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### Crop Reporting Series — No. 18

### TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT — CANADA

This is the last of the 1971 series of six telegraphic reports, issued by Statistics Canada, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the last 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 Prince Edward Island weather conditions have been satisfactory for harvesting all crops. Approximately 50 per cent of the grain crop is harvested with yields and quality generally good. Tobacco picking is approximately 65 per cent completed. Although general harvesting of potatoes has not begun, the crop is developing quite well and a reasonable yield is anticipated. In Nova Scotia excessive rain in August caused considerable damage, especially in the Annapolis Valley. Harvesting of cereals is well under way with some areas reporting up to 50 per cent completed. Harvesting of silage corn has just started and yields are expected to be average. The blueberry harvest is now completed with a below average crop in most districts. Most areas, with the exception of the Annapolis Valley report satisfactory vegetable yields, but some areas report a smaller potato crop. In New Brunswick picking of Melba and Joyce apples will be completed this week. Picking of Lobo will commence this week, while the McIntosh harvest should start next week. While the colour is good, some growers report that apples are not sizing properly. Potatoes, tomatoes, rutabagas, cabbage, squash, corn and cucumbers are in abundant supply and carrots are now being harvested in bulk for prepackaging. Yields and quality of all vegetables are above average.

Agriculture Division  
Crops Section

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Quebec. — The past three weeks have brought heavy and frequent rains to almost all parts of Quebec. Although farmers have now most of the hay in, weather conditions made curing difficult. Yields varied from poor to good and in several areas a second cut is being harvested. Grain growers are making good progress with harvesting in the Montreal district and in the south and southwest of the province. Elsewhere, progress is being delayed as a result of the heavy rains. In several districts lodging is reported in grain crops and early frosts on the nights of August 24 and 25 caused some damage. Grain yields are quite variable.

Ontario. — Recent rains have improved the fall pasture outlook to some extent but rainfall is still badly needed in most southern Ontario counties. The rains have enabled many farmers to cultivate for winter wheat and planting is well under way. Although harvesting of spring grains is virtually finished, rain has delayed its completion. Ensiling of corn is getting under way in all corn growing counties. Harvesting of grain corn will probably commence during the final week of September. At least 60 per cent of the total tobacco acreage has been harvested and yields and quality have been good. Losses due to hail and wind damage on August 23 may reach two million pounds. Soybeans and white beans are maturing well but yields are expected to be down from last year due to dry growing conditions. Some white beans have been harvested. Tomatoes are still being harvested in volume while the picking of Bartlett pears and fresh market grapes has just begun. Early McIntosh apples are now being picked and green onion harvesting is continuing.

Prairie Provinces. — Harvesting is generally well advanced in Manitoba, southwestern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. Elsewhere swathing and combining are under way and it is estimated that a further two to three weeks of favourable weather will see the 1971 harvest completed. Heavy winds in southern Saskatchewan last Saturday shelled standing grain and scattered swaths. Good yields are general in Manitoba and throughout most of Saskatchewan while in Alberta there is more variability. In northern Saskatchewan the extent of losses in rapeseed due to the armyworm infestation are becoming evident.

British Columbia. — For the last month British Columbia has experienced cooler weather with some precipitation. Some hail and wind damage is reported in the Okanagan Valley. Lower mainland blueberry growers are experiencing difficulties in harvesting their crop due to the unusually late season. The harvest is at least three weeks later than last year and some concern is being felt about the possibility of some of the crop not ripening in time. Vegetable harvesting is continuing normally and the lettuce crop, which suffered earlier in the hot weather, is again in good condition. Table corn is available in quantity and onions and carrots as well as cool season crops are being harvested. Tomatoes and peppers are in good supply in the Interior. In the Peace River Block seed growers have finished harvesting of the fescue and brome grass seed crops but clover seed harvesting has been delayed. Harvesting of barley and rapeseed has also been delayed, due to rain.

#### MARITIME PROVINCES

The Experimental Farm at Charlottetown reports that harvesting of early seeded cereals is now complete, while the later sown grains are approaching maturity. Three weeks of fine weather followed hurricane Beth, fall ploughing is well under way with some winter cereals now planted. Corn is maturing well and silo filling will begin next week. Harvesting of the blueberry crop is complete with an average yield reported. The Research Station at Charlottetown reports that grain harvesting is half completed with yields of oats and barley below average, while average yields were received from winter wheat. The tobacco crop is now 60 per cent harvested. Killing of potato



Foliage is common and average yields are anticipated with no blight damage to the tubers reported. The broccoli harvest is progressing with good yields and quality. Harvesting of a light crop of blueberries is now completed. Pastures are excellent where fertilized. Below average yields and low quality corn for silage are anticipated.

