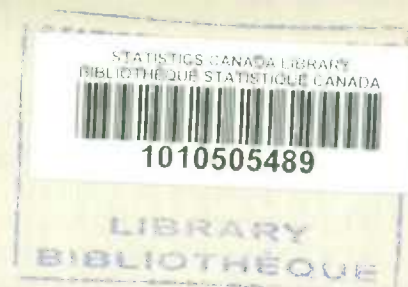


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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Ottawa, July 10, 1951, 3 p.m. - The eighth of a series of thirteen telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the Dominion 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

With some exceptions, crop prospects in the Prairie Provinces are very promising. Rain is now urgently needed in southern sections of Manitoba and is required to replenish surface moisture supplies in central and western Saskatchewan and east-central and north-eastern Alberta. Cool, wet weather has minimized grasshopper damage in most forecast areas. Warmer weather is needed in most of Saskatchewan and Alberta to advance crop growth which is considerably later than normal.

The crop outlook continues to be generally favourable in Manitoba although rain is very urgently needed at most points in the southern half of the province especially in the eastern portion and southeast of Brandon. Most early seeded fields are headed. Lower yields are now expected from late seedings in drier areas. Sugar beet thinning is now completed and haying has commenced. Apart from dry weather there has been a minimum of damage to crops.

Although grain crops in Saskatchewan are somewhat later than normal warmer weather during the past week greatly assisted crop development and conditions are now generally comparable with last year. Warm weather and further rains, however, are required to maintain current favourable prospects. Oats and barley are about 11 inches high and wheat averages about 14 inches, with about 55 per cent in the shot blade and 5 per cent headed. Subsoil moisture conditions are generally satisfactory but rains are required in central, west-central and north-western areas to replenish surface moisture supplies. Cutworm and wireworm damage, which was fairly widespread and heavier than last year, is now lessening and grasshopper damage has been slight.

Crops are still late in Alberta but conditions remain favourable in most areas. Rains last week improved prospects in the Peace River district while scattered showers have partially relieved the dry conditions which have

Data for Newfoundland not available.

prevailed in east-central and northeast sections during most of the season. More rain, however, is needed in these areas. Cool, wet weather and control operations have discouraged grasshopper activity. Haying is under way but not far advanced. Summerfallow conditions are generally good although operations are late. Pastures are generally good to excellent and live-stock conditions satisfactory. Wheat stands are from 6 to 20 inches in height with many fields now in the shot blade. Warm weather is still the main requirement in most parts of the province.

Manitoba - Scattered showers only were received in most areas of Manitoba last week and rain is now urgently needed in most of the southern portion. Drought is particularly bad in the eastern part and south-east of Brandon. Despite dry weather the crop outlook generally continues favourable. Lower yields may be expected from late seedings in the drier areas but most early-seeded fields are pretty well headed. Sugar beet thinning has been completed and cutting of a light hay crop has commenced.

A report from Morden in southern Manitoba states that all crops urgently require moisture. Cereals are heading and cool weather has helped alleviate damage. Warm weather without moisture will cause deterioration. Row crops are progressing but require heat. Hay crops are light, pastures are brown and crop prospects in general are less than normal. In the south-west at Melita scattered showers were received during the last few days but more rain is needed this week. Wild millet growth is very heavy in some late-sown grains. Conditions in the district, however, continue to be favourable.

In the Selkirk area north of Winnipeg dry warm weather prevailed during the past week and crops are beginning to show lack of rain. Some localities, however, received scattered thunder showers. Early wheat is headed out and a large percentage of the barley is in the shot blade. In the immediate vicinity of Winnipeg early-sown cereals are headed out with strong heads. Although there has been no suffering from drought, rain would benefit all crops, especially gardens. There has been no damage from insects, hail or diseases. Haying operations are in full swing.

In the Brandon area continued dry weather with high temperatures is causing deterioration of all crops and early harvest and light yields are expected unless rains come immediately. The hay crop is of good quality but yields are below average. South and west of Brandon at Woodnorth all crops are progressing satisfactorily. Haying has commenced but showery weather is retarding progress. Pastures and hay crops are good and little damage has occurred to the grain crops.

