

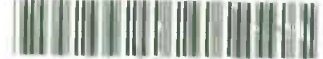
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C. R. No. 7, 1952

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - PRAIRIE PROVINCES

This is the fourth of the 1952 series of thirteen telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering 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

Rains during the past week have maintained the generally favourable crop outlook in Alberta, Saskatchewan and northern and west-central Manitoba. Rains were also received across southern sections of Manitoba where crops have been suffering from drought. More rain will be needed soon in this area to prevent further deterioration, particularly of hay, pastures and late-seeded crops. Cutworms and wireworms are causing damage in southern Manitoba and in local areas of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Conditions remain quite favourable in most of northern and west-central Manitoba with some rainfall received during the week. General rains up to an inch in depth fell across southern sections of Manitoba on June 2. This moisture was badly needed to stop crop and pasture deterioration. Apart from early fallow crops, germination has been uneven and growth slow since early May. Fall rye and hay crops will be below average. Seeding will likely be completed within ten days as farmers are waiting for rain to complete sowings of flax and coarse grains. A severe outbreak of cutworms is occurring throughout southern Manitoba with considerable damage to field crops, particularly sugar beets.

Recent rains, while unevenly distributed, replenished surface moisture supplies in many areas of Saskatchewan. Soil moisture supplies are now generally adequate for current needs and continued favourable crop development is expected. Growth of wheat, which averages four inches in height, has been fair to good. However, in some areas, particularly in the southeast, stands are patchy and uneven due to lack of sufficient moisture for proper germination of late-seeded fields. Growth of oats and barley, averaging about three inches in height, is also fair to good, with about 60 per cent of these crops showing green. Many fields of fall rye are heading and the general appearance is good. Frosts last week damaged some oats, barley, flax, and garden plants but caused very little permanent damage to wheat. Wireworm activity has been widespread, especially in central and west-central districts, and some reseeding has been necessary.

With the exception of a small proportion of coarse grains, seeding is practically completed in Alberta. Quite general rains were received during the past week and except for one or two areas moisture conditions are

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now very satisfactory. Crops are making rapid growth and development in general is above average for this time of year. Some wireworm damage is reported in south-central areas but apart from this the outlook for most Alberta crops is excellent.

Manitoba About a half inch of rain was received in the Vita district in south-eastern Manitoba on June 2. Rain was also received at Morden and Altona temporarily improving crops which were showing the effects of the long drought. Pastures are poor and hay and clover crops short in these districts. Germination of corn and sunflowers has been spotty. More rain will be needed in these areas. In south-central Manitoba at Pilot Mound crops received relief from damaging drought around June 1. Wheat and other summerfallow crops are good but stubble crops are patchy due to poor germination in dry soil. Flax seeding is 90 per cent completed. There has been considerable cutworm damage during the past ten days in this district. At Melita the first rain of the season was received on June 2. Farmers started sowing flaxseed again and operations will soon be completed. Early-sown grain on summerfallow has held up well but fall rye is poor and several farmers have turned their stock into the rye fields for pasture.

In the area around Winnipeg early-sown grains are six inches high and showers last week have helped crops and pastures. Frost on May 28 has done some damage to barley and gardens. Fall rye is patchy due to winter-killing and the outlook for hay is poor. Cutworm damage has been heavy in some grain fields and in gardens. In the Portage la Prairie area crop prospects have greatly improved as the result of recent rains. Pastures were bare, hay prospects very poor and half of the seeded crop was showing ragged germination. Wheat is five inches in height, condition of peas good and sugar beets fair. Cutworm damage has been extensive in some districts. Germination of flax has not been good.

In the Brandon area 1.6 inches of rain fell on June 2 greatly benefiting all grain crops, pastures and hay. Farmers have resumed seeding of flaxseed and coarse grains. Some damage from cutworms and wireworms has been occurring but in general crop prospects are much improved. Badly needed rainfall was received at Woodnorth on June 2. Lack of moisture was apparent in the uneven germination of late-sown fields. Some cutworm damage is occurring but so far the infestation is not extensive.

