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## Field Crop Reporting Series - No. 7

### TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the second of the 1971 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 Maritime Provinces weather conditions have been wet. In Prince Edward Island our correspondent estimates that about 70 per cent of the potato crop has been planted, grain about 60 per cent and tobacco about 50 per cent. Indications are favourable for a good strawberry crop. The hay crop is about average and maturing earlier than usual. Pastures are in good condition. In general, the past month has been extremely wet in Nova Scotia and thus hindered planting up until last week. In the Annapolis Valley grain crops, which were seeded in early May, have had ideal growing conditions. Cereals and forages which survived the winter are growing well. In eastern Nova Scotia the above normal rainfall has drastically delayed spring planting and only about 20 per cent of the grain crop is in the ground. Forage crops came through the winter in excellent condition. In the Pictou County area, due to the wet weather, less than 10 per cent of the spring crop has been planted. Pasture and hay growth is excellent. Less than one quarter of the seeding has been done in western Nova Scotia; however, grass growth is very good. The Cumberland County area also received an excessive amount of rainfall and seeding was seriously delayed. In the Cape Breton region wet and cold weather curtailed planting. However, conditions have improved during the last few days. Hay and pastures are in good condition. The weather has also been very wet throughout New Brunswick. Bloom on apples was heavy and no significant frost damage has been evident to date. Strawberry fields are in good condition. Some frost was reported on the night of June 5 but damage is expected to be light. Early vegetable crops are reported as doing well. Forage crops continue to progress favourably after an early emergence from dormancy. It is expected that there will be some harvesting of hay or silage in the Moncton area this week. Early estimates indicate above average hay yields. Pastures are in good condition.

Agriculture Division,  
Crops Section

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Quebec. — Growers in the St. Jean District are making good progress with the seeding and planting of vegetables and crop growth is generally normal. The tobacco fields at L'Assomption suffered frost damage at the beginning of June. At Lennoxville in the Eastern Townships farmers have about 75 per cent of the grain crops already sown while reports from La Pocatiere indicate that seeding is almost finished there with dry conditions prevailing.

Ontario. — During the final week of May most areas of the province received sufficient moisture to temporarily alleviate the dry soil conditions. Cool, dry weather was widespread until the final week of the month allowing seeding to progress rapidly. Germination and plant growth have been slow. Pastures and hay fields are short. By June 1 the entire acreage of corn and soybeans had been seeded while nearly all spring grains were sown. Emergence of corn is just starting in most fields while most of spring grains are now two to three inches in height. Planting of flue-cured tobacco and processing tomatoes is nearing completion. Farmers welcomed the rain received during the evening of June 7.

Prairie Provinces. — Rains last weekend throughout the Prairie Provinces greatly improved moisture conditions and the crop outlook, particularly in the areas previously suffering from dry conditions. Cereal crops are emerging. Before the recent improvement in moisture supplies germination was spotty in some of the drier districts and it is expected that emergence will now be much more uniform. Farmers have most of their crops in the ground and work on summerfallow is under way in many areas. Since the rain, hay and pastures are showing improvement.

#### PLANT DISEASES AND GRASSHOPPERS

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station in Winnipeg reports that in the United States the northward spread of the cereal rusts was retarded by extremely dry conditions in the south. Light infections of wheat leaf rust are present in most fields of southern and central Kansas and in the eastern Nebraska. Traces of wheat stem rust have been found in Oklahoma and central Kansas. Recent weather has favoured rust development and there is time for inoculum to be produced for movement northward. All winter wheat, spring wheat and Durum wheat varieties grown north of Kansas are resistant to the most prevalent stem rust races. There is no report of oat stem or crown rust. A few leaf rust and stem rust spores have been found in spore traps in Western Canada but conditions have not favoured infection. Most of the crop in Western Canada has not advanced sufficiently to show rust infections and no rust has been reported.

The Leafhopper Vector, the causal agent of Aster Yellows, migrated into Manitoba by May 14. Preliminary testing indicates over five per cent of population is carrying the disease agent.

Grasshoppers commenced hatching the week of May 24 about three weeks earlier compared to the last several years. Conditions in the past two weeks have been most favourable for a uniform hatch and high survival of hatchlings. Populations sufficient to threaten economically significant damage were common throughout pastures in the Neepawa, Carberry and MacGregor districts of Manitoba. Rain during the past weekend will improve pasture conditions and reduce damage threat. Crop damage has occurred in the Arnaud district east of the Red River. At present, conditions favour a build-up of grasshopper populations in Manitoba during 1971.