In the southern part of the Interlake area at Teulon moisture is just sufficient for crops with some parts getting too dry. About 30 per cent of the barley and wheat is heading while haying is in full swing. Yields of forage crops are somewhat below average with pastures just fair. In the west-central portion of the province conditions remain generally good to excellent. At Neepawa rains will be needed soon to maintain excellent conditions. About 10 per cent of the grain is headed and flax is in the flower stage. Around Minnedosa some sections of the district are showing deterioration due to hot, dry weather. Weed spraying has been completed and haying operations are commencing. Farther west at Shoal Lake conditions remain good. Moisture is

in ample supply and is being replenished by periodic light showers. Early cereals apart from flaxseed are about one-quarter headed and half in the shot blade. Considerable yellowing occurred in crops but the colour is now improving. Rye is 3 feet in height and completely headed. All prospects are good in this district although hay will be only an average crop.

In northern Manitoba at Swan River all field crops are progressing favourably with plenty of moisture and good growing weather. The rye crop is past the flowering stage and early wheat is in flower. The rest of the cereals, except very late-sown fields, are in the shot blade. Flax is progressing favourably. Some yield reduction may be expected due to late application of chemical weed control. Gardens and forage crops are good throughout the district.

The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports that no insect damage of importance has occurred. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 35 per cent below normal as compared with 33 per cent below normal last week and in contrast with 32 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 9 was 0.3 degrees below normal as compared with 7.9 degrees below normal last week and 0.2 degrees above normal a year ago.

Saskatchewan - Warmer weather during the past week greatly assisted crop development throughout the province, with conditions now being comparable with last year. In general, however, the season is later than normal and warmer weather and further rains are necessary to maintain current favourable prospects. Spring wheat which now averages about 14 inches in height is about 55 per cent in the shot blade compared with 65 per cent last year. Oats and barley average about 11 inches in height. Subsoil moisture conditions are generally satisfactory but surface moisture supplies are being rapidly depleted in central, west-central and northwestern crop districts. Hail damage has been generally light and damage from cutworms and wireworms, though more extensive than last year, is lessening.

Conditions in the southeastern part of the province around Parkman continue to be good, with moisture supplies plentiful. Little insect damage has occurred and considerable spraying is being done to control weeds. Hay, clover and pastures are excellent but warmer weather is needed to accelerate growth of late-seeded crops. Around Fillmore warm weather has brought all crops along quickly. Prospects are generally excellent, with weed growth the worst hazard at the moment. In the Indian Head district crops are coming along reasonably well and early-seeded wheat and oats are beginning to head. Crops seeded on stubble, however, are not growing too well and hay crops are not as good as anticipated.

Crop progress in the Swift Current area in the southwest part of the province has been very favourable recently. Moisture conditions have been improved by frequent showers. Fall rye is filling and spring grain has started to head in some fields. Around Leader the wheat crop is well advanced and an excellent rye crop has headed out. Pastures are good and haying operations will start soon. In the central part of the province at Drake crops are progressing favourably and weed spraying has been completed. Early-sown grain is now heading but warm weather is required to maintain present good prospects. Haying operations in the district are getting under way.

In the west-central area around Rosetown the outlook continues fair to good, although considerable worm and some drought damage has occurred. Although straw will be short, yields could still be good given favourable growing conditions. A report from Scott indicates that most areas in west-central Saskatchewan require additional moisture and heat to promote growth. Unless conditions improve in the near future a below-average crop is indicated in many parts of this region. It is estimated that grain crops in the Rosetown area have been thinned by as much as 30 per cent by cutworm damage.

The outlook for all cereal crops and pastures in the Melfort area in the northeastern part of the province has been considerably improved by rains received in the latter part of June and early July. The rains were too late, however, to be of much benefit to most hay crops. Early-seeded cereals are coming into head while later-sown crops are in the shot blade. In the Birch Hills district early-seeded crops are in the shot blade with some heads showing in a few fields. Precipitation in the area was light during June and crops require a good rain. Brome and sweet clover crops are in bloom.

The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports no material increase in insect damage during the past week. A hail storm on July 6 occurred in the McCord, Woodrow and Palmer districts although the extent of the damage is not yet known. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 6 per cent below normal as compared with 1 per cent above normal a week ago and 9 per cent below normal at this time last year. The mean temperature for the week ending July 9 was 0.3 degrees below normal as compared with 9.6 degrees below normal a week ago and 1.9 degrees above normal for the same week last year. It is pointed out that current precipitation and temperature data are subject to revision since many points were unable to report yesterday owing to Monday closing of a number of telegraph stations.