In the Interlake area at Teulon grain crops are showing considerable improvement due to recent rains. However, in some sections the moisture did not reach through the dry surface and late-seeded crops are still quite patchy. Hay and pastures are in rather poor condition. At Arborg the weather continued dry and cold during the past week and crops are generally at a standstill. Heavy rains and warm weather are required. The recent frost damage is minimized due to the dry conditions.

In west-central Manitoba recent rains have improved the crop outlook and will assist the germination of late-sown crops. At Neepawa crops on summerfallow are good, averaging nine inches in height. Warmer weather is needed to advance all crop growth. Pastures are poor. At Minnedosa seeding is completed and early-seeded wheat is ten inches in height. Late-sown crops show uneven germination but rain on the 27th of May and June 2 should improve the situation greatly. Hay and pasture crops are also poor in this district. At Shoal Lake general rains were also received. Seeding is completed in this district and summerfallow operations are well under way.

In northwest Manitoba at Dauphin seeding was completed this past week. Early-sown crops are in excellent condition and last week's rains have helped the germination of late-sown crops. More rain would be beneficial, especially for pastures which are backward. Cutworms are doing extensive damage to gardens and some fields of grain. Wheat seeding is now completed in the Swan River area and about 75 per cent of the coarse grains is seeded. Early-sown crops are stooling nicely and the warmer weather has brought all crops along rapidly. Some chemical weed control is being applied to early crops. There has been no frost or cutworm damage yet. Pastures and forage crops are good. The moisture situation in this district is good with some fields still too wet to work properly.

The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports a severe outbreak of cutworms throughout southern Manitoba with considerable damage to field crops, particularly sugar beets. Sprays, where they are being applied, are giving good control results. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 58 per cent below normal as compared with 82 per cent below normal a week ago and 39 per cent below normal at the same time last year. Mean temperature for the week ending June 2 was 6.9 degrees below normal in contrast to 6.2 degrees above normal last week and compared with 6.8 degrees below normal a year ago.

Saskatchewan Much-needed rains have been received recently in the southeastern part of the province and have greatly improved crop prospects in that area. Around Parkman about one inch of rainfall was received over the week-end. Frosts killed tender garden plants in the area last week. Considerable summerfallowing has been done and a little flax remains to be seeded. Two inches of rain in the past ten days have also greatly improved crop prospects in the Yellow Grass region. Some flax is still to be seeded but other grains are making excellent progress. Weed growth has been only moderate and pastures are good. Rains have also improved the general outlook around Indian Head. Hay and pasture crops which had begun to deteriorate are expected to hold up well. Early-seeded crops are holding well but some fields are becoming weedy. Late-seeded crops appear to be very clean although germination has been patchy. Frost occurred three times during the past week, browning some of the crops, particularly barley, but real injury is not so far apparent.

In the southwestern part of the province, around Gravelbourg, week-end rains have improved crop prospects considerably. In the Swift Current area weather conditions continue to be ideal for germination and growth. Frosts last week did no damage to grain as far as can be determined. Damage from insects has been light so far, with no indication of increased infestations. Growth of fall rye has been heavy and most fields are now headed. Moisture conditions in the area are generally good and pastures are excellent. Around Val Marie seeding is practically completed and crop development has been quite favourable. While subsoil moisture is adequate rain will soon be needed to replenish surface supplies. Pastures in the area are good.

In the Willowbrook region, in east-central Saskatchewan, recent rains have greatly improved the outlook for all crops. Total rainfall in this area since April 1 has been 1.5 inches. Both crops and pastures are growing well. In the northeastern part of the province, around Melfort, light rains during the week have helped crops maintain steady progress. Light frosts occurred during the past week but damage was light and confined to gardens. Wheat seeding is completed and about 90 per cent of the oats and barley is in the ground. Early-seeded wheat is six to eight inches tall. Pastures are good.

