26, 1968.

SASKATCHEWAN

Extremely high temperatures throughout much of Saskatchewan during August have resulted in rapid maturing and ripening of grain and generally good yields are in prospect. Harvesting is presently under way in all districts and, on a provincial basis, wheat is 20 per cent swathed, oats 30, barley 45, and rapeseed 35. Combining is most advanced in the southwestern and southcentral districts and, on a province-wide basis, the per cent threshed for barley is 15, oats and rapeseed 10, and wheat 5.

At Yellowgrass in the southeast part of the province the crop appears very promising but some damage was caused by severe hail and wind on Monday. Some swath-ing of coarse grains and wheat has been done but this will not be general until next week. Early combining returns are good. The recent hot weather has matured the crop quicker than expected and has lessened the danger from frosts.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head has reported a week of very hot weather which has advanced and matured most crops. The combining of barley has now become general and this crop on summerfallow is averaging 50 to 60 bushels per acre, and the sample is lighter than anticipated. Yields on stubble are not much below those on summerfallow. Swathing of wheat is general this week and many fields are expected to yield 40 bushels to the acre on summerfallow, and some yields on stubble will exceed 30 bushels. A high yield in oats is also expected. Early-sown flax is turning brown. Most summerfallow land is free of growth and in good shape. No rust or insects have affected the crops and hail has not been reported in the district. Livestock are in excellent condition.

Swathing operations are in full swing and combining operations are 15 per cent completed in the vicinity of Gravelbourg in the south-central part of the province. Wheat yields range from 30 to 35 bushels per acre, barley 50 to 60, and oats 80 to 100. Continuous warm temperatures have reduced yields slightly, especially in durum fields. No rain has been reported since the end of July and, as a result of the yields being obtained, farmers are running short of storage space.

In the southwest part of the province around Val Marie swathing is well under way with 50 per cent being reported complete, and a small amount of combining being done. Wheat is yielding about 25 bushels, barley 40, and oats 60. Quality, based on early samples, is reasonably good, but some heat damage to fields has been reported which will result in lower grades. The second cut of hay is expected to be very late this year compared to previous years. Pastures are looking good as yet, although rain would be welcomed any time. The Research Station at Swift Current in south-western Saskatchewan reports that exceptionally hot, dry weather has forced crops to mature rapidly, causing some shrinkage of the kernels. Swathing of wheat is now general and the combining of coarse grains is under way. It is expected that wheat will average 25 bushels and barley is yielding 40 to 50 bushels.

Flax is turning rapidly and stands appear very good. In the vicinity of Leader harvesting is well under way with both yields and quality reported as satisfactory.

In the Melville district in east-central Saskatchewan ideal harvesting weather during the past week has permitted swathing of wheat to become general. A fair amount of oats and some barley has been threshed and some new wheat has been delivered in the past two days. Yields are reported to be good, with wheat grading No. 2 Northern and dry. Harvesting should be in full swing within a week. In the district around Togo swathing has been general and combining is just starting. The rye harvest is finished with an average yield of 17 bushels per acre. Heads of barley have shown some shrinkage; however, good yields are imminent. Wheat is ripening rapidly and swathing is expected to be under way this week. It is anticipated that yields will be quite promising, in spite of the fact that in some fields the crop is lodged especially the oats. Swathing of all grain is now general in the vicinity of Endeavour and the combining of coarse grains and rapeseed is widespread and good yields are being reported. Combining of wheat will become general in a week. Haying is complete with supplies apparently sufficient to meet requirements. Moisture conditions are rated as good.

In the central part of the province around Drake hot, windy weather during the past week has matured all grain crops, and two-thirds of the crop has been swathed. Early-sown oats and barley have been harvested, and harvesting is proceeding at a normal pace on the remaining crops. Wheat is grading No. 2 and is above average in yield. Oilseed crops have been swathed and the harvesting of mustard has been completed. Cattle are reported to be in good condition. At Saskatoon about 25 per cent of the wheat has been swathed and combining of crops is well under way. Barley and rapeseed are also being harvested, with summerfallow seeded crops expected to produce above normal yields, with somewhat lighter yields on stubble land. Mean maximum temperature of 83 degrees since August 1, has caused rapid ripening of crops.

