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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
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CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS OF CANADA, JULY 31, 1946

Ottawa, August 9, 1946 (3 p.m.) - Today, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues its report on the numerical condition of field crops in Canada as of July 31, 1946. The condition data for all crops with the exception of spring wheat in the Prairie Provinces are obtained through the medium of reports from hundreds of informed persons who express their opinion of crop conditions at July 31, as a percentage of the long-time average yield per acre. The condition figures for the western wheat crop are derived from an analysis of weather factors.

In each case it is emphasized that numerical condition figures do not necessarily reflect ultimate yields. Any deviations from normal in respect to weather factors, plant diseases, or insect infestations occurring between July 31 and harvest time may lead to outturns which will vary considerably from those apparently indicated by the July 31 numerical condition figures.

With the exception of pasture crops, the numerical condition of the principal field crops in Canada at the end of July revealed only relatively small changes from the condition data of June 30, 1946. During the month, some crops suffered slight deterioration while others posted small gains. The condition of spring wheat, based on weather factors, improved in Manitoba and Saskatchewan during the month and declined only one per cent in Alberta. With the exception of Manitoba, the condition of oats was slightly lower in the Prairie Provinces, while barley gained in Manitoba, lost in Saskatchewan and remained relatively constant in Alberta.

The condition of coarse grains deteriorated in all of the five eastern provinces during July, while Nova Scotia was the exception to the decline in the spring wheat condition in that area. Flaxseed gains were noted in Manitoba and Saskatchewan but only slight losses occurred in Ontario and Alberta.

The first estimate of the Ontario winter wheat crop places the outturn at 16,052,000 bushels as against 20,115,000 bushels a year ago. The acreage remaining for harvest this year is 546,000 acres, a substantial decrease from the 675,000 acres harvested a year ago. The yield per acre is placed at 29.4 bushels as compared with 29.8 bushels per acre in 1945.

Fall rye production in the four provinces growing this crop is estimated at 5,122,000 bushels from 335,000 acres and compares with 4,068,000 bushels from 317,500 acres last season. Substantially increased rye acreages in Alberta and Saskatchewan have more than offset the acreage reduction in Ontario. The yield per acre for this crop is 15.3 bushels this year as against 12.8 bushels in 1945.

Comparison with 1945

With the exception of such forage crops as hay and clover and pasture, together with buckwheat, the condition of field crops in Canada at the end of July 1946 is generally much more favourable than at the same date a year ago. The improvement is most marked in the Prairie Provinces, especially Saskatchewan

and Alberta. With the exception of the forage crops and sugar beets, conditions in Ontario appear to be somewhat improved over those of 1945. Generally dry weather in Quebec and the Maritimes has allowed very little, if any, improvement in crop conditions in those provinces and in the case of Quebec the over-all prospects appear to be below those of last year. Conditions in British Columbia are, for the most part, much better than at July 31, 1945 and in many instances they are close to normal.

Forage crops in all provinces, except Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia are decidedly poorer than a year ago. Especially is this true in Quebec and the Maritimes. Next to the spring wheat crop the flaxseed condition figures display the most pronounced improvement over last year's prospects at July 31 and are closely followed by those of rye. The condition of dry peas and beans is much improved this year and husking corn prospects are more promising than a year ago.

Condition of Wheat by Crop Districts in the Prairie Provinces

The two charts on the last page of the report show the condition of the spring wheat crop within crop districts of the Prairie Provinces at July 31, 1946 and 1945. The charts are directly comparable. The crop district condition figures are based on the more important weather factors affecting the growth of the wheat plant, including precipitation during the preceding autumn period, and precipitation and temperatures during the growing season from April to July.

The sharp differences in wheat condition between adjacent crop districts as shown on the charts is an inherent characteristic where crop district averages of condition are employed, and the true gradations of condition must be inferred. The condition figures are expressed as percentages of the long-time average yields of wheat for each province.

In Manitoba, the wheat crop in crop districts 10 and 11 benefited greatly from well above normal rainfall during July and compares favourably with the condition of a year ago. Elsewhere in the province the condition of wheat is lower than at July 31st of the previous year. Districts 1 and 12 recorded the lowest condition.

All crop districts in Saskatchewan, with two exceptions, show increases in the condition of wheat compared with last year. In district 3BS no change in condition is indicated, while a considerable reduction is evident in district 1A.