In the Truro area of Nova Scotia dry weather the past couple of weeks has permitted harvesting of about 80 per cent of the cereal grains. Harvesting of corn for silage is now in progress with better than average yields reported. Potatoes and vegetable crops are showing above average yields. The blueberry crop, which is now complete, was not as heavy as originally expected. In the Annapolis Valley our correspondent at Kentville indicates that apple pests have not been generally serious. The apple rush mite is an exception and outbreaks have occurred requiring special treatments. Coddling and apple maggot continue to be problems. The incidence of apple scab is notably higher than in recent years due to the very long wet periods during the growing season. The yields from low bush blueberries were much lower than expected in the early summer. The excessive rainfall of 11.4 inches during August caused considerable crop damage in the Annapolis Valley.

In New Brunswick near Fredericton potato harvesting is under way with good yields reported but the blight index is rising due to wet weather. Pastures are in good condition and truck crop vegetables are plentiful. Insect activity has been light although the Colorado potato beetle is still noticeable. In the Perth area fine weather has enabled farmers to make good progress with the grain harvest and excellent yields of good quality are reported. Harvest of the late potato crop began this week by most growers. However, some late varieties will not be harvested for two weeks. Some growers are allowing extra time for sizing of tubers and a good quality crop is anticipated. Pastures are holding up well and a good crop of after grass is evident. Some fall ploughing is already completed on fields where peas and beans have been taken off.

#### QUEBEC

Except for the Montreal district, the south and the southwest of the province, wet conditions are in some cases making it difficult for farmers to get on the land with heavy machinery with the result that the harvesting is delayed. Nevertheless, reports indicate that corn silage making is under way and good yields are being obtained. The grain corn prospects remain very promising. Potato growers are now digging later varieties with satisfactory yields indicated. Sugar beets appear promising and second growth on hay meadows and pastures has done well with the recent weather conditions. Livestock have benefited from the general situation and milk production is near normal for this period of the year. Vegetable production is good and apple growers are starting to pick McIntosh apples this week. Pickers have almost finished harvesting a very light blueberry crop.

Reports from L'Assomption indicate that the growers had practically completed harvesting the flue-cured tobacco crop during the first week of September with yields and quality better than expected earlier. Picking of cigar and pipe tobacco continues although weather conditions are not very favourable and some delays may result.

In the Lennoxville district higher than normal temperatures and frequent heavy rains are reported. As a result the ground is quite wet and there is a good heavy second growth on hay meadows. The weather conditions, however, have made it difficult to harvest this hay and for the same reason the grain harvest is proving difficult and slow with only 20 per cent of the crop harvested. A good deal of lodging has occurred as a result of the heavy rains. Farmers have started to put up their corn silage and are obtaining very satisfactory yields. Other fall work is also starting.

At La Pocatière frequent heavy rains have resulted in very good pasture conditions. However, potato growers have not yet managed to dig their crop although it is expected activity will commence by the end of September. Top killing has already been carried out and good yields are anticipated although some diseases and insects are present. About 30 to 40 per cent of the grain crop has been harvested with work having been held up and made difficult by the inclement weather. Yields are turning out to be about normal. Some 25 per cent of the apple crop and 70 per cent of the pears have been picked with average yields reported, and 50 per cent of the plums have been harvested with slightly better than average yields indicated.

#### ONTARIO

In Essex county of southern Ontario dry weather continues and land is being ploughed for fall wheat. Corn and soybeans are expected to yield 10 to 15 per cent below average. Harvesting of seed corn and early commercial grain corn is under way. Processing of tomatoes is continuing with good yields and quality reported. Late peaches and early McIntosh apples are being picked. In Kent county moisture supplies are adequate. Harvesting of silage corn is under way and seed corn fields are being picked. Good yields of tomatoes are being processed and lima beans are being harvested. White beans are just at the pulling stage, and soybeans look good. Some late sweet corn was damaged by earworm and many fields appear weedy due to poor control because of the earlier drought. In Middlesex county corn yields are increasing due to recent rains. However, general crop conditions are still reported as being dry. Dry weather continued into September in Norfolk county. Chopping of silage corn has commenced and yields are below average. Tobacco picking is nearly completed with good yields reported due to irrigation. A rainfall on September 13 will create good conditions for seeding of winter wheat. Hay may be in short supply in local areas due to the fact that heavy summer feeding was required. Hot humid weather in September has hastened ripening of peaches and pears in Lincoln county. A shortage of labour, both for harvesting and processing, may result in many good quality pears not being picked. Mechanical harvesting of grapes started this week. Rains between September 5 and 13 brought a total of 2.5 inches of moisture throughout most areas of the county.