At Rosetown in the west-central part of the province crops are about 65 per cent in the swath and 20 per cent harvested. Wheat is running at about 25 bushels per acre, barley 50, and oats 70. Flax is being swathed and the yield looks very promising. The weather in the area has been in the 90's during the past two weeks. Farther north at Scott dry, hot weather has ripened all crops rapidly and at least one-half is in the swath with some combining being done. Quality of grain should be good. Most of the rape and mustard seed crops have been swathed. Lack of moisture has caused some premature ripening and some reduction in yield. Pastures are very dry, although livestock are in good condition for this time of year.

In the northeastern part of the province at Melfort all crops are maturing rapidly following the recent hot, dry weather. Swathing is now general throughout the region and combining is now under way in many parts. Grade and test weight of grain samples are good and estimated yields are: wheat 25 bushels per acre, barley 30 to 35, oats 50 to 60, flax 12, and rapeseed 1200 to 1400 pounds per acre.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports the following hail storms: August 8 - Talmage and Weyburn; August 12: Leroy, Watson, Quill Lake, Wadena, Fishing Lake, Margo, Invermay, Leross, Jedburgh; August 16: Gainsborough, Torquay, Roche, Percee, Griffin; August 20: Lake Alma, Neptune, Colgate, Cedoux, Osage, Tyvan, Montmartre, Neudorf, Grenfell, Broadview, Canora and Pelly.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 15 per cent below normal, compared with 12 per cent below normal a week ago, 9 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and 2 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 25, 1969 was 9 degrees above normal, compared with 0.9 degree above normal a week ago, 2.6 degrees above normal two weeks ago, and 1 degree below normal for the week ending August 26, 1968.

ALBERTA

Growing conditions have been very good in Alberta and crops are ripening quickly. In the southern part of the province harvesting has been completed on some farms and is progressing rapidly on the rest. Yields appear quite promising throughout the province with the exception of the Peace River Block which has suffered from lack of moisture.

In southeastern Alberta around Manyberries swathing and threshing are general. Wheat is grading No. 1 and No. 2 Northern with a lighter yield than expected. Prairie fires are a danger due to drought conditions and rain is needed on the prairies. At Medicine Hat swathing is 80 per cent completed and combining of cereals is 40 per cent finished. Flax crops are approximately 10 per cent harvested. The second cut of hay on irrigated fields is now complete. Moisture levels are very low due to the hot, dry weather and pastures are very dry. Brush and prairie fires have been reported in the area.

In the southwest region at Lethbridge the winter wheat and fall rye harvest is near completion with excellent yields realized. The seed pea harvest and swathing of spring wheat are well under way. Flax and rapeseed crops are starting to be harvested. Fresh corn picking has started with canning corn expected to start next week. At Cardston harvesting is 50 per cent completed with a good yield so far. Haying has been completed and swathing of oilseeds has started. Pastures are dry due to the warm, dry weather but livestock are in good condition. In the Claresholm region harvesting of winter wheat, rapeseed and rye is now complete. Threshing of barley is now 50 per cent completed and grades and yields are good. Swathing of spring wheat and flax is now beginning and continuing good weather will see most of the crop threshed within three weeks.

In east-central Alberta at Hanna a good hay crop has been harvested. Swathing of spring wheat is 30 per cent completed with barley swathing 60 per cent, oats 50 per cent and rye 100 per cent swathed. Five per cent of the wheat crop and 25 per cent of the barley and oat crops have been combined. The wheat yield is estimated at 10 to 25 bushels per acre with barley at 30 to 50 and rye at 15. The weather continues hot and dry. In the Olds area swathing of barley is now under way and wheat swathing should commence next week. Indications are for heavy yields since heads are well filled.

In northeast-central Alberta at Sedgewick hot, dry weather has brought crops on quickly with oats and barley 60 per cent threshed. Rapeseed is being swathed and swathing of wheat will be in full swing next week if present weather conditions prevail. The fall rye crops which were badly frozen in the spring have shown a very light yield and some crops were not worth harvesting.

At Stettler in central Alberta warm, dry weather has promoted fast ripening of crops and some barley has been swathed. Wheat yields are estimated at 20 bushels per acre and coarse grains are estimated at 40 bushels per acre. There are heavy infestations of wild oats in many crops. Considerable amounts of crops have been cut for feed owing to hail damage. Hay crops are reported as light.

In west-central Alberta excellent weather conditions have prevailed at Red Deer. Swathing is now general and some harvesting of cereal crops is reported. At Lacombe hot, dry weather during the past two weeks has hastened maturity of cereal crops. Soil moisture is extremely low. Barley swathing is now general and cereal crop yield estimates are given as 26 bushels per acre for wheat, 40 bushels per acre for barley, 60 bushels per acre for oats and 20 bushels per acre for rapeseed. Hay and pastures are making very little growth. At Eckville swathing is general and combining will commence by August 27. Summerfallow is in fair condition and the second cut of hay is now being harvested with yields from one-half to one ton per acre.

