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1940

July 9

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Statistician, Agricultural Branch:R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C.
C. F. Wilson, Ph.D.FIELD CROPS OF CANADA, 1940

Ottawa, July 9, 1940, 3 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today a bulletin giving (1) the numerical condition of field crops in Canada at the end of June and (2) the first estimate of the areas of late-sown crops and hay.

SUMMARY

A moderate decline of four per cent occurred in Canadian spring wheat prospects during June. Irregular conditions have developed in several sections of the wheat area of Saskatchewan, while only slight declines in the condition of the wheat crop in Manitoba and Alberta were recorded since May 31. On the other hand, the June 30 condition of the total spring wheat crop was reported to be ten per cent lower than on June 30, 1939, following an exceptional June rainfall last year. The fall wheat crop in Ontario improved slightly during June, and compared favourably with last year's prospects at June 30. Coarse grains throughout Canada showed very little change in prospects during June, and were only moderately below last year's promising condition. On the other hand, forage crops and pastures improved during June, with above-average prospects throughout eastern Canada, and with prospects somewhat improved in Saskatchewan as well. Potatoes gave better promise at June 30 than a year ago in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, although the remaining provinces all reported small declines in the condition of this crop as compared with last year.

The condition of field crops in the Maritime Provinces was almost unchanged at June 30 as compared with May 31 of this year. Hay and clover fields continued in average to better than the average condition, while pastures improved with the frequent showers. Potatoes and root crops are in very promising condition as compared with a year ago in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. The same crops, while somewhat more backward in New Brunswick, were approximately at last year's condition as of June 30, and were only slightly below average.

The oat crop and other coarse grain in Quebec declined slightly in condition during June. At the end of the month they were also somewhat below last year's June 30 condition. Rain and cold weather during the month delayed crops considerably except in the case of hay and pastures. A period of warm weather would bring most crops along to normal condition, and would facilitate the curing of the hay crop.

Ontario field crops showed some improvement at June 30 as compared with May 31. Forage crops and pastures were in particularly good condition at the end of June. Very frequent rains during June delayed the completion of the seeding of spring grains and late crops, although the crops that were sown, in addition to fall wheat and the forage crops, made very good growth. Cutting of early alfalfa and hay and clover was delayed beyond the end of the month due to wet weather conditions.

Rainfall over the Prairie Provinces during June was about average in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and an inch below average in Alberta. In Manitoba, the precipitation and accompanying low temperatures were enough to maintain crop prospects at approximately their May 31 level, although the wheat crop experienced a small decline of two per cent. In Saskatchewan only an average rainfall in combination with somewhat uneven distribution and a deficiency in subsoil moisture reserves resulted in a loss of condition in central and south-central districts, while improvement occurred in the northern districts. The Saskatchewan wheat crop condition as a whole declined by five per cent during the month. Although Alberta precipitation was below normal during June, the more adequate subsoil reserves helped to maintain crop prospects which were very little altered during June. The wheat crop showed a decline of only two per cent.

A dry, warm June caused some decline in the prospects of field crops in British Columbia, which dropped from average condition to somewhat below-average condition during the month.

Weather Conditions since June 30

Rains late last week helped to prevent crop deterioration in Manitoba, although the rainfall across Saskatchewan was not sufficient to prevent further serious declines in the Regina-Weyburn and central Saskatchewan districts. Alberta benefited from fair to good rains last week and crop conditions were maintained. Above average temperatures prevailed in the three Prairie Provinces during the week. In eastern Canada higher temperatures and less frequent rains have been beneficial to all crops.

Condition of Field Crops, June 30, 1940.

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at June 30, 1940, expressed as percentages of the long-time average yields per acre, was reported as follows, with the figures for May 31, 1940, and June 30, 1939, within brackets: Fall wheat 99 (98, 98); spring wheat 92 (96, 102); all wheat 92 (96, 102); oats 92 (92, 98); barley 92 (91, 96); fall rye 86 (88, 92); spring rye 92 (93, 100); all rye 88 (89, 94); peas 94 (91, 95); beans 92 (-, 94); buckwheat 93 (-, 95); mixed grains 96 (92, 95); flaxseed 92 (-, 94); corn for husking 83 (-, 95); potatoes 94 (-, 96); turnips, etc. 93 (-, 95); hay and clover 100 (99, 93); alfalfa 102 (100, 94); fodder corn 87 (-, 93); sugar beets 95 (-, 96); pasture 102 (98, 96).