Showery weather in Simcoe County during the past few weeks has delayed completion of harvesting of small grains and second crop hay. The corn crop is in generally excellent condition and silo filling will probably start this week. Yields are expected to be above average. Pastures are in good condition due to the recent rains and cooler weather. Harvesting of corn silage has commenced in Bruce county and yields of this crop appear to be excellent. Harvesting of spring grains is almost completed and both yields and bushel weight are above average. Second and third crop hay are still being taken off and pastures are in very good condition. In Waterloo county cutting of corn for silage will commence this week and yields of both grain corn and silage corn will be above average. Some Southern Leaf Blight has been identified. Moisture conditions are adequate for germination of winter wheat. A considerable amount of third crop alfalfa has been harvested. Damp, showery weather has greatly delayed the completion of harvesting of spring grains in Wellington county. Both yields and quality are reported to be excellent. Cutting of corn silage has commenced and yields of this crop as well as grain corn are well above average, although some frost damage occurred in late August. Pastures and meadows are in above average condition with new seedings looking very promising. Seeding of winter wheat and harvesting of corn silage are progressing in Halton county. Corn yields are above average with maturity about two weeks ahead of



normal. Yields of spring grains were reported to be very good. An above average yield of soybeans is expected. Pastures have improved greatly due to recent rains while yields of second crop hay were light.

Continued, wet weather has delayed harvesting of spring grains in Durham county. Apples are colouring poorly but size is excellent. Pastures are reported to be in excellent condition. Warm dry weather is now required to mature the grain corn. In Peterborough county weather conditions have been ideal for pasture growth and the development of grain corn and, as a result, yield prospects for grain corn have improved. However, yields of silage corn and spring grains will be below average. Chopping of silage corn is now general.

In Leeds county of eastern Ontario recent showers have delayed harvesting of spring grains. Yields of oats and barley are turning out better than expected with about 50 per cent of the crop taken off. Harvesting of silage corn has commenced but most of the grain corn still requires two weeks to reach maturity. Recent moisture has been beneficial to both pastures and meadows. In Carleton county harvesting of spring grains continues despite interruptions of unfavourable weather. Yields of oats, barley and spring wheat are all better than average. Cutting of an excellent crop of corn silage has just commenced. Recent rains and warm weather have greatly helped both pastures and hay aftermath. In Renfrew county harvesting of spring grains is almost completed and most of the remaining fields are badly lodged and discoloured. Heavy rains accompanied by hail and strong winds have badly damaged corn in two different areas of the county. There has been very little harvesting of corn silage as both stocks and leaves are still very green and fields are too wet to carry heavy machinery.

In the Thunder Bay District of northern Ontario harvesting of spring grains is now fairly general throughout the district.

#### MANITOBA

Swathing of cereals and combining is nearing completion with yields and grades reported as average or better. Quality of late flax is being affected by wild oats and other weeds; corn and sunflowers are maturing rapidly and fall work is well advanced.

In the Altona district numerous farmers have completed their cereal, rape and pea harvest, while some have experienced delay due to late seeding. The yields and kernel weights are reported as being above normal. The sugar beet harvest is expected to begin at the end of the month while sunflowers await a desiccating frost.

In the Melita district harvesting is 90 per cent complete. Considerable storm and hail damage is reported in Lyleton, Coulter, and the Wasakeda areas. The late flax crop is reported below average while wheat, oats, barley, rapeseed and early flax are average or better.

At Beausejour near Winnipeg harvesting is 50 per cent completed, with 70 per cent of special crops in the harvest stage. Most pastures and the second crop of alfalfa are reported as being poor. Wild oats, along with an increase in Canada thistle, still present a problem. In the Selkirk area combining of all grains is in full progress with most farmers nearing 50 per cent completion. Combining has been delayed the last few days due to some wet weather. If good weather prevails combining should be completed in two weeks. Harvesting of the second cut of hay and of the potato crop is well under way.

Our correspondent at Stonewall reports harvesting delayed due to periodic showers. The quality and yield is reported as good to excellent. Pastures are poor with a heavy weed growth and grasshopper build-up. Some of the fall work has been completed. At Portage La Prairie harvesting is well under way with 60 per cent completed. The second cut of hay has started with good results. Rapeseed is yielding 30 to 35 bushels per acre. There have been no reports of frost. The vegetable harvest is above average. Pasture conditions are reported as average to good and fall tillage is now under way.

At Brandon harvesting is well advanced. The barley crop is almost 100 per cent swathed and combined. About 10 per cent of the wheat and oat crop has not been cut, and 30 per cent has yet to be combined. Wheat and barley should grade high as samples show good colour and plumpness. Late crops and pastures have benefited from recent rains. The corn crop is generally good and prospects are for silage yields to be considerably above average. Some fall work has been done on the land.

Our correspondent at Arborg in the Interlake Region reports swathing 90 per cent complete with combining nearing 80 per cent completion. High yields have been reported. Pastures are reported as fair but very dry.

In the west-central area at Neepawa harvesting has resumed after delays caused by general rains. The rye harvest is complete with cereals being 60 per cent swathed and 30 per cent harvested. Rapeseed is 85 per cent swathed and 30 per cent harvested. Most districts are experiencing wide variations of grades and yields. However, yields are reported as better than average. The recent rains have improved pastures. At Minnedosa swathing of wheat is 60 per cent complete while oats and barley are 80 per cent swathed. Swathing of rapeseed has been completed. The threshing of barley is 50 per cent complete with quality reported as fair to good. The combining of early rapeseed is finished but little combining of late varieties has begun. At Shoal Lake harvesting is 50 per cent complete with wide-ranging yields. Bushel weights are reported as being good. With good weather, 90 per cent of the harvest should be completed by September 19, 1971. Fall tillage work is now well under way.

