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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT — CANADA

This is the second of the 1970 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. — In most regions of the Maritimes recent weather conditions have been cold and wet, which have delayed seeding operations and crop growth. In Prince Edward Island wet, backward growing conditions have existed over the last three weeks. About 60 to 65 per cent of the grain has been sown while about 50 per cent of the potatoes has been planted. Early grain crops look quite promising and hay prospects are fair to good. Pastures are about average for this time of year. The tobacco crop is not more than one-third planted and greenhouses are ahead of growers. Some winterkilling was done to the strawberry crop and a late spring frost affected early blossoms. About ten days of fine weather are needed in the province. Most of Nova Scotia reports that over the last two weeks cold, wet weather has hampered both seeding operations and crop growth. Seeding ranges from 85 to 90 per cent complete in the Annapolis Valley to 50 per cent in some areas of central Nova Scotia. Fruit prospects are generally good but some frost damage has occurred. Early-planted grain crops are growing well. Hay and pasture crops are making excellent growth in most areas and indications point toward good yields. However, in the Annapolis Valley grass growth has been slower. Most of the cattle are now out on pastures. A wet, late spring has delayed seeding in New Brunswick and only about 50 per cent of the crops has been sown. However, early-seeded cereals have emerged and growth is excellent. There was severe winterkilling of legumes in all areas which ranged from 50 to 100 per cent. Both winter injury and frost have affected early strawberry blossoms and about a 50 per cent loss is expected. Seeding and transplanting of vegetable crops are 10 days to two weeks behind schedule due to the wet soil conditions. Potato planting has been delayed in all areas and is only 50 to 60 per cent complete.

Agriculture Division,
Crops Section

5502-508.7

Quebec. — Wet weather and below normal temperatures prevailed throughout most of Quebec during May and the early part of June. Soil conditions are wetter than normal delaying work on the land and farmers are about ten days behind average at present. Nevertheless about 80 per cent of the grain crops has been sown in the Montreal, Three Rivers and Quebec districts and in Gaspé, the Lower St. Lawrence, Abitibi-Temiscamingue, and Lake St. Jean progress of seeding varies from 40 to 70 per cent. Germination is good with grain corn particularly well advanced; reports indicate an increase in acreage for this crop. Potato planting is progressing rapidly while sugar beets, tobacco and horticultural crops are showing good growth. Pastures and haylands are generally in good condition having escaped with very little winter damage in most districts. Cattle are in good condition and milk production is normal. Near Quebec City strawberry plantations sustained some winter damage. To date, apple growers have applied several sprays to control scab. In L'Assomption County a late frost on May 27 did some damage to tobacco.

Ontario. — During the past month most of the intended acreage for corn and spring grains has been planted. Weather conditions have been variable and often such that planting has been delayed, especially in Eastern Ontario. The cutting of grass silage has begun in some counties in Southern Ontario and will become general during the week of June 8-15 in most areas of the province. Cutting of forage for farm storage will begin a few days later in each area. Planting of dry beans has only started while most tobacco transplanting was completed by the end of the first week in June. Warmer weather is necessary to give tobacco a good start. Winter rye has begun to head out while winter wheat is a few days slower. Livestock have been on grass since the last week of May. Pasture and hay fields are in excellent condition.

Prairie Provinces. — Seeding is nearing completion in most districts of the Prairie Provinces with progress most advanced in Alberta and western Saskatchewan. Moisture supplies are good in Manitoba and in the eastern half of Saskatchewan but rain is needed elsewhere. Weed spraying is in progress in many districts with heavy weed growth reported, particularly in Saskatchewan.

RUST REPORT FOR THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station in Winnipeg reports that it is too early to predict how rust will develop in western Canada in 1970. Most wheat and barley varieties grown in the rust area are rust resistant but oat varieties are susceptible to prevalent races of stem rust and crown rust. In the southern United States small amounts of wheat stem rust appeared suddenly from Texas to Nebraska about the end of May. Wheat leaf rust was moderate in Texas and Oklahoma but is developing rapidly on susceptible wheat as far north as southern Minnesota. Small amounts of oat stem rust were reported in Texas and oat crown rust in Texas and Oklahoma.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Above normal temperatures over most of the province during the past two weeks have brought crop growth closer to normal, following relatively cool conditions during May. Haying is proceeding in the southern regions with generally good quality but some below average yields reported. Pastures are also showing the effects of the cool spring. Soil moisture conditions are generally satisfactory ranging from excellent in the Peace River Block to fair in the south coastal areas. In the Okanagan tree fruit