British Columbia. — Continued cool weather with temperatures averaging five to eight degrees below normal have slowed crop development in most parts of the province. Precipitation has been adequate except in the Peace River Block where some late-seeded grain crops are showing spotty germination. In Central British Columbia, although rainfall has been light, soil moisture reserves appear adequate for present needs. In the Southern Interior fair to good soft fruit crops are in prospect although it is expected that cherry production will be smaller than usual. Vegetables are suffering from the lack of heat and are maturing about ten days later than normal. Grape development is described as fair to good and a better than average crop is anticipated. At the Coast vegetables are late but yields are generally satisfactory so far. Lettuce growers are now harvesting but warmer weather is needed to advance growth. Early potatoes should reach market before the end of this month and full volume is expected by early July. Berry crops are promising with fair to good sets of fruit reported in all areas; again the low temperatures are delaying maturity by up to ten days. Pastures in most areas are satisfactory and first crops of hay have been about average in quantity and quality. Greenhouse cucumbers and tomatoes are now at their peak with good yields and excellent quality reported.

#### MARITIME PROVINCES

In the Charlottetown area of Prince Edward Island warm, sunny weather is required for normal growth of all crops. Low lying fields are very wet. The winter wheat crop came through the winter in good condition but the crop is now heavily infected by mildew. Early potato plantings are now breaking through the ground. The strawberry crop wintered well and it is now approaching full bloom. Cherries reached full bloom on May 29 and the apple crop is presently in full bloom. The seeding of canning peas and corn for silage has been delayed due to the wet weather but planting of cole crops is presently underway. Pastures and meadows are making satisfactory growth except on low, wet areas. The winter survival of legumes was only fair on the more poorly drained soils. Warmer weather would help all crops.

In the O'Leary area cool and wet weather conditions are retarding progress. Practically all of the grain crop is in the ground and some is up on the drier land. Fodder corn has been seeded on the lighter soils and operations have begun on the heavier soils. The potato crop is about 60 per cent planted. Very little winterkill occurred to strawberries and alfalfa. Pasture growth is good.

In the Truro area of Nova Scotia seeding was delayed due to the cool, wet spring. Conditions have now somewhat improved and farmers are proceeding with seeding operations. About 80 per cent of the grain crops has been seeded and a slightly lower percentage of corn. This percentage is somewhat less in the low lying areas. Legume crops are in good condition and very little winter kill was sustained. Slight frost damage occurred to the blueberry crop; however, no damage occurred to strawberries. Pastures are in good condition.

In the Annapolis Valley at Kentville, wet weather received during the last half of May delayed all seeding operations. About 75 per cent of the seeding has now been completed but about 10 per cent of the land is still too wet for seeding. Well drained pastures and hay fields appear to be excellent. Early-seeded cereals and corn are very yellow. Winter cereals are in good condition and the fall rye has headed. The total rainfall for the month of May, in the Annapolis Valley, was more than double the 50-year average. Although the intervals of fine weather between

rainfalls were frequent they were too short for most soils to dry out sufficiently for cropping operations. Tobacco growers started transplanting during the early part of this week. Despite the wet weather a considerable acreage of grain and corn was seeded this week particularly on the lighter soils. Some of the dykeland is extremely wet and at the present time it appears doubtful whether much of this land will be seeded. Forage crops are growing very well.

In Cumberland County area excessive rainfall seriously delayed seeding operations. However, in spite of the high rainfall, total heat units to date are higher than normal. This combination has resulted in an excellent growth of grasses and legumes but has delayed seeding of grain and corn. Weather has somewhat improved during the last few days. Strawberry crops appear good and vegetable farmers were able to get some seeding done in spite of the wet weather. In eastern Nova Scotia only about 20 per cent of grain has been seeded. The heavy snowfall received during the winter helped forage crops to come through in excellent condition. Vegetable seeding has been somewhat delayed. Strawberry production will be good provided no severe frosts occur this month.

In Pictou County wet weather has delayed planting of spring crops. Early-sown spring grain is now above the ground but is showing the effects of excess moisture. It is estimated that less than 10 per cent of the spring crop has been planted. Some fields of early potatoes have been completely lost due to the abundance of moisture. There has been tremendous growth of hay and pasture fields. Throughout Cape Breton extremely wet and cold weather curtailed planting. However, improved conditions during the past few days have somewhat aided farmers. Pasture and hay crops appear very good.

From the Research Station at Fredericton, New Brunswick, early sown cereal crops appear promising. Corn crops germinated well but growth has been slow due to the cold weather. Frost received on June 6 damaged vegetable and strawberry blossoms but the full extent of the damage is not yet known. Soybeans have been slow in germinating. Grass and legume growth has been excellent and pastures are in very good condition. Fruit crops appear to be progressing favourably. All cattle were out on pastures approximately two weeks earlier than usual. The tobacco crop is currently being transplanted to the field although frost has been reported in the province, no damage has been done to this crop. Eighty-five to ninety per cent of the potatoes has been planted in the Perth area and with continued favourable weather, planting should be completed by the end of this week. Some early potatoes are already above the ground. Early-sown grain crops are now two to three inches in height. There is still a considerable acreage of grain crops to be sown. Grasses are making continued good growth and pastures are in good condition. The strawberry bloom was heavy; however, a frost on June 5 caused considerable damage in some areas.