Rains of September 5 in the Dauphin area have reduced quality by one grade. To date swathing is reported as 70 per cent complete, with combining 30 per cent completed. Some fall tillage is now in progress. At Swan River scattered showers have delayed harvesting, which is about 40 per cent completed. Swathing is reported as virtually finished. Above average yields are being reported, with barley being exceptionally good. Rapeseed yields have been seriously reduced by armyworms in isolated cases, but little affect is reported on the overall crop.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 12 per cent above normal, compared with 17 per cent above normal a week ago, 11 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and 20 per cent above normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending September 13, 1971 was 3.9 degrees above normal, compared with 4.6 degrees above normal a week ago, 4.0 degrees above normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 8.1 degrees below normal a year ago.

#### SASKATCHEWAN

Combining has proceeded well under hot weather conditions during the past week. While harvesting is nearly completed in the southwestern portion of the province only 25 per cent of the wheat has been combined in the north. For the province as a whole 60 per cent of the hard wheat has been combined, 70 per cent of the durum, oats 63



per cent, barley 80 per cent, rapeseed 65 per cent, flax 25 per cent and rye 98 per cent. Heavy losses are showing up in rapeseed in northern districts due to damage from armyworms. In the south 70 mile per hour winds shelled standing grain and scattered swaths last Saturday. Damage will be significant in flax swaths and all unharvested crops will be somewhat damaged. At least two more weeks will be required for the completion of harvesting as combines are travelling quite slowly.

In the southeast part of the province at Yellowgrass combining of wheat and coarse grains is approximately 90 per cent completed while harvesting of flax is about 20 per cent down. All grain harvested to date has been dry and of a good grade. Some wind damage to flax swaths was reported over the weekend. The Experimental Station at Indian Head reports that continued warm, dry weather has enabled farmers to make excellent progress with combining operations. Barley and oat crops are 95 per cent harvested and wheat about 90 per cent completed. About 75 per cent of the rapeseed is threshed while 50 per cent of the flax is harvested. Excellent yields are reported in this area with wheat yielding up to 45 bushels per acre, barley to 80 bushels and oats up to 100 bushels per acre. Grain samples have been good for the first time in years with no tough or damp grain reported. If the dry weather continues combining should be completed by this weekend. A violent wind storm last Saturday with winds of 65 to 70 miles per hour did considerable damage to flax and rapeseed which was still in the swath and scattered them over considerable distances which will result in some loss of yield. Growth of weeds on summer-fallow has been slow due to the hot, dry weather. Pastures are poor and some farmers are drawing feed to their cattle which are in good condition.

In the south-central area at Gravelbourg continuous warm weather has advanced harvesting which is 90 per cent completed. Average yields in this area are: wheat 30 bushels, barley 45, flax 18, oats 70, and rye 25 bushels per acre. Flax yields may be reduced due to the recent high winds scattering swaths. Estimates of sunflower yields range from 500 to 1400 lbs. per acre. Mustard crops are good but hay crops are light compared to last year.

At Leader, in the southwest part of the province, harvesting is nearly completed. Yields of wheat in this area range from 20 to 25 bushels per acre with barley yielding 35 to 40 bushels and flax about 15 bushels per acre. In the east-central area at Togo harvesting is well advanced with several farmers being finished. One week of good weather will complete 95 per cent of the combining in this area. Good yields are reported with barley at 50 bushels and up and wheat around 40 bushels per acre. All grain is of a good quality and dry.

At Drake, in the central part of the province, harvesting progressed rapidly last week but cold, cloudy weather since Saturday has halted operations. Swathing is practically completed and half the wheat and two-thirds of the coarse grains are combined. Wheat has been of top quality and yields are above average. Rapeseed is now in the swath. Cattle are reported in good condition. At Craik, 95 per cent of the coarse grains and 85 per cent of the wheat are harvested. The grain is of top quality. Our correspondent in Saskatoon reports swathing almost completed with about 65 per cent of the crop threshed. Harvesting has been delayed the past few days due to showers and about two weeks of good weather are required to complete combining. Yields of cereal grains and rapeseed are running well above average. Summerfallows are in good condition.