Apart from districts 2 and 16, crop district wheat conditions in Alberta at July 31, this year were considerably higher than in 1945. The wheat condition figure in district 2 dropped slightly in comparison with the previous year. Below-normal rainfall throughout the season in district 16 reduced the condition figures below the normal of 100.

Summary of Weather During July, Prairie Provinces

Precipitation during July was very favourable to crops in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, averaging 32 and 15 per cent respectively above normal. In Alberta rainfall during the month averaged 23 per cent below normal. Temperatures, on the other hand, were normal or lower in all three provinces, with Manitoba averaging not quite one degree below normal.

Rainfall within the provinces was variable. In Manitoba below-normal amounts were received in crop districts 4, 5, 6 and 13, with normal or better rainfall in the remaining districts. Districts 10 and 11 received bountiful rains averaging three to four inches over normal. Precipitation in south-eastern, south-central and east-central Saskatchewan during the month was well above normal while districts 8B and 9A were slightly above normal. Elsewhere in the province July rains were below normal, the western third of the province suffering most from inadequate moisture supplies. Only one district, number 14, in Alberta received above-normal precipitation. Appreciably below-normal amounts were recorded in districts 7, 9, 12, and 16.

Below normal temperatures were experienced in all crop districts of Manitoba, with the exception of districts 10, 12 and 13. Temperatures averaged higher than normal in south-central, and western Saskatchewan crop districts, further accentuating the relatively dry conditions in those districts. Other districts experienced below-normal temperatures which were considerably lower in east-central and north-central Saskatchewan. Temperatures in eastern Alberta districts were above normal becoming lower toward the western border.

Frosts which occurred on the nights of July 22 to 24 across the northern and central sections of Saskatchewan and Alberta have caused undetermined damage to crops, particularly on low-lying fields. Some reduction in both yield and grade of wheat is expected.

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at July 31, 1946, expressed in percentage of the long-time average yield per acre, was as follows, with the condition at June 30, 1946 and July 31, 1945, within brackets: Spring wheat 126 (122, 92); oats 86 (89, 71); barley 86 (84, 71); spring rye 87 (87, 67); peas 90 (93, 80); beans 93 (92, 83); buckwheat 86 (94, 91); mixed grains 93 (96, 85); flaxseed 89 (83, 68); corn for husking 91 (88, 77); potatoes 92 (95, 88); turnips, etc. 89 (94, 89); hay and clover 86 (88, 101); fodder corn 89 (92, 84); sugar beets 92 (95, 93); pasture 82 (93, 99).

For the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal grain crops at the same dates was as follows: Manitoba - Wheat 112 (103, 139); oats 84 (70, 83); barley 84 (70, 82); spring rye 89 (72, 78); flaxseed 88 (75, 85); Saskatchewan - Wheat 129 (123, 90); oats 81 (87, 67); barley 81 (84, 70); spring rye 84 (85, 67); flaxseed 88 (85, 62); Alberta - Wheat 126 (127, 80); oats 95 (98, 55); barley 97 (96, 56); spring rye 95 (93, 59); flaxseed 93 (94, 62).

1. Area and First Estimate of the Production of Fall Wheat, Fall Rye and Alfalfa (First Cutting), 1945 and 1946

	Area		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1945	1946	1945	1946	1945	1946
	ac.	ac.	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
Fall Wheat						
Ontario	675,000	546,000	29.8	29.4	20,115,000	16,052,000
Fall Rye						
Ontario	67,500	49,000	18.5	19.9	1,249,000	975,000
Manitoba	19,000	17,000	14.9	17.0	283,000	289,000
Saskatchewan	148,000	179,000	9.0	12.0	1,332,000	2,148,000
Alberta	83,000	90,000	14.5	19.0	1,204,000	1,710,000
CANADA	317,500	335,000	12.8	15.3	4,068,000	5,122,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Alfalfa						
Quebec	72,000	68,000	1.92	1.48	138,000	101,000
Ontario	795,000	731,000	1.95	1.74	1,550,000	1,272,000
Manitoba	285,000	262,000	1.82	1.45	519,000	380,000
Saskatchewan	87,800	77,300	1.58	1.29	139,000	100,000
Alberta	274,700	274,700	1.22	1.62	335,000	445,000
British Columbia.	72,500	75,400	2.00	2.06	145,000	155,000
CANADA	1,587,000	1,488,400	1.78	1.65	2,826,000	2,453,000