#### QUEBEC

Tobacco growers started transplanting cigar tobacco at L'Assomption on May 26 and flue-cured tobacco at Lavaltrie on May 27. On June 1 temperatures fell to 23 degrees Fahrenheit, to 32 degrees on June 2, 25 degrees on June 5 and 27 degrees on June 6 which caused damage to tobacco plants which had been set out in the fields. As a result many of the crops in the district will have to be replanted. Reports from St. Jean indicate that the early carrots and onions have all been seeded. Eighty per cent of the celery and 20 per cent of the late carrots are also in the ground and progress is proceeding normally. Strawberry plantings are showing some insect damage and on raspberries mildew is starting to develop. Losses as a result



of cane breakage due to the heavy snow are estimated to be about 30 per cent. Apple orchards were about one week late in blossoming but warm weather from May 27 to 29 was favourable for pollination. It is expected that scab symptoms will soon appear following several periods favourable to the spread of this disease in May. Tent caterpillars have appeared in several orchards in the district.

As of June 8 farmers in the Lennoxville area had sown 75 per cent of grain crops with normal growth reported for corn and excellent development apparent in potato fields. Pastures are doing well. Dandelions are present everywhere and winter cress is spreading rapidly. The last killing frost occurred on May 24. Night time temperatures are low and soil conditions are good. Reports from La Pocatiere indicate that the seeding of grain crops and planting of potatoes has almost been completed. Hay and pastures are normal but crop germination and growth have been held back by dry weather conditions. Strawberries sustained a ten per cent loss due to late frosts.

#### ONTARIO

In Essex County of southern Ontario soil moisture supplies are adequate and a much needed warming trend has commenced. All corn and soybeans have been planted and emergence has occurred in most fields. Winter wheat has headed and it is anticipated that yields will be slightly below average. Haying operations have commenced and average yields are reported. Pastures are in poor condition. Crops in Kent County are now recovering from a prolonged drought. There has been considerable frost damage to vegetable crops. Virtually all soybeans and corn are now planted while wheat and barley are headed. In general, growth is about ten days later than normal. A report from the Entomological Laboratory indicates that some corn had to be replanted due to seed corn beetle damage. Cereal leaf beetles and alfalfa weevils are beginning to show up, while corn borer moths are beginning to appear in considerable numbers in the light traps. In Middlesex County crop emergence is uneven due to the long, dry spring. Planting operations are well ahead of schedule but the need for more moisture is acute. A much needed rain fell on Norfolk County on May 24 and many showers since then have provided optimum moisture conditions, however, low temperatures have retarded development of wheat, hay and pastures. Acreage of corn has been expanded considerably and the crop is developing well. Growth of spring grains is slow while transplanting of tobacco is almost completed. Strawberries have a heavy bloom. Insect activity is high in all crops as well as on ornamentals.

In Simcoe County of western Ontario most of the spring grains and corn have germinated in the northern part of the county but hay and pastures are still slow in development. Haying operations are expected to commence within the next ten days. Warm weather and frequent showers are the principal requirements at present. Growing conditions have been good in Bruce County during the past week due to recent showers. Seeding of spring grains is completed but emergence is patchy on clay soils. Corn is about 90 per cent seeded and only a few fields are showing above ground. The fall wheat crop looks good. Haying operations will get under way in a week to ten days. Fall wheat looks good and is about ten inches in height. Nearly one inch of rain fell on Waterloo County on May 24 and although this was very beneficial more moisture is now needed. Most spring grains have made good growth but legume crops are about one week behind normal. The corn crop is doing well although germination was poor in some areas due to the dry weather. In Wellington County moisture supplies are still

deficient in most areas. Spring grains and corn have shown considerable improvement due to last week's showers. Alfalfa stands are showing good growth but grass is short. Haylage operations have commenced while general haying will commence by about June 14. Some damage from alfalfa weevils is reported in southern areas of the county. Seeding of spring grains and corn has been completed in Halton County. Grass growth has been slow and uneven but has improved considerably due to recent rains. However, both hay and pastures are shorter than normal. Haying operations will commence in about one week.

In Peterborough County of central Ontario recent rains have helped germination of later seeded crops and corn. Some corn fields are now two to three inches in height. Most hay crops are slightly shorter than normal due to the dry conditions; however, farmers are preparing to commence haylage operations next week. Some alfalfa weevil larvae have been noticed this week.

Seeding of spring grains is nearly completed in Leeds County of eastern Ontario. Early-sown fields of corn have germinated and are doing well. However, warmer weather accompanied by showers is urgently needed for all crops. In Renfrew County the weather was very dry during May and enabled farmers to complete seeding operations at the usual time. However, the dry soil has caused germination to be quite uneven and rain is badly needed for all crops including hay and pastures. Corn seeding was completed early and this crop has made good growth.