At Rosetown, in the west-central area, crops are 80 per cent harvested. All grains are of top grades but some ergot is reported in durum and spring wheat. Summerfallows are in good condition. At Scott, threshing is now completed with the exception of 10 per cent of the rapeseed and 20 per cent of the wheat still to be combined. Cool, wet weather has delayed combining but if weather conditions improve harvesting operations should be completed next week. All grains are grading very good with yields running well above average. In northeastern Saskatchewan at Melfort swathing is practically complete with the exception of some flax. About half the crop is now combined under ideal harvest conditions. Estimates of yields in this area place wheat at 30 to 40 bushels, oats 60 to 90 bushels, barley 45 to 75 bushels and rape from 10 to 20 bushels per acre. Samples and test weight of all grains are good.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association report the following hail storms since the last report: September 1 — at Pathlow, Middle Lake, Humboldt, and Zealandia; September 2 at Gainsborough, Fertile, Parkman and Maryfield.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 7 per cent below normal in contrast to 5 per cent above normal a week ago, compared with 5 per cent below normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 11 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 13, 1971 was 6.3 degrees above normal compared to 2.9 degrees above normal a week ago, 5.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 10.9 degrees below normal for the week ending September 14, 1970.

#### ALBERTA

Harvesting is now general in Alberta but has been interrupted by occasional scattered showers. In the southern part of the province harvesting is near completion with only late seeded crops remaining. Cutting is well advanced in the central and northern areas and some combining has been done but another three weeks of favourable weather will be needed to complete the harvest. Early reports on yields have been highly variable. The hot, dry weather in August interfered with the normal filling of crops, especially later sown oats and barley. Rains are hampering operations in the Peace River District.

Our correspondent at Medicine Hat in the southeastern part of the province reports that harvesting is almost 100 per cent completed. There has been some reduction in bushel weights due to the summer drought but some wheat is grading number one. Yields are very good in spite of the drought. Early reports on yields indicate wheat at 10 to 30 bushels per acre, oats at 35, barley at 35 and flax at around 10. Feed supplies appear adequate and livestock are in good shape. Pastures are short and fallow fields are free of weeds.

At Lethbridge, in southwestern Alberta, harvesting of cereals and oilseed crops is essentially complete except for late seeded flax and barley. Winter wheat and fall rye seeding is near completion. The canning corn harvest is also near completion with excellent yields and quality reported. Potato digging is now general and yields are described as good. There have been no major crop disease problems. Limited and controlled digging of sugar beets is due to begin around September 20. In the Cardston area threshing is now general and swathing is 95 per cent completed. Average yields appear to be below normal. Seeding of fall grains is now in progress. Haying operations are now completed and yields are described as normal. Harvesting of oilseed crops is now 50 per cent completed. Estimated yields are 15 bushels per



acre for rapeseed and 12 bushels per acre for flaxseed. Pasture lands are dry and livestock are in fair condition. The Claresholm area has received ideal harvest weather and another week will see most of the crop harvested. Barley yields have been good while other grains are a bit disappointing. Fall wheat and rye crops are now being sown. The hay crop was fair and there should be plenty of livestock feed.

Around Brooks in south-central Alberta combining of late crops is now being resumed following recent showers. Dry land barley and wheat crops are yielding more than expected following the hot and relatively dry summer. Good alfalfa hay crops have been realized on irrigated land. The seed pea harvest is nearly complete with good average yields being reported. Recent high winds have scattered some swathed grain. In the Vulcan area approximately 90 per cent of the harvesting has been completed with close to average yields and reasonably good quality reported. Frost during the week will have no effect on grain that is to be harvested. Approximately four or five days will see completion of the harvest. Sowing of fall rye has been completed.

Our correspondent at Hanna in east-central Alberta reports that combining is now 85 per cent completed with yields estimated at around 20 bushels per acre for wheat, 30 for barley, and 30 for oats. There has been no frost reported as yet. Feed is in good supply. Around Calgary wheat is now 15 per cent threshed and is yielding approximately 20 bushels per acre. Oats are 35 per cent threshed and yielding 35 bushels per acre, while barley harvesting is 20 per cent complete and yields are reported in the area of 45 bushels per acre. Ten days to two weeks of warm weather will be required to complete the harvest.

In the Olds area, the harvest is now 60 per cent complete. Drought conditions have affected malting barley quality but early-seeded barley is being accepted. The rapeseed harvest is nearing completion. Armyworm damage was kept to a minimum. Pasture conditions are described as fair.

In northeast-central Alberta around Vermilion harvesting is proceeding well with barley and rapeseed crops almost finished. Favourable weather conditions for about ten days would see the harvest nearly completed with the exception of a small amount of late seeded crops. Yields are estimated as about average on all crops. Grades are going to be good on all grains with the exception of barley which is light in weight.

Around Stettler in central Alberta occasional scattered showers are delaying the harvest somewhat although good progress has been made. Another week of good weather should see the harvest completed. Yields are generally lower than average due to the severe hail storm of July 23 which covered about 20 per cent of the district. This storm was followed by hot, dry weather which resulted in shrunken and immature kernels. Wheat yields will average about 24 bushels per acre with barley around 32 and rapeseed about 15. Hay and straw for feed will be in sufficient supply to meet local requirements.

In the northwest-central part of the province around Edmonton harvesting is 50 per cent completed with yields generally below those of last year. If good weather conditions prevail harvesting should be completed in approximately ten days. In the Stony Plain district the harvest is now at a standstill due to a rainfall on September 14. The majority of the swathing is now completed but combining has been slow due to the tangled condition of heavy crops. Yields are lower than originally expected. A heavy second cut hay crop has been harvested.