crop prospects appear encouraging with good sets reported in stone fruits. Apple crop prospects continue favourable with fruits developing normally. Vegetable growth has been spotty with heat loving crops showing the effects of the earlier cool temperatures, while cole crops are progressing normally. At the Coast strawberries and lettuce are now coming off with peak harvests expected within the next two weeks. Berry crops generally are looking good though weed growth in some areas was heavier than usual. Potatoes are making good growth and harvesting of the earlies is expected to begin within the next two weeks. In the Peace River the late season has forced some increase in barley seeding instead of wheat. Harvesting of last year's grain produced disappointing results in both yield and quality.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In the western area of Prince Edward Island around O'Leary recent wet weather has kept farmers from sowing on later land. About 80 per cent of the grain crops has been planted and some is showing through on drier land. Potato planting is about 60 per cent complete. Pastures are in good condition. About one week of warm, sunny weather is needed. In the Charlottetown area warmer weather is required for normal growth of all crops. The lower lying fields are waterlogged and the continued wet, cold weather has delayed cropping operations. Winter injury to the winter wheat crop is slight to moderate. About 50 per cent of the cereals and late potatoes has been seeded. There has been good germination in the early potato crop. A late spring frost caused some damage to early strawberry blossoms. There was a heavy bloom on apple trees but pollinating weather has been poor. Processing crops have been seeded on schedule and an acreage increase is anticipated. Cole crop beds are being prepared for seeding in areas where soil conditions are fit to work. The adverse weather conditions are retarding tobacco planting, but a large acreage increase is expected. Meadows and pastures are making slow growth.

In the Amherst region of Nova Scotia heavy rains over the last two weeks have slowed seeding operations. However, seeding is about 70 per cent complete. The early-sown crops appear good. An increase in the silage corn acreage is anticipated. Both the blueberry and strawberry crops look good, but there was some damage caused by frost. Pasture and hay crops are in very good condition for this time of year. Temperatures have been normal. The weather has been cool and wet in the Truro area during the last two weeks, which has resulted in delayed seeding. Cereal crops have been about 60 per cent sown and some of the early-seeded crops have emerged. There has been some yellowing due to excessive moisture. Strawberry plantations are making good growth and full bloom is expected in about one week. The burning of blueberries is completed. Growth on hay and pastures is excellent. The Annapolis Valley region also reports a late season. Rains have hampered growth, while about 85 to 90 per cent of the grain, 100 per cent of the potatoes and 50 per cent of the tobacco has been planted. Growth on pastures and haylands has been slow due to wet weather and lack of heat. Fruit growers have completed the fourth spray on orchards. There was considerable damage done to orchards and small fruits due to frost on May 25. However, it is too early to know the final results. Vegetable planting is about 80 to 90 per cent complete. Rains have hampered crop fertilization.

The Research Station at Fredericton, New Brunswick, reports that planting of all crops is about three weeks later than normal due to cold, wet weather. Warmer weather was received during the past week which resulted in good growing conditions.

Frost on May 25 affected early strawberry blossoms and about a 50 per cent loss is anticipated. Hay and pastures are making rapid growth. Cold, wet weather during the past month has held up planting operations in the Perth area. Warmer weather is urgently required in order that farmers may complete potato planting. About 70 per cent of the crop has now been seeded, but farmers are having difficulty in planting low lands. A good percentage of the grain crops has not yet been seeded. Grass growth has been good. A severe frost received during the last week of May caused bud and blossom damage to strawberries and a greatly reduced yield is expected.

QUEBEC

The Experimental Station at L'Assomption reports 15 days rainfall which delayed seeding and planting operations. On May 6 there were two inches of snow and minimum ground temperatures of 25 and 27 degrees occurred on May 28 and 29, respectively. At Lavaltrie sub-station cigarette tobacco transplanting was started May 26 and completed June 8 while cigar tobacco transplanting was begun on May 25 and will be finished about June 15. Our correspondent at lac St-Jean reports that there was a heavy apple blossom but that the period of full bloom was rather short. Due to unfavourable temperatures the first signs of apple scab have appeared on the foliage but no damage from insects is apparent so far. Vegetable growers have completed seeding the onion crop and about 85 per cent of the late potatoes is in the ground; 20 per cent of the carrots and 50 per cent of the celery have also been seeded. Some minor damage to onions and carrots due to wind erosion in the Napierville district has been reported. Cool weather has reduced the effectiveness of herbicides applied to vegetable land.

At Sherbrooke the last killing frost occurred on May 29. Lower than normal temperatures, frequent rains and very wet soil have delayed seeding of grains, corn and garden crops; it is estimated that about 50 per cent of the cereals and corn has been sown and 75 per cent of the potatoes. Although plant growth is generally slow pastures are good and cattle have been on pasture since the middle of May. Reports from La Pocatiere indicate cool weather with frequent showers during May and the early part of June have delayed seeding by about three weeks. Only 20 per cent of the crops have been sown to date. Old hay lands and pastures are good however, but newer stands suffered winter kill to leguminous plants of about 70 per cent.

In the Normandin district temperatures during May were normal with 1.99 inches of rain having fallen. Since June 1 a further 2.35 inches of rain are reported. Seeding has not yet been finished but cattle have been out on pasture since June 3 and milk production is very good.

ONTARIO

In Essex county of southern Ontario it has been an excellent spring and all crops are now planted. Early-seeded corn is about eight to ten inches in height and most soybeans have emerged. Wheat has headed and haying operations are under way. Cultivating and the application of post-emergent weed killers and side dressing with fertilizers continues. Radishes and strawberries are being harvested. In general prospects for all crops look good. A report from Pelee Island indicates that crops in that area are making excellent growth. Grain corn and soybeans are showing an excellent stand while winter wheat looks good. In Kent county seeding and germination conditions have been excellent this year. Winter wheat is heading out and haying operations have commenced. Transplanting of tomatoes has been completed and the crop is doing well. Generally, crop prospects look excellent but rain is needed to promote growth. Alfalfa weevils are reported to be plentiful and there has been some damage to corn by cutworms. Some tomato fields have suffered injury from wireworms and frost damage has occurred in early-seeded corn.