A report from Kapuskasing in northern Ontario indicates that most cereals were sown in the first week of May but the following two weeks of wet, cold weather delayed seeding. Recent dry weather has permitted completion of seeding. Although pastures and hay fields are coming along well the dry conditions are presently retarding growth. Winter rye is starting to head. Winterkilling of legumes is reported to be about average. In the Thunder Bay district the weather has been generally sunny and warm with only a few scattered showers. Seeding operations are progressing well and should be generally completed by the end of this week.

#### MANITOBA

At Altona seeding is now virtually completed. There is considerable weed growth but spraying is now general. There is an increasing need for rain and recent scattered thundershowers have given only limited relief. High winds and dust storms have given rise to visibility problems during late seeding. A small amount of flea beetle damage is reported on rapeseed crops.

In southwestern Manitoba at Melita seeding is complete except for a few low fields. Crop emergence is good to excellent and spraying of wild oats and other weeds has now started. Precipitation during the past week amounted to one to two inches and surface moisture is adequate at this time. Pasture and hay growth is fair to good.

Rain last weekend put a halt to seeding operations at Beausejour. Flood damage due to excessive rain immediately north of Beausejour has been reported. A small percentage of the flax and buckwheat remains to be seeded. Crops are progressing well and are generally in the emergence to three-leaf stage. Wild oats infestations are heavy and some flea beetle damage is present in rapeseed. In the Selkirk area seeding is 90 per cent completed. Most of the seeded crop has germinated and is growing well but weed and wild oat growth is heavy. Dry weather during the past three weeks was retarding the growth of germinated crops but a 1.7 inches rain during the past



week provided relief. Hay crops are growing well and cutting should start in two weeks' time. At Stonewall much of the seeding has been completed and recent rain may delay final operations but will aid in crop growth. Pastures and hay crops are good. Seeding in the Portage La Prairie area is 95 per cent completed. Due to timely and adequate rains on June 5 and 6 crops are doing well. Flax acreage is lower than expected. Pastures are good, hay crops are average but there are some weed problems in forage crops.

At Brandon seeding is complete except for a few low lying areas. Germination has been prompt and uniform. Recent rain will be most beneficial to grain crops and to pasture which had begun to deteriorate. Spraying for wild oats is now under way and crop prospects are excellent at this time. Seeding operations in the Virden area progressed very quickly last week and are presently 85 to 90 per cent completed. Heavy rains last Friday and Saturday prevented any further seeding but early sown crops are doing well. Insect activity appears to be heavier than normal. Pastures and haylands are progressing satisfactorily.

In the Interlake District at Teulon all seeding is completed and two inches of rain improved all crops. Spraying for wild oats has begun and spraying for broad leaf weeds will probably commence next week. In the north at Arborg a needed rain fell over the weekend varying from three-quarters to one inch. Pastures were beginning to suffer but both perennial grasses and seeded grain crops have already shown a response to the rain. Seeding is completed except for the odd field that was delayed while waiting for a growth of wild oats.

At Shoal Lake in the western part of the province seeding is nearing completion. Approximately three and one-half inches of rain fell over the weekend. This should aid hay growth which has been slow. There is a small acreage of sunflowers being grown in this area this year. Fall rye is in the shot blade stage but is short because of the hot, dry weather during May. The Russell area received two to four inches of rain recently. Early crops are up but germination is uneven and about five per cent of the crop remains to be seeded. In some cases fall rye crops are in shot blade and starting to head out. Forage crops will be short. Crop spraying for weed control is under way and some damage due to cutworms has been reported. There have also been some reports of sweet clover weevils. As yet there has been very little flea beetle damage to rapeseed crops.

In the northwest of the province at Dauphin seeding is 95 per cent completed. A three and one-half inch rainfall over the weekend has changed the crop outlook from one of doubt to very promising. Germination and growth should be excellent and pastures and hay crops will be greatly improved. Wet fields will delay seeding operations. Rains last weekend have greatly improved the moisture situation in the Swan River area. Some seeding of barley and rapeseed will probably take place this week. Flea beetles have been troublesome on rapeseed. General conditions have improved but hay crops are short.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 24 per cent above normal, compared with 8 per cent above normal a week ago, 31 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 54 per cent above normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending June 7 was 5.2 degrees above normal in contrast to 0.7 degree below normal a week ago, 4.5 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 10.3 degrees above normal for the week ending June 8, 1970.

SASKATCHEWAN

Good rains covered most of the province last weekend. Our correspondent estimates seeding is practically completed, however, flax and special crop areas are still to be seeded and more rapeseed is expected to be planted following the recent rain. Hay and pastures were set back by the earlier dry spell but are now recovering. The recent rains have much improved the outlook for crops especially in the north-east. Approximately two-thirds of the crops have now emerged. First operations on summerfallow are now 70 per cent completed.