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at June 30, 1940, was reported as follows, with the figures for May 31, 1940, and June 30, 1939, within brackets: Manitoba - Wheat 96 (98, 97); oats 93 (92, 94); barley 92 (91, 94); rye 88 (91, 83); flaxseed 93 (-, 93). Saskatchewan - Wheat 89 (94, 101); oats 87 (89, 100); barley 87 (88, 97); rye 84 (85, 97); flaxseed 91 (-, 93). Alberta - Wheat 96 (98, 105); oats 95 (95, 102); barley 95 (95, 99); rye 94 (98, 97); flaxseed 94 (-, 99).

Acreage of Late-Sown Crops and Hay.

The first estimate of the acreages of late-sown crops and hay in 1940 is as follows, with the 1939 acreages within brackets: Peas 74,100 (76,000); beans 78,500 (73,200); buckwheat 342,200 (335,200); corn for husking 174,000 (183,200); turnips, etc. 185,300 (189,600); hay and clover 8,784,100 (8,836,600); alfalfa 937,500 (946,900); fodder corn 472,400 (494,800); sugar beets 82,300 (61,500).

Chart Showing the Condition of Spring Wheat in the Prairie Provinces,
by Crop Districts, June 30, 1940.

The chart on the last page of this report presents condition figures by crop districts at June 30, 1940. The patterns used in the chart are directly comparable with those in the charts accompanying the reports of condition at May 31, 1940, and at June 30, 1939.

Slight declines in the condition of the wheat crops in Manitoba and Alberta were experienced during June, while a more serious loss in condition was suffered in Saskatchewan. Expressed in percentages of the provincial long-time average yields per acre, Manitoba and Alberta wheat conditions both declined from 98 to 96 during June. Manitoba's condition at the end of the month was just one point lower than on June 30, 1939, while Alberta's condition was reduced 9 points from the exceptionally fine condition showing at June 30 a year ago. In Saskatchewan the wheat condition declined 5 points from 94 at May 31, this year, to 89 at June 30. The June 30 condition was 12 points below that indicated on June 30, 1939.

Manitoba

The wheat crop progressed during June with practically no loss in condition in southern Districts 1 and 2 and in the Red River District 3. The Winnipeg District 4 improved during June, while conditions in District 5 to the north-east were very little changed. District 6 in the east showed some decline, while Districts 7, 8 and 9 in the west-centre and centre also showed minor declines. Districts 10 and 11 in the north-west showed very small declines, while Districts 13 and 14 registered improvement. District 12 in the inter-lake area, however, showed considerable loss in condition during the month.

Saskatchewan

Most Saskatchewan districts registered some decline in condition during June, although there were a few notable exceptions. District 3AS gained 5 points during the month, while Districts 7A and 8A each gained 9 points. District 9A improved slightly, while District 9B showed a gain of 5 points. Losses in condition were recorded in Districts 1A, 2A, 2B, 3AN, 3BS, 3BN, 4A, 4B, 5A, 6A, 6B, 7B and 8B. The poorest condition was indicated in District 4A where heavy grasshopper damage was reflected in the condition figure of 71. The next poorest condition occurred in District 6B where the light rainfall, which has reduced prospects in most central Saskatchewan districts, was responsible for a condition figure of 74.

Alberta

Although rainfall in Alberta was on the light side during June, a majority of crop districts registered slight improvement in prospects during the month. District 1 showed a sharp reduction in condition, due particularly to grasshopper damage, while District 2 in the south-west also showed some loss in condition. Districts 5, 6 and 8 in the central areas also showed somewhat lower prospects at the end of June. Because of the heavy wheat acreages in those districts, their decline in condition slightly more than offset the improvement elsewhere in the province.

Area and Second Estimate of the Production of Root and Fodder Crops,
1940 as compared with 1939 (concluded)

Crops	Area		Yield per acre		Production	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940
	acres	acres	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
Potatoes	47,800	49,000	36.0	52.0	1,721,000	2,548,000
Turnips, etc.	2,900	2,200	60.0	81.0	174,000	178,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Hay and clover	257,300	257,300	1.73	1.31	445,000	337,000
Alfalfa	28,900	30,000	1.97	1.61	57,000	48,000
Fodder corn	18,200	11,200	2.07	3.26	38,000	37,000
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	25,400	25,500	48.0	73.0	1,219,000	1,862,000
Turnips, etc.	2,700	2,800	100.0	95.0	270,000	266,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Hay and clover	392,200	398,700	1.45	1.60	569,000	638,000
Alfalfa	103,300	108,700	2.00	2.40	207,000	261,000
Fodder corn	3,400	2,400	4.00	4.60	14,000	11,000
Sugar beets	21,600	23,900	12.13	14.00	262,000	334,000
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>						
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	19,000	20,000	102.0	122.0	1,938,000	2,440,000
Turnips, etc.	5,600	5,500	200.0	224.0	1,120,000	1,232,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Hay and clover	156,000	158,700	2.02	2.10	315,000	333,000
Alfalfa	52,300	51,000	3.05	3.07	160,000	157,000
Fodder corn	6,500	6,100	10.80	11.66	70,000	71,000