Planting of corn in Middlesex county has been completed and soybeans and dry beans are 75 per cent and 25 per cent seeded, respectively. Haying operations are well under way. Although conditions for most crops are excellent, rain is required. In Norfolk county planting of spring grains, corn, tobacco and tomatoes has been completed and growth is above average. Damage from alfalfa weevils has been significant and there is some disease apparent in apples. Fruit and vegetable crops look good. Given timely rains prospects for all crops appear to be excellent. In Lincoln county temperatures during the past week have ranged from a low of 28 to a high of 86 degrees. Previous low temperatures have resulted in a poor set of cherries and Agawam grapes. Picking of early strawberries has commenced and development of early-season fruit is somewhat ahead of normal.

In Simcoe county of western Ontario excessively hot, dry weather has caused considerable concern to many farmers on lighter soils, and moisture is now urgently needed. Some crops showed improved growth last week. Haying operations have commenced and the crop is very heavy in some areas. Corn is growing well and weeds are not yet a problem due to the dry weather. Hay and pastures look good in Bruce county but rain is badly needed. Grain on heavier soils is spotty and corn is not germinating properly due to lack of moisture. The weather is currently warm and sunny in Waterloo county with a high of 85 degrees. This has been excellent growing weather and all crops are progressing well. Haying operations are commencing this week and cutting of grass silage is under way.

In Wellington county crops are generally off to a good start except for barley which is showing some yellowing due to earlier cool, damp weather. A good start has been made on haylage and haying operations are expected to become general in a few days. Some areas have received excessive moisture while other districts would benefit from a good shower. Spring grains and corn in Halton county are growing rapidly and prospects for winter wheat are excellent at this time. Cutting of hay has commenced and yields are above average. There has been moderate damage due to alfalfa weevils in some fields.

In Hastings county of central Ontario seeding of most spring grains has been completed but there is still some corn to be planted. Forage crops are progressing favourably but rain would be welcome. Livestock are doing well and pastures are good. Seeding of spring grains has been completed on most farms in Durham county except for a small percentage of grain corn. Haying operations have commenced and yield prospects look very good. The strawberry crop appears to be excellent. In Peterborough county rain is needed in all areas. Several farmers have commenced haying and cutting of grass silage is well under way. Many pasture fields are becoming retarded and corn is not growing due to the dry weather.

In Leeds county of eastern Ontario seeding of spring grains has been completed although a small acreage of corn remains to be planted. Cutting of grass silage has commenced and weed spraying operations are under way. Seeding of spring grains is almost completed in Carleton county but there have been frequent delays due to wet weather. Early-planted crops are now above ground and doing well. Hay and pasture fields are in above-average condition.

A report from the Thunder Bay District indicates that high temperatures during the past week have dried fields rapidly and work on the land is now well under way. The hay crop looks excellent.

MANITOBA

In Manitoba about 75 per cent of the seeding has been completed with wheat almost completed, grains 60 per cent and special crops 85 per cent completed. Approximately 50 per cent of the Red River Valley acreage has been seeded with only 5 to 25 per cent of the area east of the Red River finished. Germination and growth are uniform. Grasses and legumes are improving rapidly. Wild oat spraying is now under way and potato planting has been completed. Rye is in the shot blade stage.

At Vita seeding is under way with about 25 per cent completed. Some farmers are half finished their field work. Barley seeding is completed in the Arnaud area. Hay and pastures are growing well in all areas under warm and humid conditions. In the area around Altona seeding is approximately 50 per cent completed. Some earlier sown cereals and peas are emerging due to high temperatures and humidity. Heavy weed growth is being eradicated. At present seeding is generally in full swing with some interference from scattered thunderstorms. Pastures are reported as being excellent. At Morden dry weather during the past week has resulted in increased activity. Approximately 55 per cent of the crop has been sown in the Manitou area and 70 per cent in Winkler-Morden area. The seeding of cereal crops should be completed by the end of this week. Potato planting is nearly completed. Early-seeded crops are emerging well but weed growth is increasing with foxtail millet showing in early-seeded fields.

In the southwest of the province at Melita seeding operations are 75 per cent complete as no precipitation was received during the past week. Surface soil is dry but subsoil moisture is adequate. Hay and pastures are in good condition.

In the Winnipeg area at Selkirk seeding is well under way. Planting on summer-fallow is about 50 per cent completed and stubble 30 per cent. This weekend should see most of the seeding finished in this area. Due to the late season our correspondent expects that there will be a larger acreage in summerfallow this year. Seeding of vegetable crops is about 75 per cent completed. Seeding is progressing rapidly in the Balmoral and Stonewall Districts with 50 per cent being completed. Barley seed is in short supply.

Warm, dry weather in the past two weeks has enabled farmers to complete the bulk of their seeding at Brandon. Emergence has been rapid and uniform. Pastures are in good condition but will soon require rain. At Virden fine weather conditions prevailed throughout last week which finally enabled farmers to get a good start on spring seeding. At the end of last week 70 per cent of the wheat was sown and 50 per cent of the coarse grains. Rapid grass and weed growth is reported on summerfallow lands. Seeding operations should be nearly completed by the end of this week.