In the southeast part of the province at Willmar 1.83 inches of rain were reported since April 1 with one inch over this past weekend. Forage crops and pastures were in need of this rain. Seeding in the area is completed and fall rye is in head. Crops have emerged rapidly but will require spraying. A good kill on wild oats is reported this year. Our correspondent at Yellow Grass reports one-half inch of precipitation over the weekend. Subsoil moisture is good but more surface moisture is needed. Crops in this area have germinated fairly well with a large increase in acreage of barley, wheat and some special crops. There has been an increase in spraying operations with a heavy infestation of wild oats and other weeds. First summerfallowing operations are now completed. In the Fillmore District seeding is now completed and heavy rains have delayed summerfallowing. Some low lying areas are flooded due to the recent rains. Rye is now heading. Some early sown crops are infested with wild oats. Pasture and hay fields are improving following the recent rains. To the north at Indian Head 1.15 inches of rain received during the past weekend gave a boost to the new crop. Some late seeded crops were slow emerging but are now growing rapidly following the rain. All seeding in the area is completed and early seeded crops which are six to eight inches high have started to stool. Summerfallow operations are in full swing and most farmers have completed their first tillage. Spraying operations are under way and weed growth is fairly heavy on many farms. Wild oats are particularly heavy. No major soil drifting has occurred in this area. Pasture and hay fields are responding to recent rains and making good growth; however, the hay crop will be light due to the dry weather in May.

At Big Beaver in the south-central area two inches of rainfall were reported since April 1. One-half to one inch of rain was received this past weekend. Pasture lands are in poor condition due to the earlier dry weather. There is not expected to be any hay taken off in this area this year. First summerfallow operations are now completed but early seeded crops require spraying.

In the Southwest part of the province at Val Marie crops appear to be coming on well with wheat, barley and oats averaging five inches in height. Alfalfa fields are in excellent condition but Prairie lands are dry. Cattle are in good condition. Sunflowers are emerging in this area but stands appear to be thin. Moisture is required immediately. Reports from Eastend indicate seeding is completed in this district. One-quarter to one inch of rain was received recently which was needed badly for pastures and crops in the extreme southwest part of the province. Sunflowers have made a good start and rye is in head. In the area around Swift Current seeding is completed and emergence has been good. Weed growth is also vigorous. Some 0.6 inch of rain fell on June 6 temporarily alleviating serious drought; but more rain will be needed shortly. Pasture growth was virtually halted prior to this rain and a light hay crop is indicated. No losses from wind or insect damage are reported to date. At Endeavour in the east-central part of the province all seeding is completed but germination was spotty due to the prolonged dry spell. Rain the



past weekend changed this situation. Spraying of wild oats is just about completed and chemical control of broad leaf weeds is about to begin. Hay crops and native pastures are greatly improved. Rainfall since April has been 2.7 inches.

At Drake in central Saskatchewan winds on May 28 caused considerable soil erosion. Some rapeseed acreage will require reseeding. Pastures are short and the hay crop is not promising because of the drought. Late-sown grain is emerging unevenly. Seeding is complete except for the acreage to be reseeded. This district received its first rain last weekend and moisture is now considered adequate. At Craik one inch of rain on June 6 aided the pastures and hay crops and will also help fall rye. Other grains in this district were not short of moisture and most cereals except late sown oats and barley are showing well. Around Saskatoon recent rain amounting to 1.2 inches has improved crop prospects. Grains are all up and growing well. Fall rye is in head and pastures are much improved following rain. Cutworm and grasshopper damage is reported in some crops. Flea beetles are present in some rapeseed fields but damage is light.

In the west-central part of the province at Rosetown some crops are being turned down because of the heavy infestation of wild oats. Seeding is 99 per cent completed in this area. Fall rye, pasture land and hay are in only fair condition. Some flea beetle damage is reported here. Very little spraying has been done to date. Three-quarter inch of rain fell in this area this past week. At Scott 1.16 inches of rain since our last report have greatly improved crop conditions. Late seedings are just emerging and early crops are approaching the spraying stage. Good stands of fall rye are now heading. Moisture is insufficient for much improvement in forage crops but pastures are showing some progress. First summerfallow operations are nearly complete. No frost injury has been reported in this area to date.

In the vicinity of Melfort in northeast part of Saskatchewan 1.6 inches of rain last week greatly improved the crop outlook and revived hay and pasture crops. Seeding is completed in this area except for a few isolated fields. Germination of early seeded fields is uniform with stands up to six inches. Late-seeded grain is spotty due to drought at seeding. Flea beetles are attacking rapeseed in many districts and spray control is now under way.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports a light hail storm on May 22 in the Yellow Grass area. A heavy hail storm May 27 in the area of Coleville, Dodsland, McGee, and Feudal caused some damage to buildings but only fall rye in the Dodsland area was reported damaged.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 10 per cent below normal, compared with 45 per cent below normal a week ago, 47 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 15 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 7 was 3.6 degrees above normal in comparison to 4.4 degrees above normal a week ago in contrast to 2.9 degrees below normal two weeks ago and compared with 13.6 degrees above normal for the week ending June 8, 1970.

#### ALBERTA

Seeding is virtually completed in Alberta except for some barley, rapeseed and green feed. Rains June 4 to June 7 fell over the entire province and greatly improved moisture conditions especially in central Alberta and the Peace River District.