Around Red Deer in west-central Alberta swathing is virtually completed except for some late rapeseed and barley. Threshing is about 75 per cent completed in the eastern half of the district but is less than 50 per cent in the western part. Unstable weather during the past week has slowed the harvest considerably. Yields are about average but there are several reports of light, poorly filled barley as a result of the hot, dry August. Harvesting operations are proceeding rapidly in the Lacombe district. The precipitation since July 23 has been 0.74 inch. Hail storms and hot, dry weather have combined to reduce yields and quality of crops. Barley is approximately 60 per cent combined with estimated yields in the range of 35 bushels per acre. The oats harvest is 30 per cent complete with yields of 35 bushels per acre, wheat 20 per cent complete with 20 bushels per acre yield and rapeseed 35 per cent complete with 15 bushels per acre yield. Showery weather in the Eckville district has delayed harvesting operations. Swathing is now completed and combining has now reached 75 per cent completion. Early reports on yields are highly variable. Summerfallow is in good condition and fodder supplies are more than adequate.

At Bonnyville in northeastern Alberta 90 per cent of the crop has been swathed and approximately 5 per cent has been threshed. Rapeseed is averaging about 10 bushels per acre and barley is averaging 30. Wet weather is delaying the harvest. There has been an excellent hay crop this year and most farmers have a surplus of forage.

Our correspondent at Beaverlodge in the Peace River District reports that swathing is complete in cereals with some fields being left for straight combining. Combining of cereals is over 50 per cent completed with yields reported as quite variable. Swathing of clover crops has begun and grass seed harvesting has been completed. Yields for creeping red fescue are described as fair and brome grass yields are fair to good. Around Peace River, continued showery weather is delaying harvesting operations which are now about 50 per cent complete. Yields of barley and rapeseed are lower than expected. Recent moderate rains have caused a slow down in harvest operations in the Fort Vermilion area. Harvesting is now general with 75 per cent of the barley and 60 per cent of the rapeseed crop taken off. Some crops have been left standing for straight combining operations. There have been some reports of frost damage in scattered areas.

The Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation reports the following storms in the province: August 28 - an isolated storm travelled northeast to southwest through the Beauvallon District causing some severe damage from pea-sized hail; August 31 - a small storm beginning at Onoway moved east and northeast to Legal dropping pea-sized stones. On the same day a storm of short duration travelling southwest to northeast inflicted moderate damage in a strip four miles long and two miles wide in the vicinity of Enchant; September 11 - a late season storm caused severe damage to rapeseed and flaxseed crops in a strip lying southeast from Nanton to Carmangay.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1, has been 7 per cent below normal compared with 6 per cent below normal a week ago, 5 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 1 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 13, 1971, was 1.6 degrees above normal compared with 3.7 degrees above normal a week ago, 4.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and in contrast to 11.7 degrees below normal for the week ending September 14, 1970.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Saanichton Peninsula of Vancouver Island has experienced variable weather and received 1.4 inches of rain since August 24. Apple prospects are good with Tydeman Red apple and Bartlett pear picking nearly completed. The blackberry crop is also very good and harvesting is now at its peak. Sweet corn is available in volume but the field tomato crop is poor; greenhouse tomato prospects are, however, excellent.

In the Lower Fraser Valley at Agassiz the first ten days of September were showery with a total rainfall of 1.85 inches. This proved beneficial to corn and pastures. Harvesting of corn for processing is now general. The farmers started harvesting oats in August with excellent quality and yields recorded; however, considerable acreages of this crop have yet to be harvested in the western sections of the Valley and prospects for completing this are uncertain due to the unsettled weather. Losses of the third cutting of hay have been general. Vegetable growers are harvesting broccoli and brussels sprouts with good yields and quality reported. Blueberry picking, however, is proceeding very slowly. The unusually late growing season has had an adverse affect on the ripening of this fruit. Harvest is at least three weeks later than last year and there is considerable question as to whether the remainder of the crop will ripen early enough to be picked. So far about one-third of the estimated production has been harvested. All varieties of cranberries set very heavily but further indications are that, due to sizing and the late season, production may be less than otherwise anticipated.

Some hail and high winds struck in the Okanagan at the end of August causing damage in various parts of the Valley. The harvest of Bartlett pears is now finished and the cooler weather permitted the pears to size better than had been expected. The colour and size of the McIntosh and other late apples improved while the picking of peaches and prunes continues. Grapes are now beginning to ripen. The long cool spring delayed the development of grapes by anywhere from one to three weeks depending on location and variety. Crop prospects, however, are favourable. Reports from Vernon indicate continuing cool, showery weather with temperatures close to frost at night. Farmers have finished harvesting grain crops and fall tillage is progressing rapidly. The field corn harvest is now starting. Above average yield for grain, peas and hay are reported.