Alberta - Crop conditions remain favourable though very late in most areas of the province. Rains last week improved prospects materially in the Peace River district. Dry conditions in portions of east-central and northeastern Alberta were relieved by showers but more rains would be welcome. Insect damage has been minimized by cool, wet weather and control operations. Haying has started but is not far advanced. Operations on summerfallow are late but conditions are generally good. Pastures also are in good to excellent condition. Wheat varies from 6 to 20 inches in height with many fields now in the shot blade. Warm weather is needed to promote more rapid development of crops.

In the extreme southeast of the province at Manyberries all crops are late but in good condition with a very small percentage heading out. Range conditions are the best since 1942. Alfalfa seed crops are making good but slow growth. At Medicine Hat crop and moisture conditions are generally good to excellent. Rye has headed out at from two and one-half to four feet. Wheat varies from 15 to 24 inches, and oats and barley from 12 to 24 inches in height. Following more rain in the area south of Calgary warm, clear weather is still the principal requirement. All crops are about two weeks late but cereals, flax, mustard seed and peas are in generally good condition. Sugar beets are expected to yield about one ton below average. With bright weather, canning crops will yield well. Our correspondents at Vulcan and Claresholm also report that crops are two weeks late and that hot, dry weather is urgently needed.

General conditions are good in the eastern part of the province around Hanna with wheat well stooled and from 12 to 18 inches in height. Warmer weather is needed here. Crops in the Calgary area are now making good progress with some early wheat coming into shot blade. General conditions are very good. In the Sedgewick area, in central Alberta, some wind damage has occurred and more rain will be needed soon. Crops are very late here although still in quite good condition. Farther east at Vermilion near the Saskatchewan border light showers fell last week but rains are still needed. Cold weather has retarded development of late-sown crops but some early wheat will be heading this week and should make a fair crop.

In the west-central part of the province around Eckville haying should commence the latter part of this week with a fair to good crop in prospect. About 15 per cent of the crops has been sprayed for weeds. Summer-fallows have received at least one operation and crops are generally in good condition. Good rains have been received in the Edmonton-Evansburgh area, but warmer weather is needed to advance development of crops. Apart from lateness, however, crops are in good condition. At Bonnyville, in northeastern Alberta, heavy rains during last week provided excellent moisture conditions. Warm weather is now urgently needed to hasten growth of the extremely late crops. Hail, frost and drought damage so far in this area is placed at 20 per cent. Forage crop prospects are fairly good. General rain in the Peace River area (amounting to over four inches at Beaverlodge) guarantees good crops in this area providing the fall season remains frost-free for a long enough period. Wheat averages ten inches in height with some fields beginning to head.

An outbreak of lygus bug has occurred in alfalfa feed fields in southern Alberta as a result of lush growth caused by cool, moist weather. The damage occurs in the form of blasted buds. Similar damage is also reported from the Peace River area.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 34 per cent above normal as compared with 31 per cent above normal a week ago and 34 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 9 was 1.0 degrees below normal compared with 7.8 degrees below normal a week ago and 3.1 degrees above normal a year ago. It is pointed out that current precipitation and temperature data are subject to revision since many points were unable to report yesterday owing to Monday closing of a number of telegraph stations.

Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces 1951 1/

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 9, 1951	since April 1	since April 1	July 9, 1951 Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	N.R.	4.73 <u>2/</u>	6.44	N.R.	66
	Melita	.20	4.48	8.24	64	66
	Waskada	.80	5.38	7.23	62	66
2	Boissevain	.52	4.36	6.47	65	66
	Ninette	.30	4.03	7.08	61	66
3	Portage la Prairie	.10	3.96	6.67	68	65
	Graysville	.10	2.94	7.33	65	66
	Morden	.27	3.93	7.07	68	66
	Altona	N.R.	2.84 <u>2/</u>	6.95	N.R.	66
	Morris	.42	4.02	6.68	64	66
	Emerson	.42	3.60	6.22	65	66
4	Winnipeg	.19	4.65	7.43	66	67
6	Sprague	.26	3.72	7.36	64	65
	Pinawa	.22	3.66	5.30	65	64
7	Virden	.06	4.37	5.94	65	63
	Rivers	.07	4.15	6.71	64	65
8	Brandon	.03	2.88	6.73	65	65
	Cypress River	.52	2.54	6.57	64	66
9	Neepawa	trace	5.06	6.63	65	64
10	Russell	.06	3.44	6.35	62	63
11	Dauphin	.48	5.68	5.53	66	63
12	Gimli	.19	5.59	7.26	66	65
13	Swan River	.08	5.49	6.53	64	62
	The Pas	.57	7.67	4.90	66	64
Manitoba Average		.27	4.35	6.65	64.7	65.0
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.13	5.07	6.56	64	65
	Carlyle	.20	5.38	6.86	61	63
	Oxbow	.04	3.82	6.64	62	64
1B	Broadview	.12	6.55	5.88	62	63
	Kipling	N.R.	N.R.	6.09	N.R.	63
	Moosomin	.10	5.12	5.87	66	64
2A	Yellow Grass	N.R.	5.01 <u>2/</u>	6.38	N.R.	65
	Midale	N.R.	5.53 <u>2/</u>	6.89	N.R.	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.06	6.44	6.44	N.R.	66
	Regina	.21	6.55	6.36	64	64
	Qu'Appelle	N.R.	5.55 <u>2/</u>	7.51	N.R.	63
	Indian Head	.03	4.67	7.34	64	63
3AS	Assiniboia	.24	6.81	5.56	62	65
	Ceylon	N.R.	5.68 <u>2/</u>	7.91	N.R.	65
3AN	Chaplin	N.R.	6.19 <u>2/</u>	6.76	N.R.	65
	Gravelbourg	N.R.	3.83 <u>2/</u>	5.83	N.R.	65
	Coderre	.36	5.06	5.76	60	65
	Bishopric	N.R.	5.42 <u>2/</u>	5.75	N.R.	65
3BS	Shaunavon	.60	7.28	5.42	62	63
	Cadillac	N.R.	6.23 <u>2/</u>	7.85	N.R.	64
	Aneroid	N.R.	2.52 <u>2/</u>	6.63	N.R.	63

Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces 1951 1/ (cont'd)

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature		
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.		
		8 a.m. July 9, 1951	since April 1	since April 1	July 9, 1951 Mean	Normal	
<u>Saskatchewan</u>							
3BN	Fennant	.32	7.07	6.97	62	64	
	Swift Current	.62	6.26	6.40	62	64	
	Hughton	.26	5.13	5.88	62	63	
4A	Maple Creek	.88	5.70 2/	6.18	N.R.	64	
	Consul	N.R.	4.40 2/	5.35	N.R.	62	
	Roadene	N.R.	6.29 2/	5.89	N.R.	63	
5A	Leross	N.R.	5.62 2/	6.48	N.R.	62	
	Lipton	.04	4.26 2/	5.64	64	62	
	Yorkton	.11	6.67	6.07	64	62	
5B	Dafoe	.04	6.39	5.70	64	61	
	Foam Lake	.02	6.74	6.08	64	61	
	Lintlaw	N.R.	6.11 2/	6.08	N.R.	61	
6A	Kamsack	.01	5.47	5.34	65	63	
	Davidson	.04	6.90	5.25	62	64	
	Dilke	N.R.	7.57 2/	5.72	N.R.	N.R.	
	Semans	N.R.	6.64 2/	4.14	N.R.	63	
	Strasbourg	nil	8.71	6.02	61	63	
	6B	Harris	N.R.	3.96 2/	5.73	N.R.	63
Outlook		trace	4.51	4.07	63	63	
Saskatoon		.22	3.08	5.37	64	63	
	Elbow	N.R.	7.00 2/	5.36	N.R.	64	
	Dundurn	.06	4.97	6.47	64	64	
	7A	Kindersley	.09	3.50	4.86	62	62
Rosetown		.24	4.37	5.92	64	62	
7B	Macklin	.50	4.18	6.01	63	60	
	Scott	.28	4.66	5.25	60	62	
	Ruthilda	N.R.	1.68 2/	5.87	N.R.	N.R.	
	Biggar	.10	5.12	5.88	63	63	
	8A	Mistatim	N.R.	1.31 2/	5.86	N.R.	63
		Hudson Bay	.44	7.67	5.96	63	62
8B	Humboldt	.14	5.28	5.02	64	62	
	Melfort	.70	5.08	5.49	60	62	
9A	North Battleford	.53	4.22	5.76	64	65	
	Rabbit Lake	N.R.	4.17 2/	5.72	N.R.	62	
	Prince Albert	.37	4.61	5.79	64	63	
9B	Island Falls	.14	7.22	5.72	62	63	
	Waseca	N.R.	5.27 2/	5.75	N.R.	61	
Saskatchewan Average		.23	5.60	5.99	62.9	63.2	
<u>Alberta</u>							
1	Taber	N.R.	11.35 2/	5.33	N.R.	65	
	Foremost	.64	10.56	7.41	61	67	
	Winnifred	.44	11.59	5.00	N.R.	N.R.	
	Medicine Hat	.41	7.65	5.39	64	67	
	Manyberries	N.R.	5.70 2/	5.54	N.R.	67	
2	Cowley	1.36	10.24	7.13	57	60	
	Macleod	.58	12.08	6.06	63	65	
	Cardston	.98	18.20	9.40	58	64	
	Lethbridge	.42	12.32	6.34	62	65	
	Magrath	.36	12.51	8.20	59	64	

Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces, 1951 1/ (cont'd)

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 9, 1951	since April 1	since April 1	July 9, 1951 Mean	Normal
<u>Alberta</u>						
3	Vauxhall	1.08	10.96	4.96	64	65
	Brooks	.48	8.79	5.08	62	64
	Bindloss	.18	5.67	5.19	60	66
	Empress	trace	3.25	5.78	66	66
4	High River	N.R.	10.76 <u>2/</u>	7.69	N.R.	61
	Vulcan	N.R.	13.03 <u>2/</u>	6.53	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.22	8.32	6.52	64	66
	Hanna	.12	4.18	7.02	60	62
	Naco	.20	4.35 <u>2/</u>	6.12	62	62
	Oyen	N.R.	4.65 <u>2/</u>	4.76	N.R.	N.R.
6	Olds	1.96	10.98	6.65	58	59
	Calgary	1.50	11.33	7.05	58	61
	Three Hills	N.R.	9.04 <u>2/</u>	6.06	N.R.	60
	Strathmore	N.R.	10.15 <u>2/</u>	6.40	N.R.	60
	Gleichen	2.26	13.02	5.68	60	62
	Hussar	N.R.	8.11 <u>2/</u>	5.88	N.R.	N.R.
	Sedgewick	N.R.	4.35 <u>2/</u>	5.75	N.R.	60
	Hardisty	N.R.	4.43 <u>2/</u>	5.76	N.R.	N.R.
7	Coronation	.12	5.43	5.19	60	60
	Hughenden	N.R.	4.70 <u>2/</u>	5.63	N.R.	60
8	Red Deer	1.25	7.54	8.19	59	59
	Lacombe	1.81	8.63	7.03	60	59
	Wetaskiwin	.64	8.35	6.47	60	62
	Camrose	1.12	6.66	6.24	63	62
	Stettler	1.00	6.96	7.15	63	59
	Jasper	.93	3.90	3.34	56	59
9	Rocky Mountain House	2.22	10.20	7.37	59	59
	Springdale	N.R.	4.74 <u>2/</u>	8.00	N.R.	58
10	Vegreville	.64	5.53	7.10	62	60
	Vermilion	.76	6.58	6.56	62	60
	Lloydminster	.48	6.19	5.21	61	60
	Edmonton	1.08	7.60	6.57	63	61
12	Edson	1.22	6.28	6.19	58	58
	Whitecourt	1.75	7.99	6.48	59	61
13	Elk Point	.46	6.05	5.75	61	60
14	Campsie	N.R.	5.54 <u>2/</u>	6.56	N.R.	60
	Athabaska	2.16	6.26	5.80	58	60
	Lac la Biche	.63	6.44	5.96	64	60
15	High Prairie	.78	6.07	5.76	60	60
	Wagner	.82	7.39	5.95	60	61
16	Beaverlodge	4.72	8.83	4.82	59	59
	Rycroft	2.14	6.70	4.14	60	59
	Grand Prairie	3.07	6.91	5.75	59	59
	Fairview	1.30	7.51	4.36	60	60
17	Fort St. John	1.73	6.75	5.77	57	61
Alberta Average		1.10	8.25	6.15	60.5	61.5

N.R. - No report.

1/ - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ - Incomplete: not included in average.

Note: The unusually large number of missing reports is due to Monday closing of the telegraph stations at the points concerned.