Hay and pasture fields were slow in starting and germination of most crops had been uneven but recent rains should bring them along.

Rain of one to three inches in the area around Medicine Hat on the weekend has considerably improved crops, pastures, ranges and hayland. Fall rye is headed but short in some localities. Early crops are six to eight inches in height. Crop prospects are generally good at the moment. Livestock is reported in good condition and calving is completed.

In the southwestern region around Lethbridge moisture conditions and crop growth are excellent. Rye is heading and winter wheat is in early boot. Summerfallowing is well under way and canning crop growth is good. There are some reports of cutworm and wireworm damage. At Cardston seeding of all grains is 85 per cent completed. Germination to date is very good, and some fields are entering the shot blade stage. Spraying of early crops is now completed. Hay and pasture lands are in good condition with vigorous grass growth. In the area around Claresholm some seeding of flax and rape is still to be completed. The hay crop is looking better and pastures are good. Fall wheat and rye are heading. Weeds are presenting a problem.

At Brooks in south-central Alberta all crops and pasture are showing good growth. Wild oats are the main weed problem. Many farmers in the area are irrigating. Ninety-nine per cent of the seeding has been completed in the Vulcan area and crops are germinating well. Pasture and hay lands are reported in good condition.

Seeding will be completed shortly in the southwest-central part of the province around Calgary. Surface and subsoil moisture are good due to the recent two inches of rainfall. At Olds, recent rains greatly improved germination as well as pasture and grassland growth. Wild oat growth is reported as good but spraying has been delayed due to wet weather. In northeast-central Alberta at Vermilion seeding is almost completed. Pastures and cropland were exceptionally dry before the recent timely rainfall. Crops are now up about four to six inches. Wild oats are a serious problem this year.

In the central region around Stettler seeding of all crops is now completed except for a small percentage of coarse grains for seed and some rapeseed. Good germination is reported in all areas due to a good general rain over the past weekend. In the northwest-central region our correspondent at Edmonton reports that seeding is nearly completed. All crops are germinating and growing well with sufficient moisture due to the recent rains. Forage and pasture stands are greatly improved. Wild oats are becoming quite a problem on some fields. At present most stock is out on pasture. At Red Deer about 85 per cent of the seeding is completed. Recent rain will give cereal crops a good start but it may have been too late for optimum hay yields. In the area around Lacombe cereals look very good. Hay has been set back by dry weather and will require more moisture. At Eckville seeding is nearly completed except for barley which has been delayed four or five days due to recent rains. Most crops are up but some uneven germination is reported due to an earlier lack of moisture. Summerfallow is in fair condition.

Bonnyville reports receiving two inches of rain in the past two weeks. Hay and pasture crops are in excellent condition. The grain crop is growing well. Seeding is about 60 per cent completed.



In the Peace River District around Beaverlodge forage crops are developing well. Some fields intended for seed production in 1972 are being ploughed down due to faulty establishment in 1970 and dry conditions during the spring of 1971. Grass seed crops are heading better than normal. Moisture of up to one inch was received during the last three days and has significantly relieved drought conditions. Seeding of rape and barley is now in progress. Around Peace River early seeded crops are fair but late seeded crops are poor as the area is in need of rain. At Fort Vermilion topsoil conditions are very dry. Wheat, oats and barley are 90 per cent seeded with rape-seed 70 per cent. Pasture conditions are fair to good.

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

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 14 per cent below normal compared with 38 per cent below normal a week ago, 42 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and 43 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 7 was 2.3 degrees above normal, compared with 4.3 degrees above normal a week ago, in contrast to 0.7 degree below normal two weeks ago and compared with 12.7 degrees above normal for the week ending June 8, 1970.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

The weather during May was for the most part dry, warm and windy at Saanichton in Southern Vancouver Island. Since early June skies have been cloudy with cool temperatures and showers. On June 6 strawberry picking started with light yields reported. Loganberries are in bloom and a good crop is in prospect. Most apple varieties are showing a heavy set. Greenhouse tomatoes and cucumbers are now available in volume with quality high and prices good. However, some problems are reported with root rot and mildew. At Agassiz in the Lower Fraser Valley, unseasonably low temperatures since May 25 have delayed strawberry ripening and as a consequence picking is being held up by two weeks' time. Considerable hay spoilage has occurred but hay silage making is now general. Corn crops have been delayed by cool temperatures but pastures are excellent.

In the South Okanagan apricots, peaches, and pears have set well while cherry prospects are variable. The apple set is also very variable and total production may be down in this area. Although some vineyards suffered winter damage total grape yields should be sustained. In the North Okanagan weather conditions have been cool and very wet during the past two weeks. Moisture supplies are excellent and the growth of hay is heavy but one week later than usual. Although some farmers have started haying operations, conditions are still too wet. Grain crops, field corn, peas, hay, pasture and range growth are all good but warm, sunny weather is needed.