In the Interlake district at Arborg favorable seeding progress was reported during the last week. Approximately 75 per cent of the crop is now seeded with the bulk of the remainder being in the southeast part of the district.

At Neepawa in the west-central part of the province hot, sunny weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat seeding is nearly finished with barley and oats 50 per cent completed. Seeding of special crops is now under way with rapeseed and field peas nearly completed. However, buckwheat is still to be sown. Pastures and hay crops are growing rapidly and fall rye is progressing well. Minnedosa reports 50 to 60 per cent seeded with some harvesting still taking place. Our correspondent reports some drop off in the intended rapeseed acreage. Pasture growth is good. At Shoal Lake hot, sunny weather has allowed 90 per cent of the seeding to be completed. A decrease in wheat acreage and a 20 per cent increase in summerfallow

is reported. Rain is urgently needed to replenish moisture levels. Pasture growth is average and some spraying operations have started. In the Russell area subsoil moisture is adequate but surface soil is drying out. All of the wheat, 90 per cent of the coarse grains and about 50 per cent of rapeseed and flax are seeded. Fall rye and early-seeded crops are doing well. Spraying for annual weeds has begun but some problems with flea beetles on rapeseed and the sweet clover weevil have been reported.

In the northwest of the province at Dauphin seeding is 95 per cent completed. Germination is good to date and an excellent kill of heavy wild oat growth has been obtained using Carbyne on early-seeded crops. At Swan Lake a week of hot, dry weather has facilitated seeding operations. Seeding of wheat is completed, coarse grains about 80 per cent, and special crops about 70 per cent completed. Early-seeded crops are progressing well. Moisture is adequate and pasture growth is good.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 54 per cent above normal compared with 88 per cent above normal a week ago, 100 per cent above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 14 per cent below normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending June 8, 1970 was 10.3 degrees above normal, in contrast to 5.8 degrees below normal a week ago, 1.2 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 1.6 degrees below normal for the week ending June 9, 1969.

SASKATCHEWAN

In Saskatchewan over 90 per cent of the wheat, 85 per cent of the coarse grains, and 80 per cent of the oilseeds, have been seeded with an average of about 70 per cent of the seeded crops showing about two inches above the ground. Some fall rye is now in the heading stage. Weather has been hot and dry this past week, and seeding is continuing at a rapid pace in the southeast part of the province where about 25 per cent of the wheat has yet to be sown. Conditions are generally good in the eastern part of the province. However, in the western half, rain is needed, particularly in the southwest and northwest regions. Weed growth is particularly heavy in most areas, and spraying for wild oats is under way on summerfallows. Significant amounts of wheat have been spoiled from moisture and beetles while in temporary storage. Flea beetles are reported to be showing up in some rapeseed fields.

In the southeast part of the province around Moosomin the amount of seeding completed to date has been 98 per cent for wheat, 85 per cent for oats, barley and mustard, and 95 and 75 per cent for rapeseed and flaxseed, respectively. Germination and growth is reported as being very good. Approximately one-half inch of rain on June 7 was welcomed, as topsoil was beginning to dry rapidly after cultivation and high temperatures during the previous week. Pastures and cattle are generally in excellent condition. In the vicinity of Fillmore exceptionally warm weather has helped seeding operations and an estimated two-thirds of the seeding is now completed. Crops seeded before the previous heavy rains, however, have emerged unevenly. Some fields are infested with wild oats and summerfallow fields cultivated since the rain are very lumpy but emergency appears good. Pasture and hay fields are making rapid growth. To the north at Indian Head the seeding of wheat is completed on a considerably reduced acreage, due to the season being three to four weeks later than normal for this area. Barley, oats and flax seeding are expected to be completed this week. Germination has been excellent on earlier seeded crops and very heavy growth of voluntary grains, including wheat, has developed on fields to be summerfallowed. Ten consecutive days with no rain and temperatures in the 80's have dried fields and will permit the balance of seeding to progress rapidly. Summerfallow operations are

just getting under way with a vigorous showing of wild oats. Pastures and hay fields are making excellent progress and growth is tall and lush. Hay is expected to be in plentiful supply this year. Livestock are in good condition and are out on excellent pastures.

In the south-central part of the province, at Big Beaver, seeding is completed with about a 5 per cent reduction in the area seeded to wheat. All crops are now germinating with some fields showing yellow colour. The past week has been very hot and a total of 3.5 inches of rain has been received in the area since April 1. First summerfallow operations are 50 per cent completed. Growth on pastures has been satisfactory.

At Eastend in the southwest part of the province no rain has been received since April and moisture is required throughout most of the district. Generally crops look favourable, although some damage has been done by excessive heat and wind. Rain is urgently required. Pastures in the southwest part of the district are very dry. Hay crops on irrigated land are making slow progress.

In the area around Swift Current all cereal crops have been seeded and most of the emerged crop is uniform with ample moisture supplies for normal development. Growth in forages, which was previously better than average, has now slowed due to a lack of moisture. Summerfallow operations are progressing at a normal pace throughout the area. Farther west at Leader hot, dry weather during most of last week has promoted good growth in most crops, although moisture levels are only fair. First summerfallow operations have been completed, and spraying of fields has commenced.