A report from Prince in the northwestern part of the province states that seeding in the area has been completed. While there have been no recent rains all crops are making good progress. Spraying of weeds is expected to start this week. All grains are from 2 to 7 inches above ground and the flax crop will be coming up soon. A report from the Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon states that wireworm damage continued last week in all parts of the province, necessitating some reseeding. No serious cutworm damage has been reported and there have been no reports of grasshopper infestations anywhere in the province.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 30 per cent below normal compared with 42 per cent below normal a week ago and 22 per cent below normal at this time last year. Mean temperature for the week ending June 2 was 5.2 degrees below normal in contrast to 7.0 degrees above normal a week ago and 8.8 degrees below normal for the corresponding week last year.

Alberta Crops are making rapid growth in the Medicine Hat area with wheat averaging eight inches and coarse grains six inches in height. Moisture supplies are good and ranges are in excellent condition. Moisture conditions remain satisfactory in the Lethbridge district. Crops are doing well but considerable volunteer growth is showing up from last year's crop. Fall rye is heading with prospects for an average yield. Flax is developing a good stand. Sugar beets are making satisfactory progress and thinning is general. Seeding is now completed in the Cardston and Claresholm areas and fall-seeded crops are developing rapidly. Moisture supplies are adequate and no pests are reported.

At Brooks, in the south-central part of the province the weather has been quite dry and windy and a good general rain is needed to prevent deterioration of hay and grain crops. All grains are seeded in the Vulcan area with wheat up about four inches. Wireworm damage is causing some reseeding.

Following the heavy rains of the past week, moisture conditions at Hanna, in east-central Alberta, are now good. Early-sown fields are well above ground and germination has been even. The general outlook for both grain and pastures is favourable. Seeding is completed in the Calgary area except for small amounts of coarse grains. Rains during the past week have maintained good moisture conditions. Similar conditions prevail at Olds.

Good rains last week improved moisture conditions in the Stettler—Donalda area of central Alberta. More barley is now being seeded. Pasture and hay prospects are good. Excellent growing conditions also prevail farther west in the Red Deer, Lacombe and Eckville areas. Crops at Lacombe are generally a week ahead of normal and prospects for hay and pasture crops are very satisfactory. Some barley is still to be seeded in these districts.

Moisture supplies in the Edmonton and Evansburgh districts were replenished by rains last week. Early-seeded wheat is up six inches and oats and barley one to three inches. The outlook for hay and pasture crops is much improved.

At Bonnyville in northeast Alberta seeding is practically completed. Grains are growing satisfactorily and general prospects are excellent. No crop damage of any kind is reported but more rainfall will be needed soon. Seeding is completed at Falher in the Peace River district with wheat up from two to four inches. Subsoil moisture supplies are good but surface moisture is needed for germination of late-seeded crops and to promote growth of hay and pasture crops. There was considerable winterkilling of clover but alfalfa stands are good.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 40 per cent below normal compared with 51 per cent below normal a week ago and in contrast to 44 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 2 was 2.5 degrees below normal in contrast to 3.1 degrees above normal a week ago and 9.6 degrees below normal a year ago.

Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces, 1952 ^{1/}

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 2/52	since April 1	since April 1	June 2/52 Mean	Normal
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.53	.89	3.35	48	56
	Melita	.13	.35	3.61	51	57
	Waskada	.27	.55	2.72	49	57
2	Boissevain	.23	.48	3.45	49	56
	Deerwood	.96	1.24 2/	3.11	49	56
	Ninette	.96	1.24	3.69	48	56
3	Portage la Prairie	1.33	1.40	3.19	50	57
	Graysville	.92	1.00	3.26	48	56
	Morden	.75	.90	3.31	51	57
	Altona	.71	1.36	3.36	51	57
	Morris	.85	.86	3.03	53	57
	Roland	.60	.86	3.01	50	57
	Emerson	.94	1.24	2.79	51	57
4	Winnipeg	.75	1.14	3.62	49	58
6	Sprague	1.02	1.66	3.54	48	55
	Seven Sisters Falls	.41	.70	2.34	47	55
7	Virden	.76	1.23	2.52	50	55
	Rivers	.86	1.32	3.00	49	56
8	Brandon	1.05	1.54	3.00	50	56
	Cypress River	1.30	1.31	3.16	52	56
9	Neepawa	.61	1.05	3.03	48	56
	Plumas	1.66	1.95	3.04	48	55
10	Russell	1.70	2.15	2.70	48	54
11	Dauphin	.31	1.32	2.44	48	55
12	Gimli	.25	1.12	3.74	45	54
13	Swan River	.77	2.10	2.41	47	53
	The Pas	2.15	3.80	2.12	44	53
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.84	1.29	3.06	48.9	55.8
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.71	1.62	3.02	49	55
	Carlyle	.41	.65	3.28	47	54
	Oxbow	.68	1.05	3.21	N.R.	55
	Redvers	.26	.70	2.73	48	54
	Willmar	1.04	1.82	3.02	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	1.66	2.69	2.88	47	55
	Moosomin	1.35	2.11	2.62	48	55
2A	Yellow Grass	1.05	2.50	2.88	48	55
2B	Moose Jaw	1.13	1.33	2.83	50	57
	Regina	.39	.73	2.59	49	55
	Qu'Appelle	.08	.86	3.35	48	55
	Indian Head	.72	1.44	2.96	48	55
	Francis	.35	.74	1.96	49	55
3AS	Assiniboia	.93	2.15	2.23	49	57
	Ormiston	.77	1.81	2.45	49	56
	Ceylon	1.13	2.29	3.76	48	56
3AN	Chaplin	.76	1.51	3.22	51	56
	Gravelbourg	.78	1.47	2.23	50	55
	Coderre	.88	1.65	2.48	50	56
	Bishopric	.71	.87	2.43	51	56

Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces, 1952 ^{1/}

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 2/52	since April 1	since April 1	June 2/52 Mean	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
3BS	Shaunavon	.76	2.64	2.37	50	53
	Cadillac	1.03	2.44	3.82	50	53
	Aneroid	.81	1.31	2.70	49	54
3BN	Pennant	.58	2.50	2.99	50	56
	Swift Current	1.05	2.61	2.82	48	55
	Hughton	1.06	2.76	3.21	50	55
4A	Maple Creek	.70	2.39	2.75	53	56
	Consul	.11	2.16	2.72	52	53
4B	Roadene	.52	2.48	3.21	51	55
5A	Leross	.51	1.32	2.65	48	53
	Lipton	.57	1.15	2.43	48	53
	Yorkton	.73	1.35	2.75	48	54
5B	Dafoe	.38	1.49	2.26	48	52
	Foam Lake	.23	.95	2.65	47	52
	Lintlaw	.31	1.37	3.01	45	51
6A	Kamsack	.71	2.31	2.03	47	53
	Pelly	N.R.	1.11 2/	2.27	N.R.	53
	Davidson	.58	2.12	2.49	50	54
6B	Dilke	.72	.87	2.69	N.R.	N.R.
	Imperial	.45	1.30	2.23	49	54
	Semans	.50	.87	1.96	50	53
7A	Strasbourg	.96	1.75	2.81	47	54
	Harris	.42	1.69 2/	1.90	52	54
	Outlook	.47	1.77	2.06	51	55
7B	Saskatoon	.21	1.71	2.24	51	54
	Elbow	.82	2.29	2.36	50	55
	Tugaske	.48	1.51	2.36	49	55
8A	Dundurn	.34	1.60	2.47	50	54
	Eston	.51	2.32	2.19	51	55
	Kindersley	.94	2.84	2.27	50	52
8B	Rosetown	.74	2.28	2.69	51	53
	Macklin	.24	1.27	3.23	51	52
	Scott	.19	2.46	2.37	50	54
9A	Biggar	.25	2.44	2.36	51	54
	Mistatim	.20	2.79	2.48	47	55
	Hudson Bay	.72	2.32	2.42	45	35
9B	Humboldt	.30	1.33	2.26	49	54
	Melfort	.20	2.43	2.67	48	55
	North Battleford	.10	2.72	2.32	51	57
9C	Rabbit Lake	.10	1.52	2.14	48	54
	Prince Albert	.17	2.92	2.43	49	55
	Island Falls	.67	2.37	2.41	46	52
9D	Waseca	.17	1.70	2.40	53	54
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.60	1.82	2.62	49.2	54.4
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Taber	.49	1.67	2.83	54	56
	Foremost	.43	2.82	4.17	52	60
	Winnifred	.48	2.21	3.03	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.43	1.99	2.44	55	58
	Manyberries	N.R.	1.88 2/	2.96	N.R.	58