The Kamloops district is experiencing excellent fall weather for harvesting and all of the third crop of alfalfa has been put up in good condition. Silage corn will be harvested during the next two weeks. Dry conditions prevail on the ranges and cattle are now moving off the high ranges and marketable beef calves and long yearlings are being sold.

At Prince George in the Central Interior the unsettled weather of the past three weeks slowed down curing of second cut forage and delayed making of oat silage. Light frost in some areas killed the more tender vegetables and potato vines. However, it is not expected that yields will be affected. Pastures have held up exceptionally well so far this season but quality is now down and cattle are starting to receive dry feed. Large quantities of forage are stored on farms and considerable amounts are expected to be available for sale. This was brought about by very heavy yields of forage crops and, although some of it was put up quite mature, the quality in general is good.

Reports from Dawson Creek in the Peace River Block indicate that 35 per cent of the barley has now been combined and work was progressing well until cool, showery, windy weather set in two weeks ago. Although there are some exceptionally good yields of barley, many fields are below expectations due to the stunting effect of excessive moisture in June and the prevalence of barley leaf scald. Swathing of oats and wheat is well under way and the brome grass seed harvest is finished. Alsike clover is maturing two weeks late but yields look promising. At Fort St. John the grain harvest is at a standstill due to unsettled weather during the past two weeks. Intermittent precipitation has delayed combining although there has been a good deal of swathing in most areas. Nevertheless, most grain growers prefer straight combining. Some 20 per cent of the barley, 10 per cent of the wheat and 5 per cent of the oats have been harvested. Rapeseed has been swathed but not combined. The legume seed crops are maturing slowly due to the unsettled weather. Farmers are now cutting the second crop of hay.



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.	September 13
		8 a.m. Sept. 13, 1971	since April 1	since April 1	1971	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Boissevain	nil	12.93	12.91	63	56
	Pierson	nil	16.36	11.58	63	56
2	Baldur	trace	16.77	12.94	61	57
	Pilot Mound	.01	19.57	12.60	60	55
3	Altona	nil	7.40	11.97	62	57
	Deerwood	nil	19.37	12.49	61	59
	Graysville	nil	17.77	11.30	58	57
	Morden	trace	12.66	12.68	63	59
	Morris	trace	11.32	11.86	60	59
	Portage la Prairie	.01	15.32	14.52	62	58
	Roland	nil	10.55	12.40	61	58
4	Stonewall	N.R.	13.47(2)	13.13	60	57
5	Emerson	trace	11.52	12.55	62	58
	Steinbach	.06	12.35	12.66	60	57
	Winnipeg	.04	13.21	12.72	61	58
	Starbuck	trace	16.55	12.54	62	58
6	Pinawa	.02	12.11	8.07	59	56
	Great Falls	N.R.	9.56(2)	9.88	N.R.	57
	Sprague	nil	12.97	14.06	56	55
7	Viriden	nil	13.67(2)	12.13	61	56
8	Brandon	N.R.	17.16(2)	12.87	61	56
	Cypress River	.06	15.84	12.41	61	57
9	Gladstone	.07	15.40	13.05	N.R.	56
10	Birtle	.04	16.17	12.76	59	55
	Rosburn	.07	15.51	11.86	59	55
	Russell	.10	12.77	10.57	59	54
11	Dauphin	.13	12.59	12.51	62	56
12	Arborg	.08	12.63	12.56	58	56
	Gimli	.03	12.62	13.06	61	55
13	Swan River	.08	10.84	12.27	60	55
	The Pas	.62	7.86	10.87	60	53
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.05	13.74	12.25	60.4	56.5

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. Sept. 13, 1971	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. September 13	
			inches		1971	Normal
						degrees F.
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Carlyle	.06	12.84	11.13	61	55
	Estevan	.13	12.46	10.84	64	58
	Oxbow	trace	10.55	10.48	61	55
	Willmar	trace	8.45	11.76	N.R.	55
1B	Broadview	.16	9.70	12.24	62	54
	Moosomin	.06	12.32	12.45	61	53
2A	Yellow Grass	.11	9.33	10.49	64	55
	Weyburn	.03	8.13	10.70	64	56
	Midale	.08	8.11(2)	10.58	61	57
	Amulet	.04	8.12	N.R.	65	N.R.
2B	Moose Jaw	.01	7.27	10.00	65	58
	Regina	.06	6.50	10.43	64	56
	Francis	.10	8.56	10.08	61	55
	Indian Head	.08	9.46	10.41	64	55
3AS	Ormiston	.05	3.77	10.58	63	55
	Cardross	nil	3.06	10.48	63	55
3AN	Gravelbourg	.01	4.95	8.99	63	57
3BS	Shaunavon	trace	7.51	9.00	61	56
	Aneroid	nil	6.32	8.80	65	56
	Instow	trace	7.11	9.30	69	56
3BN	Swift Current	.03	5.86(2)	10.18	62	56
	Pennant	.10	6.19	9.03	61	56
	Hughton	N.R.	7.86(2)	8.20	N.R.	57
4A	Maple Creek	N.R.	4.57(2)	8.51	N.R.	57
	Consul	trace	4.07	7.78	56	55
4B	Leader	.11	8.70	8.08	60	57
5A	Cupar	.15	7.14	10.60	60	56
	Balcarres	trace	6.97(2)	11.20	N.R.	56
	Lipton	.12	7.72	9.61	63	56
	Melville	.27	12.53	N.R.	62	N.R.
	Yorkton	.17	10.40	11.04	63	55
	Bangor	.18	10.21	11.62	64	55
	Wynyard	.17	10.70	10.62	64	54
5B	Foam Lake	N.R.	10.23(2)	10.74	N.R.	54
	Kuroki	.47	11.81	10.96	60	52
	Kamsack, Cote	.16	9.36	10.42	61	55
6A	Davidson	.15	8.39	9.54	62	55