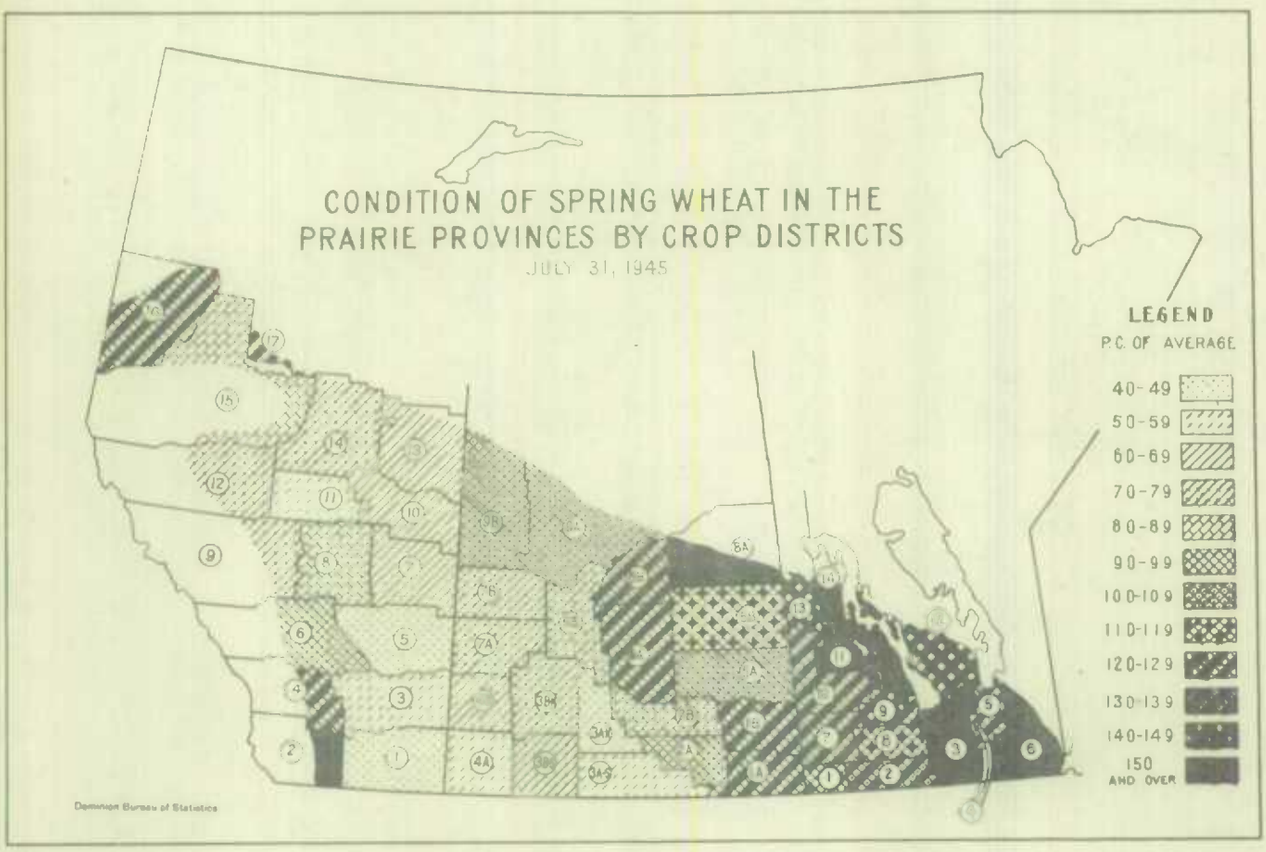
2. Condition of Field Crops at July 31, 1946, as compared with July 31, 1945, and with June 30, 1946 (100=long-time average yield per acre)