In the east-central part of the province around Melville 90 per cent of the seeding has been completed, and all crops could use rain, although conditions continue to look good at present. Pastures and hay crops are progressing favourably. Rainfall since April 1, at 3.15 inches, compares with 1.63 inches for the same date last year and the long time average of 3.08 inches. Seeding is 90 per cent completed in the district around Togo and germination of all crops has been rapid. Some barley has been showing the effects of heat damage and rain is required to restore surface moisture. Pastures and hay crops are in good shape but weed growth is very heavy. At Endeavour seeding of wheat, rapeseed and coarse grains has now been completed, and germination of all crops is very good. Wild oats are presenting a serious problem and spraying is continuing. Hay and pastures are in good condition and moisture supplies are ample. Rainfall to date has been 2.91 inches.

At Drake in central Saskatchewan seeding is almost complete, except for low-lying areas. Germination and growth has been rapid during the past week on account of the hot weather. Chemical spraying on wild oats is getting under way and summerfallow operations have also started. Hay crop prospects are good and cattle are doing well. Seeding is almost completed and summerfallow operations are in full swing around Saskatoon. Some farmers are still seeding barley and oats intended for feed purposes. Early-seeded crops are now six inches in height and looking good. Surface soil is dry and a good rain would be welcome. An abundance of wild oats is showing in some crops. Light infestations of flea beetles are present in most rapeseed crops, but damage so far has been negligible. Grasshopper eggs have started to hatch on light soils in the area and redbacked cutworms are present in some crops.

In the west-central part of the province at Rosetown, 98 per cent of the seeding has been completed, although some crops have been turned down on account of wild oats. Fall rye is looking good and summerfallow land is being worked for the first time. Good growth has been showing in both pastures and hayland. It has been very hot in the district for the past week and rain will be required soon, particularly on lighter soils. Farther north at Scott most cereal crops are now showing green and good stands of fall rye are now in head. Rapeseed is now emerging and flea beetles are numerous. It is expected spraying will be done to effect control. Most forage crops are badly in need of moisture and other crops could use generous amounts of rain. Approximately one-quarter of an inch of rain has been received since the beginning of June. Temperatures in the high 80's last week have caused some yellowing of crops.

In the vicinity of Melfort in the northeast part of Saskatchewan 90 per cent of the seeding has been completed, with the balance expected to be Polish type rapeseed and coarse grains, particularly barley. Heavy infestations of wild oats are common, and this has delayed seeding in many areas. Early-seeded wheat is six inches in height and uniform. Weed spraying is now under way. Hay and pasture crops are fair to good, but will need rain soon to maintain good growth.

In the northwest at Meota seeding is finished with growing conditions only fair as rain is needed. Pasture growth has been slow due to the hot, dry weather. It is expected that there will be a 50 per cent reduction in the area seeded to wheat, and large increases in acreages of rapeseed and barley. Summerfallows are being worked for the first time. Rainfall since April 1 has averaged 1.5 inches compared with the long-term average of 3.4 inches over the same period.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports a single hail storm so far this season on May 26 which caused some damage to fall rye crops at Pennant.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 15 per cent above normal, compared with 37 per cent above normal a week ago, 37 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 18 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 8 was 13.6 degrees above normal, in contrast to 6.8 degrees below normal a week ago, 0.7 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and compared with 4.4 degrees above normal for the week ending June 9, 1969.

ALBERTA

Hot, dry weather in Alberta is rapidly bringing seeding to completion. Seeding was complete in southeastern Alberta and the Peace River District by about June 1 and in central Alberta by about June 6. Sowing operations should be completed by June 15 for the entire province. Moisture conditions range from poor in southeastern Alberta, fair to good in the southwest and generally good in the remainder of the province. Many areas experienced winds and high temperatures last week resulting in depletion of surface moisture reserves and some wind erosion.

Drought conditions in southeastern Alberta at Manyberries have made crop prospects very serious. If there is no rain by July 1 many crops will be abandoned. Pastures are very poor and livestock will have to be fed if there is no rain within ten days. The water supply for livestock, however, is good in this area. Around Medicine

Hat seeding is now 100 per cent complete. Fall rye has now headed and is suffering from the drought condition which has become critical over the past week. Pastures are deteriorating rapidly. Germination of spring-sown crops has been good but growth has been slow due to lack of moisture. Livestock conditions remain good.

In the southwestern region around Lethbridge moisture conditions are becoming critical. High soil surface temperatures have caused deterioration in some cereals, flax and carrot crops. Winter wheat is starting to head and fall rye is headed but both require moisture to fill. Seeding of canning crops is near completion and stands are fair. An average crop of sugar beets is expected. Some wireworm and cutworm damage has been reported. At Cardston spring seeding is now completed and fall wheat is in the shot blade. Germination of spring grains is considered fair. Legume and grass seed germination is spotty. Field spraying for weeds is now in progress. Hay and grassland are showing signs of drought. Livestock are in fair condition. The weather continues warm and moisture supplies are poor. At Claresholm seeding is complete and the weather has been very warm with rain badly needed in most cases. Some ground has baked with the heat and germination of spring-sown grain is patchy. Rye and winter wheat have headed out, pastures are dry and the hay crop will be light.