Our correspondent at Prince George reports that the last three weeks have been hot in the day time and cool at night and the lack of any substantial rainfall had threatened a good forage crop. Farmers in the district have seeded barley and oats acreages for both silage and grain and potatoes and vegetables have also been planted. Pasture and range growth was slow until the end of May but conditions have now improved and all stock are now out. Substantial rains during the past few days helped forage growth and indications are that reasonable crops of both hay and silage are assured. At Smithers spring temperatures were lower than usual but forage crops are progressing quite well. Recent warm weather has advanced the hay crops considerably and seeding of oats and barley has been completed. At Fort St. John in the Peace River Block a recent rainfall of 1.0 to 1.5 inches has relieved the drought conditions of the past two months.

Nearly all the seeding has been completed and the emergence of new seedlings, including grass crops, is sporadic due to the drought. However deep rooted perennials, other than those sown in 1970 are doing well and it is anticipated that the other crops will recover.



Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m. June 7	
		Week ending 8 a.m. June 7, 1971	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	1971	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	1.45	5.72	3.86	64	56
	Pierson	1.01	4.86	3.60	63	58
2	Baldur	1.42	6.46	3.77	64	58
	Pilot Mound	.78	5.03	3.73	62	58
3	Altona	.17	1.68	3.58	67	60
	Deerwood	N.R.	4.38(2)	3.68	N.R.	60
	Gravsville	.63	4.87	3.34	63	58
	Morden	.39	2.47	3.94	66	60
	Morris	.63	2.80	3.26	66	60
	Portage la Prairie	.67	4.94	4.40	64	60
	Roland	.52	2.40	3.66	64	60
4	Stonewall	1.04	5.05	3.74	64	58
5	Emerson	.46	2.46	3.57	66	59
	Steinbach	.94	3.18	3.56	64	58
	Winnipeg	1.14	5.31	3.70	64	58
	Starbuck	1.93	6.03	3.51	64	60
6	Pinawa	.97	4.72	2.21	63	56
	Great Falls	N.R.	2.00(2)	2.79	N.R.	58
	Sprague	.85	4.43	3.87	61	57
7	Virden	1.13	3.84	3.24	63	58
8	Brandon	1.29	4.68	3.69	59	58
	Cypress River	1.21	7.19	3.48	63	58
9	Gladstone	N.R.	2.66(2)	3.60	N.R.	57
10	Birtle	2.74	4.69	3.29	60	56
	Rosburn	2.87	5.00	3.04	61	56
	Russell	2.82	4.27	2.67	61	56
11	Dauphin	3.49	4.96	3.65	63	58
12	Arborg	1.04	4.13	3.47	61	57
	Gimli	1.65	4.79	3.59	63	57
13	Swan River	2.22	3.62	3.00	62	57
	The Pas	.01	1.39	3.07	62	55
14	Grass River	N.R.	N.R.	3.76	N.R.	57
MANITOBA AVERAGE		1.27	4.32	3.48	63.1	57.9

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.	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since	Normal since	June 7	
		June 7, 1971	April 1	April 1	1971	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
<b>SASKATCHEWAN</b>						
1A	Carlyle	.17	5.69	2.89	62	56
	Estevan	1.62	4.06	3.22	62	58
	Oxbow	N.R.	2.68(2)	2.84	N.R.	56
	Willmar	.15	2.29	3.26	N.R.	56
1B	Broadview	1.24	2.85	3.26	60	55
	Moosomin	2.61	5.15	3.20	61	57
2A	Yellow Grass	.60	2.15	2.93	60	57
	Weyburn	.76	2.06	2.88	62	58
	Midale	1.03	2.27	2.84	66	58
	Amulet	.56	2.10	N.R.	62	N.R.
2B	Moose Jaw	.44	1.61	3.15	62	58
	Regina	.35	1.49	2.98	61	58
	Francis	1.89	2.68(2)	2.58	59	55
	Indian Head	1.15	2.50	2.94	58	57
3AS	Ormiston	.32	1.22	3.08	60	57
	Cardross	N.R.	.81(2)	3.11	N.R.	57
3AN	Gravelbourg	.51	1.48	2.64	60	58
3BS	Shaunavon	.64	2.75	2.80	58	57
	Pambrun	N.R.	N.R.	2.98	N.R.	57
	Aneroid	1.15	2.94	2.77	57	57
	Instow	.62	3.11(2)	2.65	55	56
3BN	Swift Current	.61	1.68	3.10	58	56
	Pennant	1.01	2.01	2.72	58	57
	Hughton	.50	1.83(2)	2.46	62	57
4A	Maple Creek	N.R.	1.82(2)	2.73	N.R.	59
	Consul	.50	1.87	2.30	53	56
4B	Leader	1.15	2.76	2.36	60	58
5A	Cupar	1.90	2.80	2.85	60	57
	Balcarres	1.66	2.25	3.01	N.R.	57
	Lipton	1.49	2.48	2.63	60	57
	Melville	3.65	4.51	N.R.	60	N.R.
	Yorkton	1.76	2.32	2.90	61	56
	Bangor	.94	2.34(2)	3.19	60	57
5B	Wynyard	3.14	3.53	3.12	62	52
	Foam Lake	2.33	2.73	3.24	59	55
	Kuroki	N.R.	.42(2)	3.24	N.R.	55
6A	Kamsack	2.17	3.20	2.68	61	56
	Davidson	N.R.	.49(2)	2.88	N.R.	56
	Strasbourg	1.44	2.86	3.14	62	56
	Watrous	1.73	2.77	2.59	60	56