Province and Crop	July 31 1945	July 31 1946	June 30, 1946
Canada	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Spring wheat 1/	92	126	122
Oats	71	86	89
Barley	71	86	84
Spring rye	67	87	87
Peas	80	90	93
Beans	83	93	92
Buckwheat	91	86	94
Mixed grains	85	93	96
Flaxseed	68	89	83
Corn, husking	77	91	88
Potatoes	88	92	95
Turnips, etc.	89	89	94
Hay and clover	101	86	88
Fodder corn	84	89	92
Sugar beets	93	92	95
Pasture	99	82	93
P. E. Island			
Spring wheat	94	87	97
Oats	96	90	98
Barley	98	90	98
Buckwheat	95	90	94
Mixed grains	97	90	99
Potatoes	96	94	99
Turnips, etc.	99	89	96
Hay and clover	101	69	86
Fodder corn	87	91	93
Pasture	106	76	99
Nova Scotia			
Spring wheat	80	98	91
Oats	83	89	93
Barley	79	91	93
Buckwheat	84	91	92
Mixed grains	80	90	92
Potatoes	85	95	97
Turnips, etc.	90	84	94
Hay and clover	107	81	87
Fodder corn	88	92	95
Pasture	101	78	92
New Brunswick			
Spring wheat	98	89	96
Oats	91	85	93
Barley	92	83	95
Beans	93	78	92
Buckwheat	95	84	89
Mixed grains	94	90	95
Potatoes	93	89	93
Turnips, etc.	93	84	92
Hay and clover	104	76	83
Fodder corn	97	84	89
Pasture	102	77	86
Quebec			
Spring wheat	91	90	96
Oats	91	79	90
Barley	90	84	90
Spring rye	99	88	92
Peas	83	84	92
Beans	90	83	89
Buckwheat	94	82	92
Mixed grains	93	85	91
Potatoes	93	89	94
Turnips, etc.	93	86	91
Hay and clover	108	84	90
Fodder corn	90	86	91
Sugar beets	100	88	95
Pasture	103	80	93

Province and Crop	July 31 1945	July 31 1946	June 30 1946
Ontario	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Spring wheat	87	93	97
Oats	79	94	98
Barley	80	95	98
Peas	82	94	95
Beans	82	94	92
Buckwheat	89	88	96
Mixed grains	85	96	99
Flaxseed	87	93	97
Corn, husking	77	91	89
Potatoes	84	93	98
Turnips, etc.	84	92	97
Hay and clover	100	89	85
Fodder corn	83	91	94
Sugar beets	95	90	88
Pasture	102	83	94
Manitoba			
Spring wheat 2/	139	112	103
Oats	83	84	70
Barley	82	84	70
Spring rye	78	89	72
Peas	88	89	77
Buckwheat	85	80	70
Mixed grains	83	87	75
Flaxseed	85	88	75
Corn, husking	71	84	66
Potatoes	87	93	80
Turnips, etc.	86	90	81
Hay and clover	96	78	67
Fodder corn	79	84	71
Sugar beets	89	88	75
Pasture	99	87	69
Saskatchewan			
Spring wheat 2/	90	129	123
Oats	67	81	87
Barley	70	81	84
Spring rye	67	84	85
Mixed grains	68	87	79
Flaxseed	62	88	85
Potatoes	75	89	91
Turnips, etc.	76	86	83
Hay and clover	78	76	82
Fodder corn	69	82	80
Pasture	75	82	84
Alberta			
Spring wheat 2/	80	126	127
Oats	55	95	98
Barley	56	97	96
Spring rye	59	95	93
Peas	67	91	98
Beans	53	86	82
Mixed grains	59	93	99
Flaxseed	62	93	94
Potatoes	69	101	99
Turnips, etc.	72	98	96
Hay and clover	70	100	102
Fodder corn	74	86	97
Sugar beets	92	97	100
Pasture	65	101	108
British Columbia			
Spring wheat	90	99	98
Oats	90	101	99
Barley	88	99	98
Spring rye	96	100	100
Peas	95	98	100
Beans	100	99	100
Mixed grains	93	101	100
Flaxseed	90	95	95
Potatoes	92	102	100
Turnips, etc.	88	99	96
Hay and clover	90	102	102
Fodder corn	96	95	95
Pasture	92	101	106

1/ Includes condition figures for Prairie Provinces based on weather factors.
2/ Condition figures based on weather factors.


CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE
PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY CROP DISTRICTS
JULY 31, 1946
LEGEND
P.C. OF AVERAGE
UNDER 50
50 - 59
60 - 69
70 - 79
80 - 89
90 - 99
100-109
110-119
120-129
130-139
140-149
150 AND OVER
Dominion Bureau of Statistics


CONDITION OF SPRING WHEAT IN THE
PRAIRIE PROVINCES BY CROP DISTRICTS
JULY 31, 1945
LEGEND
P.C. OF AVERAGE
40-49
50-59
60-69
70-79
80-89
90-99
100-109
110-119
120-129
130-139
140-149
150
AND OVER
Dominion Bureau of Statistics