In south-central Alberta the area around Brooks is extremely dry and many dry-land crops are showing poor growth as a result. Fall rye fields are suffering from lack of moisture and native ranges are very poor. Irrigated crops are behind due to the late spring. There are some very good fields of irrigated peas and irrigation canals are running to capacity. Livestock are in good condition. Seeding has been completed in the Vulcan area but some of the late-sown flax and rapeseed will not germinate until there is rain. The prolonged hot spell will have an effect on the fall rye crop which is now headed out. Pastures are also drying up rapidly. In the Calgary area seeding is now completed and the recent hot weather has badly depleted soil moisture. Rains are badly needed to ensure a good crop growth. Most crops are a week to ten days later than normal.

In northeast-central Alberta at Sedgewick hot weather and a lack of moisture combined with strong winds has depleted soil moisture. In the sandy soil zones the strong winds have destroyed some crops and some farmers are thinking of reseeding mustard and rapeseed crops to oats or barley. In the Vermilion area seeding is virtually complete. The area could use a good rain since topsoil has begun to erode. Early-seeded crops have emerged and are starting to show the effects of the heat and hot winds. Pasture and hay crops are in extremely poor condition and if rainfall is delayed yields will be drastically reduced.

In the central region around Stettler wheat seeding has been completed and rains are needed to promote growth in late-seeded grain crops. The weather has been very dry with strong drying winds. Germination is good on early-sown crops and subsoil moisture conditions remain good. Reports indicate that wheat acreage is unchanged from last year with an increase in barley and a decrease in oats. The area reports heavy wild oat infestation. Hay crops are generally good but are in need of rain.

In the northwest-central region our correspondent at Edmonton reports that only light scattered rainfall has been received this spring, with the result that crops and pastures got off to a slow start. Some wireworm damage has been reported. It is believed that some seeding of rapeseed remains to be done due to the dry surface conditions.

In the Red Deer area of west-central Alberta seeding is now 70 per cent complete. Two weeks of very warm and dry weather have allowed farmers to get a large number of acres seeded. Many areas are now dry and in need of a good rainfall. There are a few reports of cutworm activity. In the Lacombe area rainfall has been very uneven with 1.54 inches at Lacombe since April 1 compared to a normal of 3.97 inches. Early-sown cereals emerged well and are now in the four to five-leaf stage. Some later-sown crops may lack moisture for good germination. Hay and pasture lands are starting to deteriorate due to the dry conditions. At Eckville it is expected that seeding will be complete by June 12. Surface moisture reserves have been depleted and hay and pasture growth is slow. Cereal crops are still doing well but rain is needed for continued good growth.

In the northeastern region around Colinton 100 per cent of the wheat crop has now been sown with barley at 70 per cent, oats at 80 per cent, and rapeseed at 50 per cent. The balance of the oat crop will probably be put in as a cover crop with some forage stands after July 15 and cut as feed only. Rain is needed very badly as surface moisture reserves have dropped to 60 per cent on summerfallow land and 55 per cent on stubble. Subsoil moisture stands at 70 per cent on summerfallow lands and 65 per cent on stubble. Temperatures up to 90 degrees during the past few days have depleted soil moisture reserves very rapidly. Our correspondent reports that wheat acreage amounts to 50 per cent of last year, with oats increased to 110 per cent, barley increased to 125 per cent, flaxseed unchanged, and rapeseed increased to 145 per cent. Summerfallow acreage will be increased by 30 per cent. All forage stands are now up and only the lack of moisture is impeding their growth. If there is no rain in the next week to 10 days many farmers will be short of pasture.

In the Peace River District around Beaverlodge seeding of spring cereals is now complete. Very dry conditions prevail and grass seed crops are heading out approximately seven days early. Around Peace River cool conditions have prevailed except for three extremely hot days. Growth has been slow. Subsoil moisture is good but the topsoil is dry. Scattered showers are maintaining these moisture conditions. Wild oat problems have been reported in the area. Harvesting of overwintered crops was resumed after seeding operations had been completed. Wheat is now two to five inches high with no significant crop damage as yet.

The Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation reports that no hail storms of any significance have been reported to this date.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 43 per cent below normal as compared with 30 per cent below normal a week ago, 39 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 28 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 8, 1970 was 12.7 degrees above normal in contrast to 2.3 degrees below normal a week ago, 0.7 degree below normal two weeks ago and compared with 7.2 degrees above normal for the week ending June 7, 1969.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

At Victoria it has been warm and dry since June 1 following two weeks of cool and unsettled weather the last two weeks in May. Strawberry picking in commercial quantities started June 8. Crop prospects are average for apples. Prospects for cherry, plum and pear crops appear average to poor. Greenhouse tomato and cucumber crops are good with some blotchy ripening of tomatoes. Late potato planting is nearing completion, while early potato growth was delayed one week by the cooler weather. Forage crops are in need of rain.