14 Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1940, as Compared with May 31, 1940,
and June 30, 1939.

Note:- 100=Long-time Average Yield per Acre

Province and Crop	June 30, 1939	May 31, 1940	June 30, 1940	Province and Crop	June 30, 1939	May 31, 1940	June 30, 1940
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
<u>Canada</u>				<u>Quebec</u>			
Fall wheat	98	98	99	Spring wheat	96	95	95
Spring wheat	102	96	92	Oats	97	96	93
All wheat	102	96	92	Barley	97	97	93
Oats	98	92	92	Spring rye	99	97	96
Barley	96	91	92	Peas	97	96	95
Fall rye	92	88	86	Beans	97	-	91
Spring rye	100	93	92	Buckwheat	98	-	95
All rye	94	89	88	Mixed grains	98	97	94
Peas	95	91	94	Flaxseed	100	-	94
Beans	94	-	92	Potatoes	99	-	97
Buckwheat	95	-	93	Turnips, etc.	96	-	95
Mixed grains	95	92	96	Hay and clover	97	100	99
Flaxseed	94	-	92	Alfalfa	98	100	99
Corn, husking	95	-	83	Fodder corn	96	-	93
Potatoes	96	-	94	Pasture	98	100	101
Turnips, etc.	95	-	93				
Hay and clover	93	99	100	<u>Ontario</u>			
Alfalfa	94	100	102	Fall wheat	98	98	99
Fodder corn	93	-	87	Spring wheat	92	88	95
Sugar beets	96	-	95	All wheat	97	98	99
Pasture	96	98	102	Oats	93	89	95
				Barley	92	89	93
<u>P. E. Island</u>				Fall rye	97	97	97
Spring wheat	85	101	97	Peas	93	89	93
Oats	88	100	100	Beans	94	-	92
Barley	87	99	100	Buckwheat	94	-	91
Buckwheat	88	-	100	Mixed grains	94	91	96
Mixed grains	88	99	100	Flaxseed	93	-	91
Potatoes	90	-	100	Corn, husking	95	-	83
Turnips, etc.	89	-	100	Potatoes	96	-	91
Hay and clover	71	102	102	Turnips, etc.	95	-	90
Fodder corn	84	-	100	Hay and clover	91	101	104
Pasture	79	101	105	Alfalfa	93	101	105
				Fodder corn	94	-	85
<u>Nova Scotia</u>				Sugar beets	94	-	96
Spring wheat	90	94	97	Pasture	95	99	107
Oats	91	98	97				
Barley	91	95	96	<u>Manitoba</u>			
Buckwheat	91	-	96	Spring wheat	97	98	96
Mixed grains	90	96	95	Oats	94	92	93
Potatoes	93	-	97	Barley	94	91	92
Turnips, etc.	92	-	96	Fall rye	82	91	88
Hay and clover	87	100	104	Spring rye	90	90	89
Fodder corn	88	-	93	All rye	83	91	88
Pasture	88	97	103	Peas	97	90	90
				Buckwheat	94	-	81
<u>New Brunswick</u>				Mixed grains	94	91	92
Spring wheat	92	93	94	Flaxseed	93	-	93
Oats	96	96	95	Potatoes	95	-	86
Barley	95	97	95	Turnips, etc.	95	-	89
Beans	95	-	94	Hay and clover	87	79	82
Buckwheat	94	-	95	Alfalfa	90	83	85
Mixed grains	95	97	96	Fodder corn	90	-	87
Potatoes	96	-	95	Sugar beets	-	-	91
Turnips, etc.	95	-	96	Pasture	92	80	88
Hay and clover	80	101	100				
Fodder corn	94	-	95				
Pasture	86	98	102				