At Colinton in the north-central area swathing of barley, oats and rapeseed has become general with swathing of wheat and flax to follow in ten days to two weeks. Some combining of barley, oats and rapeseed has been completed with yields of 32, 40 and 50 bushels per acre, respectively. The rapeseed shows good quality but barley and oats have been weathered a great deal by excessive rainfall. Second-cuttings of hay are general throughout the area with much higher yields than for the first cutting. Some swathing of forage seed crops has been done but no harvesting is reported as yet. Some frost damage has been reported on crops in low-lying areas but this condition is very limited.

In the Peace River area the fescue harvest is complete at Beaverlodge and swathing of barley, oats and wheat is under way. Some combining of early barley has been recorded with very light yields. A killing frost was experienced on August 23 but most field crops escaped serious damage. At Peace River some swathing has been done and some barley has been combined. The weather has been very dry and the heads are not filling out well. Expected crop yields vary greatly from area to area. At Fort Vermilion recent rains have halted all harvesting operations. Harvesting of barley had been progressing favourably. Barley crops are about 30 per cent swathed and 5 per cent harvested. It will take another ten days to two weeks to mature the balance of the crop. Light frost has caused some 60 to 100 per cent damage to the buckwheat crop.

The Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation reports no significant hail activity for this reporting period. A few widely scattered claims have been received from Carstairs, Mundare and Edmonton.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 15 per cent below normal compared with 12 per cent below normal a week ago, 8 per cent below normal two weeks ago and one per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 25, 1969 was 4.6 degrees above normal, compared with 0.7 degree above normal a week ago, 2.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 0.3 degree above normal for the week ending August 26, 1968.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

At Victoria, the weather has been cool and unsettled for the past week with some very light showers. Weather conditions are very dry with only 2.2 inches of rain since May 1. The loganberry harvest is completed and a good crop of early McIntosh and Tydeman Red apples is indicated. All seasonal vegetables are growing well except field tomatoes which are slow in ripening.

Reports from Agassiz in the Lower Fraser Valley indicate that dry conditions prevailed to August 18 and substantial rainfall is now required to aid development of late-planted corn crops and other vegetables. Harvesting of canning corn has commenced with average yields anticipated. The harvest of bush beans is well advanced

with fair yields being reported from the eastern valley and western section. A good early broccoli crop is being harvested. Pastures on non-irrigated lands are fair and second-cut hay yields and quality were high but limited yields on third cutting are being encountered.

At Vernon in the north Okanagan, weather conditions during July and August have been dry. Fall wheat is 80 per cent harvested with yields of 45 bushels per acre reported. An excellent alfalfa crop is expected and a third crop hay is being cut. Pastures are dry. Field corn is excellent with harvesting expected to commence in three weeks' time. Pea crops are below average.

In the Kamloops district, excellent growing weather has produced a good second crop of hay. Corn crops are excellent but will need another six weeks to mature. Range conditions are good.

At Prince George in the Central Interior, inclement weather since the last report has delayed harvesting of hay and silage resulting in poor quality. The dull, wet weather has, however, averted a complete failure in grain production in the whole area. Barley and oats are very green and are ideal for silage material but it is most doubtful, unless warm weather prevails, that grain will be combined.

Reports from Smithers in the Skeena River Valley indicate that weather conditions during August were unseasonably cool with frequent ineffective showers. Frost was general near the end of August followed by an effective one inch of rain. Haying is completed and grain is maturing slowly with light spots in many areas. Soil moisture is still low and pastures are unproductive with supplementary feeding a necessity.

At Dawson Creek in the Peace River District, swathing of barley is under way and wheat swathing is just starting. Heavy rains hampered harvesting operations. Considerable heat is still required for plant growth. Frosty nights are being experienced throughout the region and some shrinkage of grain is being reported. Fescue and hay yields are low, however, forage crops are promising if harvesting conditions improve. The rape crop in the area appears good and honey yields are 80 to 100 pounds.