Agassiz reports May weather slightly cooler than normal with less hours of sunshine. Very dry conditions prevailed over this period with three inches less rainfall in May than normal. Increased temperatures in June have benefited most crops. Cereal grains and pastures are in good condition. Excellent conditions prevail for hay making and corn production. Raspberry and strawberry yield estimates are up and lettuce harvest is under way. Early peas are expected by next week.

At Summerland warm weather has brought along all fruit crops. Picking of early cherries will commence next week. Prospects are good for all fruit crops. A large crop is expected in spite of reductions attributable to apple and cherry tree injury from the 1968-69 winter. Forage crops are suffering from the dry weather.

Vernon in the north Okanagan reports the dry spring permitted early completion of spring seeding. Hay and pasture growth was slow to the end of May but is now quite rapid. Non-irrigated cereals, hay and pastures require moisture. Fall wheat has headed out. The shortage of soil moisture is forcing spring cereals and field corn. Haying began June 1 with yields below average.

Reports from Smithers in the Skeena River Valley indicate the cool, wet spring in the Terrace area has delayed early planting of market gardens. The Lakes district and Bulkley Valley welcomed spring rain which resulted in excellent pasture growth. Cattle are in good condition and are on range pastures. Precipitation for the last month was 1.43 inches.

At Dawson Creek in the Peace River Block the latter part of May and first week in June were warm resulting in better than satisfactory growing conditions. Pastures are excellent and forage growth is good. There is no evidence of winterkill on present stands. New plantings of forages are well in hand and the grain acreage is practically all sown. A small acreage of vegetables is planted.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	week ending	
		8 a.m.	since	since	8 a.m.	
		June 8, 1970	April 1	April 1	1970	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	Nil	5.24	3.97	71	57
	Pierson	Nil	5.93	3.70	70	58
2	Baldur	Nil	6.45	3.87	70	58
	Pilot Mound	.01	6.10	3.83	68	58
3	Altona	.30	8.96	3.67	69	61
	Deerwood	Nil	6.94	3.77	70	60
	Graysville	N.R.	5.94(2)	3.43	N.R.	59
	Morden	.01	7.71	4.03	70	60
	Morris	Nil	6.25	3.35	70	60
	Portage la Prairie	.02	5.57	4.53	69	60
	Roland	.01	5.89	3.76	70	60
4	Stonewall	.07	5.77	3.85	67	58
5	Emerson	.17	9.64	3.66	68	60
	Steinbach	.02	7.29	3.65	67	59
	Winnipeg	.01	5.99	3.80	67	59
	Starbuck	.04	4.95	3.60	69	60
6	Pinewa	Nil	6.22	4.05	64	58
	Great Falls	.49	4.41	2.86	67	58
	Sprague	.28	8.17	3.95	62	57
7	Rivers	.01	3.45	3.51	70	58
	Virden	Nil	4.15	3.35	71	58
8	Brandon	Trace	3.13	3.79	69	58
	Cypress River	Trace	6.87	3.59	72	59
9	Gladstone	Trace	5.17	3.72	N.R.	58
10	Birtle	.05	5.18	3.42	69	57
	Rosburn	.04	4.49	3.23	70	56
	Russell	Nil	3.35	2.76	69	56
11	Dauphin	Trace	3.95	3.77	70	58
12	Arborg	Nil	4.28	3.57	64	57
	Gimli	Trace	3.71	3.69	67	57
13	Swan River	Nil	3.69	3.09	70	57
	The Pas	.08	3.89	3.15	66	55
14	Grass River	Nil	6.32	3.87	67	58
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.05	5.60	3.63	68.5	58.2

For footnotes, see page IV.

For footnotes, see page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m. June 8	
		Week ending 8 a.m. June 8, 1970	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	1970	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	Nil	7.24	2.98	67	57
	Estevan	Nil	6.33	3.33	69	58
	Oxbow	Nil	4.61	2.93	67	58
	Willmar	Nil	5.56	3.36	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.12	5.39	3.39	69	55
	Moosomin	.36	5.00	3.31	73	57
2A	Yellow Grass	Nil	7.19	3.02	70	58
	Weyburn	Nil	6.51	2.98	70	58
	Midale	Nil	6.90	2.92	69	59
2B	Moose Jaw	Trace	4.55	3.24	72	59
	Regina	Trace	3.77	3.07	70	58
	Francis	Nil	5.96	2.66	70	56
	Indian Head	Nil	7.11	3.04	70	57
3AS	Ormiston	Nil	2.63	3.18	71	58
	Cardross	Nil	2.42(2)	3.22	70	58
	Ceylon	Nil	7.40	3.25	70	57
3AN	Gravelbourg	Nil	4.18	2.71	71	58
3BS	Shaunavon	Nil	1.80	2.88	71	57
	Pambrun	Nil	2.10	3.06	71	57
	Aneroid	Nil	2.64	2.84	65	58
	Instow	N.R.	.84(2)	2.73	N.R.	57
	Swift Current	.16	2.72	3.19	71	57
3BN	Pennant	Nil	1.43	2.79	71	57
	Hughton	.01	2.18	2.52	73	58
	Maple Creek	Trace	1.78	2.80	73	59
4A	Consul	.10	.92(2)	2.37	68	57
	Leader	.04	1.73	2.42	72	59
5A	Cupar	Nil	3.91	2.93	71	57
	Balcarres	Nil	2.62	3.12	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	Nil	3.97	N.R.	70	N.R.
	Melville	Nil	4.18	N.R.	70	N.R.
	Yorkton	.01	3.15	2.99	71	57
	Bangor	Nil	4.83	3.29	71	58
	Wynyard	.15	4.54	3.20	71	56
	Foam Lake	N.R.	2.08(2)	3.33	N.R.	56
	Kuroki	N.R.	3.96(2)	3.33	N.R.	55
6A	Kamsack	Nil	Nil(2)	2.77	72	57
	Davidson	Nil	3.31	2.97	72	57
	Strasbourg	Nil	3.05	3.24	71	56
	Watrous	.10	2.58	2.66	71	57
6B	Harris	Nil	.85(2)	2.47	71	57
	Outlook	Trace	1.83	2.32	72	58