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. Sept. 13, 1971	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. September 13	
			inches		1971	Normal
						degrees F.
<u>SASKATCHEWAN - Concluded</u>						
6A	Strasbourg	.13	8.97	10.88	64	55
	Watrous	.43	11.97	9.47	61	56
	Liberty	nil	9.14	N.R.	63	N.R.
6B	Harris	.10	5.80(2)	8.06	60	54
	Outlook	.17	9.73	8.17	62	56
	Saskatoon	.08	10.87	8.83	61	55
	Elbow	.19	7.70	9.88	62	56
	Tugaske	.24	8.47	10.02	62	56
	Dundurn	.19	13.13	8.64	64	56
7A	Kindersley	.07	7.80	8.16	60	55
	Rosetown	.15	8.58	9.08	61	55
7B	Macklin	nil	13.34	9.14	56	53
	Denzil	trace	9.43	8.98	57	53
	Scott	.05	10.00	9.16	57	53
	Biggar	.07	10.40	9.17	59	55
8A	Hudson Bay	.18	7.49	11.28	60	53
	Prairie River	.60	10.12(2)	11.48	56	52
8B	Humboldt	.71	13.13	9.00	61	54
	Melfort	.41	11.92	10.10	60	53
9A	North Battleford	trace	8.59	8.80	59	54
	Victoire	nil	10.76(2)	9.90	57	52
	Prince Albert	.04	11.90	10.20	58	53
9B	Waseca	trace	9.56(2)	10.52	56	53
	Meadow Lake	.17	14.71	10.97	58	50
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.12	9.23	9.94	61.3	55.0

ALBERTA

1	Empress	nil	5.20	8.31	61	56
	Foremost	nil	6.40(2)	8.48	61	57
	Manyberries	nil	7.48	7.57	60	57
	Medicine Hat	nil	4.98	8.47	61	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	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 13, 1971	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	8 a.m. September 13 1971	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>ALBERTA - Concluded</u>						
2	Brooks	.28	6.73	8.86	59	56
	Vauxhall	nil	6.29	8.06	58	56
	Raymond	N.R.	8.19(2)	9.27	N.R.	56
	Lethbridge	nil	7.80	10.07	60	57
	Trochu	.42	9.29	11.33	N.R.	53
3	Queenstown	.66	7.75	10.43	57	55
	Calgary	.65	9.88	12.10	57	53
	Cardston	nil	11.37	11.19	57	54
	Pincher Creek	nil	8.85	12.16	58	54
	Fort MacLeod	nil	7.55	11.19	59	57
4	High River	.30	9.22	12.55	54	52
	Olds	nil	8.73	13.05	51	52
	Alliance	.16	9.28	10.08	57	54
	Coronation	trace	8.32	9.83	55	53
	Hughenden	.70	10.86	10.08	55	53
4	Lloydminster	.01	11.68	10.18	57	54
	Stettler	.30	7.54	11.12	56	53
	Vegreville	.15	10.13	10.62	54	53
	Ranfurly	.12	9.44	11.64	55	53
	Vermilion	.14	9.48	10.97	55	52
5	Edmonton	.18	9.30	12.61	53	53
	Lacombe	.33	9.77	12.97	54	53
	Red Deer	.21	9.06	15.81	54	53
	Rocky Mountain House	.38	12.12	14.63	54	52
	Wetaskiwin	.23	11.12	12.46	54	53
6	Campsie	.13	12.70	12.99	51	51
	Edson	.24	19.55	14.29	51	50
	Elk Point	.08	15.09	11.11	53	50
	Lac la Biche	N.R.	5.57(2)	11.48	N.R.	52
	Whitecourt	.20	18.77	13.70	51	50
7	Beaverlodge	.08	10.24	9.90	49	52
	Ft. Vermilion	.86	6.29	8.12	50	50
	Grande Prairie	.01	14.03	9.67	51	52
	High Prairie	.18	14.09	11.07	48	51
	Peace River	.05	9.28	7.98	51	52
	Wagner	.10	15.20	10.32	52	51
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.19	10.12	10.92	54.9	53.3

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