In the Fort St. John area of the Peace River Block, swathing of barley and wheat has begun. Wet weather has delayed swathing with less than 5 per cent done. Warm, dry weather is required in all areas for swathing to continue. Combining is not expected to begin until September 6. Light frost has been recorded in low-lying areas with damage not expected to affect yield or maturity. Harvesting of fescue seed is virtually completed with below-average yields. Clover-seed crops are swathed and ready for combining.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	August 25	
		August 25, 1969	April 1	April 1	1969	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Boissevain	.03	10.54	11.65	72	63
	Pierson	nil	10.95	10.54	71	62
	Waskada	nil	7.68(2)	N.R.	72	N.R.
2	Baldur	nil	9.58	11.33	73	63
	Pilot Mound	nil	11.04	11.26	72	63
3	Altona	nil	8.37	10.57	73	64
	Deerwood	nil	12.00	10.98	72	65
	Graysville	nil	12.79	9.99	72	64
	Morden	nil	9.05	11.26	73	65
	Morris	nil	11.15	10.45	72	66
	Portage la Prairie	nil	15.76	12.78	72	64
	Roland	nil	10.28	10.73	72	64
4	Stonewall	nil	13.18	11.53	70	64
5	Emerson	nil	10.14	11.03	72	65
	Steinbach	nil	10.92	10.91	71	63
	Winnipeg	nil	13.71	11.20	73	64
	Starbuck	nil	13.81	10.93	73	64
6	Seven Sisters Falls	nil	9.11	10.83	72	63
	Great Falls	nil	6.66	8.62	N.R.	64
	Sprague	nil	14.83	12.06	68	62
7	Rivers	nil	13.79	11.28	72	63
	Virden	nil	12.34	10.85	72	63
8	Brandon	nil	12.53	11.58	70	63
	Cypress River	nil	14.56	11.12	74	64
9	Gladstone	trace	12.67	11.23	N.R.	63
10	Birtle	nil	10.65	11.43	71	61
	Rosburn	nil	11.03	10.54	71	62
	Russell	nil	10.73	9.39	70	60
11	Dauphin	trace	9.91	11.17	69	62
12	Arborg	.04	8.54	10.79	68	62
	Gimli	.02	10.86	11.46	71	62
	Steep Rock	nil	46(2)	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13	Swan River	trace	7.92	10.89	68	62
	The Pas	trace	6.56	9.46	66	60
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.003	11.12	10.93	71.2	63.1
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Carlyle	nil	12.31	10.03	72	61
	Estevan	nil	11.48	9.81	74	65
	Oxbow	nil	9.59	9.16	70	61
	Willmar	nil	12.41	10.60	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	1.28	10.00	10.99	71	61
	Moosomin	.03	12.92	11.15	71	62

See footnotes on page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. August 25, 1969	since April 1	since April 1	August 25 1969	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
SASKATCHEWAN - Continued						
2A	Yellow Grass	nil	7.45	9.53	73	62
	Weyburn	.05	9.22	9.43	75	62
	Midale	nil	8.68	9.46	69	63
2B	Moose Jaw	trace	9.36	9.04	75	64
	Regina	nil	8.29	9.37	75	63
	Francis	nil	9.10	8.97	72	62
	Indian Head	nil	6.75	9.27	74	62
3AS	Ormiston	nil	4.84	9.49	75	62
	Cardross	nil	8.05	9.50	75	62
	Ceylon	nil	9.43	9.67	75	62
	Chaplin	N.R.	6.61(2)	8.18	N.R.	62
3AN	Gravelbourg	N.R.	8.22(2)	7.96	N.R.	63
3BS	Shaunavon	trace	10.39	8.22	73	62
	Pambrun	nil	10.59	8.78	74	62
	Aneroid	nil	9.86	7.96	73	62
	Instow	nil	8.83(2)	8.34	75	61
3BN	Swift Current	nil	8.05	9.23	75	62
	Pennant	N.R.	6.12(2)	8.16	N.R.	62
	Hughton	nil	4.86	7.44	73	62
4A	Maple Creek	nil	7.55	7.62	76	63
	Consul	.05	4.35	7.09	73	61
4B	Abbey	N.R.	4.95(2)	7.75	N.R.	62
	Leader	nil	6.46	7.20	73	63
5A	Cupar	N.R.	4.60(2)	9.16	N.R.	62
	Balcarres	N.R.	5.83(2)	9.70	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	nil	9.73	N.R.	71	N.R.
	Melville	nil	8.11	9.86	69	61
	Yorkton	.10	8.77	9.83	69	62
	Bangor	nil	10.28	10.20	69	61
	Wynyard	trace	6.91	9.30	71	60
	Foam Lake	nil	5.86	9.34	50	60
5B	Kuroki	nil	5.54	9.66	50	58
	Kamsack	.08	8.17	9.21	69	62
6A	Davidson	nil	8.39	8.64	71	62
	Strasbourg	trace	4.44	9.48	72	61
	Watrous	nil	6.88	8.36	70	61
6B	Harris	N.R.	3.89(2)	7.30	N.R.	61
	Outlook	nil	5.79	7.38	72	62
	Rosthern	trace	5.79	7.96	67	61
	Saskatoon	nil	6.25	7.80	70	62
	Elbow	nil	7.96	8.91	72	62
	Tugaske	.03	7.64	9.02	71	62
	Dundurn	nil	3.85	7.66	72	62
7A	Alsask	nil	5.27	6.86	71	61
	Kindersley	nil	5.96	7.18	71	61