I. Condition of Field Crops at June 30, 1940, as Compared with May 31, 1940,
and June 30, 1939 (Concluded)

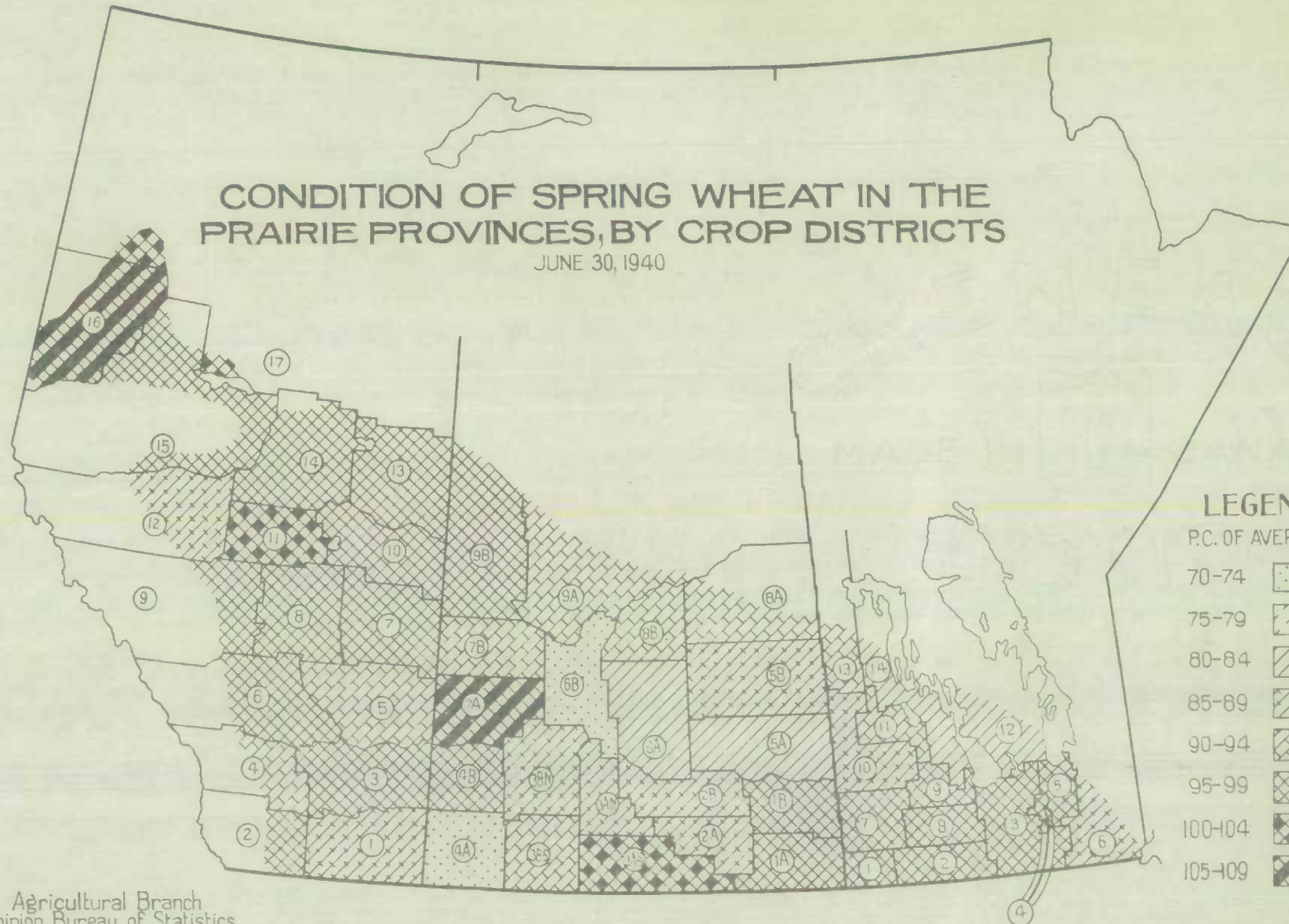
Province and crop	June 30, 1939	May 31, 1940	June 30, 1940	Province and crop	June 30, 1939	May 31, 1940	June 30, 1940
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.		p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
<u>Saskatchewan</u>				<u>British Columbia</u>			
Spring wheat	101	94	89	Spring wheat	103	101	96
Oats	100	89	87	Oats	102	101	96
Barley	97	88	87	Barley	101	100	95
Fall rye	96	84	83	Spring rye	107	100	99
Spring rye	101	91	89	Peas	102	100	96
All rye	97	85	84	Beans	96	-	97
Mixed grains	102	91	88	Mixed grains	103	100	99
Flaxseed	93	-	91	Flaxseed	95	-	100
Potatoes	97	-	92	Potatoes	99	-	97
Turnips, etc.	96	-	91	Turnips, etc.	97	-	94
Hay and clover	100	82	84	Hay and clover	102	104	100
Alfalfa	101	89	92	Alfalfa	100	104	103
Fodder corn	88	-	92	Fodder corn	90	-	100
Pasture	107	82	88	Pasture	106	104	96
<u>Alberta</u>							
Spring wheat	105	98	96				
Oats	102	95	95				
Barley	99	95	95				
Fall rye	94	99	93				
Spring rye	102	97	96				
All rye	97	98	94				
Peas	98	95	99				
Beans	93	-	94				
Mixed grains	100	94	94				
Flaxseed	99	-	94				
Potatoes	98	-	97				
Turnips, etc.	96	-	97				
Hay and clover	99	100	100				
Alfalfa	97	102	100				
Fodder corn	93	-	94				
Sugar beets	98	-	96				
Pasture	106	101	101				