For footnotes, see page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m. June 8	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	1970	Normal
		8 a.m.	since	since		
		June 8, 1970	April 1	April 1		
					inches	degrees F.
<u>SASKATCHEWAN - Concluded</u>						
6B	Rosthern	N.R.	1.13(2)	2.26	N.R.	58
	Saskatoon	Nil	1.12	2.72	71	57
	Elbow	Nil	1.90	2.97	72	57
	Tugaske	Nil	2.56	3.05	71	57
	Dundurn	.15	2.11	2.37	72	57
7A	Alsask	N.R.	.27(2)	2.76	N.R.	58
	Kindersley	.01	1.28	2.07	72	57
	Rosetown	Trace	2.06	2.58	73	58
7B	Macklin	Nil	.60	2.44	68	56
	Denzil	.10	1.21	2.54	72	58
	Scott	Nil	1.08	2.83	69	56
	Biggar	Nil	1.87	2.68	72	57
8A	Hudson Bay	Nil	4.25	3.17	68	56
	Prairie River	Nil	2.76	3.36	65	55
8B	Humboldt	Trace	1.78	2.64	74	56
	Melfort	Nil	2.12	2.92	70	57
9A	North Battleford	.04	.89	2.58	73	57
	Victoire	Nil	1.39	2.86	72	55
	Prince Albert	.02	1.55	3.17	70	56
9B	Waseca	.31	.83(2)	2.80	70	55
	Meadow Lake	.87	1.49	2.89	71	54
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.04	3.33	2.89	70.6	57.0

ALBERTA

1	Empress	Nil	.75	2.55	75	58
	Foremost	Trace	1.85	3.10	72	57
	Manyberries	.03	1.60	2.73	71	58
	Medicine Hat	Nil	1.85	3.16	75	59
2	Brooks	Nil	1.71	2.97	71	58
	Hays	Trace	1.40	2.69	72	58
	Rainier	Nil	1.48	2.99	71	58
	Vauxhall	Trace	1.73	2.77	71	57
	Raymond	.07	2.75	3.80	69	58
	Lethbridge	Nil	2.20	4.10	71	57
	Trochu Equity	.24	3.15	3.30	N.R.	56
	Queenstown	Trace	3.43	3.63	72	57
3	Calgary	.21	2.35	4.17	68	54
	Cardston	Nil	4.27	4.56	67	55
	Pincher Creek	Nil	3.82	5.12	67	54
	Fort MacLeod	Nil	3.00	4.46	69	58

For footnotes, see page IV.



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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 8, 1970	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. June 8	
			inches		1970	Normal
						degrees F.
4	High River	N.R.	4.65(2)	4.68	N.R.	53
	Magrath	Nil	2.66	4.61	70	57
	Olds	.07	3.49	3.94	67	54
	Alliance	N.R.	1.65(2)	2.39	N.R.	56
	Coronation	Trace	1.66	2.44	70	55
	Hughenden	Trace	1.87	2.53	70	56
	Lloydminster	.17	1.93	2.59	71	56
	Stettler	.08	.98(2)	2.99	69	56
	Vegreville	.01	.92	2.74	71	55
	Ranfurly	.02	1.51	2.97	70	55
5	Vermilion	Trace	.93	2.50	68	55
	Edmonton	.03	1.18	3.59	67	56
	Lacombe	.02	1.53	4.01	67	55
	Red Deer	.04	1.95	3.63	66	55
	Rocky Mountain House	.34	2.68	4.44	65	53
6	Wetaskiwin	.05	1.62	3.59	69	55
	Campsie	.02	.53	3.33	65	54
	Edson	.34	2.48	3.82	62	53
	Elk Point	Nil	.45	2.71	69	54
	Lac la Biche	Nil	.86	2.95	66	56
7	Whitecourt	.01	.81	3.62	63	53
	Beaverlodge	.04	1.21	2.92	64	55
	Ft. Vermilion	N.R.	2.96(2)	2.28	N.R.	55
	Grande Prairie	.27	1.41	2.85	64	55
	High Prairie	Nil	1.22	2.90	63	56
	Peace River	.05	1.13	2.14	62	55
	Rycroft	N.R.	.19(2)	2.70	N.R.	55
	Wagner	Nil	1.62	2.85	63	53

ALBERTA AVERAGE

.05 1.87 3.29 68.3 55.6

(1) Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

(2) Incomplete; not included in average.

N.R. No report.