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Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces, 1952

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. June 2/52	since April 1	since April 1	June 2/52 Mean	Normal
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
2	Cowley	.25	1.16	3.48	49	53
	Macleod	.38	1.19	2.72	52	57
	Cardston	.06	1.98	5.03	50	56
	Lethbridge	.26	1.79	3.04	53	55
	Del Bonita	.05	1.89	3.61	46	55
3	Vauxhall	N.R.	1.52 2/	2.51	N.R.	56
	Brooks	.17	.84	2.63	51	57
	Bindloss	N.R.	1.15 2/	2.62	N.R.	57
	Empress	.79	2.15	2.59	53	58
4	High River	.40	4.22	3.85	48	53
	Vulcan	N.R.	.86 2/	2.80	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.56	.95	2.77	56	55
	Naco	N.R.	.77 2/	3.33	N.R.	54
	Oyen	.32	.95	1.85	N.R.	N.R.
6	Olds	.45	.95	3.41	50	53
	Calgary	1.37	2.92	3.22	50	54
	Three Hills	.82	1.39	2.43	50	52
	Strathmore	1.89	2.44	2.88	49	51
	Gleichen	.58	1.27	2.72	52	54
	Hussar	1.39	1.62 2/	3.03	N.R.	N.R.
7	Sedgewick	N.R.	.06 2/	2.02	N.R.	53
	Hardisty	.03	.67	2.10	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.18	1.03	2.53	52	54
	Hughenden	.35	1.15	2.64	50	56
8	Red Deer	.67	1.31	3.67	52	52
	Lacombe	1.15	2.56	2.89	52	53
	Wetaskiwin	1.14	2.55	2.50	51	53
	Camrose	.43	1.79	3.08	51	52
	Stettler	.88	1.48	3.78	52	53
9	Jasper	.44	2.82	1.78	52	52
	Rocky Mountain House	.78	2.42	3.50	51	51
	Springdale	1.05	3.23	3.55	50	51
10	Vegreville	.08	1.44	3.15	52	53
	Vermilion	.08	.78	2.71	50	52
	Lloydminster	.22	1.37	2.22	51	52
11	Edmonton	.27	1.71	2.70	53	55
12	Edson	2.06	2.91	2.44	50	53
	Whitecourt	.95	1.83	3.10	50	53
13	Elk Point	.02	.71	2.39	51	52
	Lac la Biche	.04	1.68	2.58	55	53
14	Campsie	N.R.	1.12 2/	2.66	N.R.	53
	Athabaska	Nil	1.81	2.78	50	53
15	High Prairie	.12	.92	2.26	50	55
	Wagner	.19	.88	2.75	51	54
16	Beaverlodge	.32	.70	2.32	53	53
	Rycroft	.67	1.19	1.55	52	54
	Grand Prairie	1.02	1.60	2.61	53	53
	Fairview	.28	.94	1.76	54	54
	Berwyn	Trace	.16 2/	2.26	53	52
	Fort St. John	.67	1.60	2.41	54	54
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.53	1.69	2.81	51.5	54.0

N.R. No report

1/ Source - Meteorological Service of Canada

2/ Incomplete - not included in average