See footnotes on page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. August 25, 1969	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending 8 a.m. August 25	
					1969	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> - Concluded						
7A	Rosetown	trace	6.07	8.19	71	62
7B	Macklin	nil	5.52	8.15	66	60
	Denzil	nil	5.72	8.03	69	59
	Scott	nil	6.16	8.27	69	59
	Biggar	nil	6.66	8.03	69	62
8A	Hudson Bay	nil	5.64	10.07	67	59
	Prairie River	nil	4.09	10.21	65	58
8B	Humboldt	nil	5.37	8.12	68	60
	Melfort	trace	5.80	8.99	68	60
9A	North Battleford	trace	5.73	7.96	69	61
	Victoire	nil	7.44	8.71	68	58
	Prince Albert	trace	6.31	9.06	66	60
9B	Waseca	trace	6.71	9.19	65	58
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.03	7.51	8.81	70.3	61.3
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Empress	nil	7.78	7.47	73	N.R.
	Foremost	nil	4.34	7.70	75	63
	Manyberries	N.R.	3.92(2)	6.87	N.R.	63
	Medicine Hat	.03	4.32	7.48	77	64
2	Brooks	.01	4.79	7.82	70	62
	Gleichen	nil	6.41	8.96	68	60
	Hays	nil	5.50	6.99	66	63
	Rainier	N.R.	4.91(2)	7.89	N.R.	61
	Vauxhall	nil	6.47	7.18	70	61
	Raymond	trace	7.61	8.19	70	61
	Lethbridge	.01	8.76	9.14	71	62
	Trochu Equity	N.R.	65(2)	10.20	N.R.	59
	Queenstown	nil	7.99	9.32	67	60
	Calgary	nil	11.81	10.98	63	58
3	Cardston	nil	10.27	10.12	66	59
	Pincher Creek	nil	12.40	10.94	66	58
	Fort MacLeod	nil	10.11	10.15	67	62
	High River	N.R.	12.53(2)	11.22	N.R.	57
	Magrath	nil	9.29(2)	10.16	68	62
	Olds	nil	12.30	11.66	62	57
	Alliance	nil	6.88	8.80	68	59
4	Coronation	nil	5.96	8.75	64	59
	Hughenden	.05	7.46	8.81	67	59
	Lloydminster	nil	9.86	9.01	66	60
	Stettler	nil	10.32	9.96	N.R.	58
	Vegreville	nil	7.99	9.46	62	58
	Ranfurly	.03	6.13	10.18	63	58
	Vermilion	.01	8.27	9.54	64	57

See footnotes on page IV.



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. August 25, 1969	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending 8 a.m. August 25 1969	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
<u>ALBERTA - Concluded</u>						
5	Edmonton	nil	9.57	11.48	61	58
	Lacombe	nil	7.91	11.61	62	58
	Red Deer	nil	10.29	11.00	61	58
	Rocky Mountain House	nil	13.69	13.00	61	56
	Wetaskiwin	.04	8.73	11.22	62	58
6	Campsie	.01	10.84	11.85	58	56
	Edson	.01	11.85	12.87	57	55
	Elk Point	.02	7.96	9.77	60	56
	Lac la Biche	.01	11.53	9.99	57	58
	Whitecourt	.12	12.49	12.50	56	55
7	Beaverlodge	.21	5.25	8.79	53	56
	Fairview	.65	6.37	8.78	56	57
	Ft. Vermilion	nil	5.19	7.32	58	56
	Grande Prairie	.45	6.10	8.72	54	57
	High Prairie	.11	4.11	10.00	55	56
	Peace River	.57	4.30	7.22	56	56
	Rycroft	.43	5.21	9.01	54	57
	Wagner	.02	7.32	9.03	58	56
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.07	8.11	9.55	63.2	58.6

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