II. Areas of Late-Sown Crops and Hay, 1940, as Compared with 1939.

Province and crop	1939	Per cent of 1939	1940	Province and crop	1939	Per cent of 1939	1940
	acres	p.c.	acres		acres	p.c.	acres
<u>Canada -</u>				<u>Manitoba -</u>			
Peas	76,000	98	74,100	Peas	1,600	95	1,500
Beans	73,200	107	78,500	Buckwheat	7,200	94	6,800
Buckwheat	335,200	102	342,200	Turnips, etc.	6,500	97	6,300
Corn, husking	183,200	95	174,000	Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	470,600	96	451,800
Turnips, etc.	189,600	98	185,300	Alfalfa	71,600	96	68,700
Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	8,836,600	99	8,784,100	Fodder corn	72,400	99	71,700
Alfalfa	946,900	99	937,500	Sugar Beets	-	-	18,300
Fodder corn	494,800	95	472,400				
Sugar Beets	61,500	134	82,300				
<u>Prince Edward Island -</u>				<u>Saskatchewan -</u>			
Buckwheat	3,900	96	3,700	Turnips, etc.	2,900	96	2,800
Turnips, etc.	10,800	101	10,900	Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	257,300	95	244,400
Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	226,400	101	228,700	Alfalfa	28,900	96	27,700
Fodder corn	400	100	400	Fodder corn	18,200	95	17,300
<u>Nova Scotia -</u>				<u>Alberta -</u>			
Buckwheat	4,000	97	3,900	Peas	900	98	900
Turnips, etc.	12,000	100	12,000	Beans	800	93	700
Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	403,500	100	403,500	Turnips, etc.	2,700	98	2,600
Fodder corn	600	96	600	Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	392,200	101	396,100
				Alfalfa	103,300	101	104,300
				Fodder corn	3,400	96	3,300
				Sugar beets	21,600	111	24,000
<u>New Brunswick -</u>				<u>British Columbia -</u>			
Beans	1,200	101	1,200	Peas	3,100	104	3,200
Buckwheat	29,600	96	28,400	Beans	1,000	102	1,000
Turnips, etc.	12,600	100	12,600	Turnips, etc.	5,600	98	5,500
Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	562,600	100	562,600	Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	156,000	100	156,000
Fodder corn	900	98	900	Alfalfa	52,300	101	52,800
				Fodder corn	6,500	98	6,400
<u>Quebec -</u>							
Peas	18,500	101	18,700				
Beans	7,700	105	8,100				
Buckwheat	122,100	99	120,900				
Turnips, etc.	38,200	100	38,200				
Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	3,646,000	100	3,646,000				
Alfalfa	17,800	101	18,000				
Fodder corn	56,400	99	55,800				
<u>Ontario -</u>							
Peas	51,900	96	49,800				
Beans	62,500	108	67,500				
Buckwheat	168,400	106	178,500				
Corn, husking	183,200	95	174,000				
Turnips, etc.	98,300	96	94,400				
Hay and clover <u>1/</u>	2,722,000	99	2,695,000				
Alfalfa	673,000	99	666,000				
Fodder corn	356,000	94	316,000				
Sugar beets	39,900	100	40,000				

1/Seeded hay and clover only.

CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS JUNE 30, 1940



LEGEND

P.C. OF AVERAGE

70-74	
75-79	
80-84	
85-89	
90-94	
95-99	
100-104	
105-109	

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