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 7, 1971	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. June 7	
					1971	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
<u>SASKATCHEWAN - Concluded</u>						
6A	Liberty	1.60	2.82	N.R.	57	N.R.
6B	Harris	1.20	2.39	2.41	59	57
	Outlook	1.44	1.99	2.25	60	58
	Rosthern	N.R.	N.R.	2.21	N.R.	58
	Saskatoon	1.22	2.26	2.65	61	57
	Elbow	1.14	1.61	2.89	60	57
	Tugaske	1.66	2.66	2.96	61	57
	Dundurn	1.83	3.13	2.31	61	57
7A	Kindersley	.23	1.52	2.01	60	57
	Rosetown	.95	2.00	2.51	59	57
7B	Macklin	.80	1.41	2.37	60	56
	Denzil	1.50	2.86	2.48	60	57
	Scott	.64	1.92	2.76	59	56
	Biggar	.71	2.04	2.60	60	57
8A	Hudson Bay	1.15	2.42	3.09	63	55
	Prairie River	N.R.	.65(2)	3.27	N.R.	55
8B	Humboldt	1.93	2.86	2.56	59	56
	Melfort	1.58	1.87	2.84	60	56
9A	North Battleford	.80	2.09	2.51	62	56
	Victoire	N.R.	.95(2)	2.79	N.R.	54
	Prince Albert	1.11	1.68	3.10	60	56
9B	Waseca	N.R.	.84(2)	2.73	N.R.	55
	Meadow Lake	.40	3.00	2.81	62	53
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		1.20	2.51	2.80	60.1	56.5
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Empress	.34	1.09	2.47	60	58
	Foremost	1.83	3.85	3.01	66	57
	Manyberries	2.33	4.69	2.67	64	57
	Medicine Hat	.97	3.08	3.08	59	59
2	Brooks	1.08	3.39	2.90	58	57
	Hays	N.R.	N.R.	2.62	N.R.	58
	Rainier	N.R.	N.R.	2.92	N.R.	58
	Vauxhall	1.15	3.39	2.70	57	56
	Raymond	2.07	5.20	3.73	55	58
	Lethbridge	.93	3.71	4.01	54	56
	Trochu	2.40	3.63	3.24	N.R.	55
	Queenstown	1.17	2.88	3.55	55	56

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	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 7, 1971	since April 1	since April 1	June 7 1971	Normal
			inches			degrees F.
ALBERTA - Concluded						
3	Calgary	2.53	3.88	4.05	54	53
	Cardston	1.38	6.14	4.45	52	55
	Pincher Creek	1.07	5.26	4.99	53	53
	Fort MacLeod	1.95	4.63	4.35	55	57
	High River	2.20	5.23	4.57	52	52
	Magrath	N.R.	N.R.	4.50	N.R.	57
4	Olds	2.21	3.29	3.84	54	53
	Alliance	.73	2.22	2.33	57	56
	Coronation	.95	2.76	2.37	57	55
	Hughenden	.83	2.83	2.47	57	55
	Lloydminster	.36	1.60	2.51	60	56
	Stettler	.66	1.02	2.89	53	56
	Vegreville	.53	1.62	2.66	58	55
	Ranfurly	1.03	1.03(2)	2.90	58	55
	Vermilion	.44	1.26	2.43	59	55
	Edmonton	.79	1.37	3.49	58	56
5	Lacombe	.96	1.38	3.91	56	55
	Red Deer	1.36	1.85	3.53	56	54
	Rocky Mountain House	1.91	3.69	4.33	55	52
	Wetaskiwin	1.00	1.55	3.51	55	55
	Campsie	.98	1.53	3.25	57	54
6	Edson	1.09	2.68	3.71	57	53
	Elk Point	.14	2.29	2.63	59	54
	Lac la Biche	.13	1.65	2.86	59	55
	Whitecourt	2.60	4.61	3.54	58	53
7	Beaverlodge	.82	1.41	2.85	59	54
	Ft. Vermilion	nil	.79	2.22	64	55
	Grande Prairie	.17	.90	2.77	62	55
	High Prairie	.40	2.27	2.83	60	54
	Peace River	.22	1.17	2.08	62	55
	Wagner	.46	1.85	2.78	60	53
ALBERTA AVERAGE		1.10	2.76	3.22	57.5	55.2

(1) Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

(2) Incomplete; not included in average.

N.R. No report.