OUR FARMERS' CLUB

Correspondence Invited

NOVA SCOTIA

ANTIGONISH CO, N.S.

ANTIGONISH, July 3.—Hay will be a light crop, as the weather continues very dry. Clover is a complete failure owing to the hard frosts last winter. Grain is coming on fairly well. The farmers held their annual excursion to the Government Farm, Truro, on June 29, and enjoyed a pleasant day. The prospects for the apple crop are good.—Tom Brown.

ONTARIO

GRENVILLE CO, ONT.

CHARLIEVILLE, July 4.—We have commenced haying. We have completed almost all of our cultivating. There will not be as much hay as last year. We are having very dry weather. We can cut down heavy hay in the forenoon and draw it in the afternoon. Grain is heading out and is looking fine. Corn is well advanced. Some of our farmers have started to sell new potatoes, which is a record for our district. The supply of milk is falling off.—G W C.

GLENGARRY CO., ONT.

ST ELMO, July 5.—Haying is now generally started, and owing to the extreme heat of May and the small amount of rainfall during both May and June the hay is earlier and also rather a small crop. A larger area of corn has been planted, and is looking well. The season has been favorable for controlling the weeds. Grain crops look fair.—W.E.McK.

HASTINGS CO., ONT

CHAPMAN, July 5.—Hay making has begun, but has been hindered somewhat by wet weather. Alfalfa is a fair crop, and the first cutting has been harvested in good condition. Red clover is fair, but timothy will be light. Spring grain and corn are making good growth. Hogs are worth $7.25 a cwt.—H.S.T.

SIMCOE CO., ONT.

ELMVALE, July 3.—The weather has been very dry. Crops are all short. The hay crop cannot be more than two-thirds of an average. Pastures are becoming dry. The prices paid last week for eggs was 16c; butter, 15c; hay (old), $19. Considerable old hay is still in the hands of farmers, and will no doubt be in demand later at a good price. Owing to the drouth strawberries were little more than half a crop. Apples are a small crop, while cherries and plums are scarcely to be seen.—C.S.B.

WELLINGTON CO., ONT.

FERGUS, July 3.—We have been having such a long, dry spell that the root crop is not coming at all. Some farmers are plowing up their mangels. This is a great loss. Hay will be light. Some farmers are cutting their alfalfa. Fall wheat is 75c; oats, 32c; barley, 60c; peas, 75c; buckwheat, 45c; butter, 15c; eggs, 15c; wool, 18c to 22c; hogs, $6.85; new, $10 to $11; potatoes, 80c to 90c; good cattle, $5.85.—W.B.

ELORA, June 17.—The middle of June is past, and this part of Ontario never gave promise of such an abundant harvest and crops were never so far advanced. Hay is the only crop that looks like being under the average owing to so little rain in May. Cattle for pastures are very scarce, less in number than for many years, indicating a shortage for feeding next winter. Those who bought dear last fall, however and fed at a loss will be slow to buy at long prices another season. This would suggest fewer beef cattle next spring. Prices for fat stock at the present time are good, but too low at the prices paid for feeders. Farmers are busy, but owing to large supplies through the emigration department, help has been more readily secured.—G.W

BRANT CO., ONT

Prolonged drought and excessive hot weather have hastened the crops in western Ontario towards an unusually early maturity. In Brant county an editor of Farm and Dairy last week found haying well under way and fall wheat fast approaching the cutting stage. Some new fields of fall wheat on the lighter soils were almost ready to cut. The season has been an extraordinarily dry one, yet the crops give promise of fair to average yields.

The hay, which early in the season was thought to be exceedingly light and much of it gave prospects of yields not exceeding from one-half to a ton per acre, has turned out much better than was expected. Very few fields, if any, are yielding less than a ton and a half, and from this on up to two and a half tons per acre; although appearing to be thin in the top it seems to have a thick, low growth, which is the reason for yields better than anticipated.

Alfalfa, of which there is now considerable grown in Brant county, has all been cut the first time, and notwithstanding the drought it has developed a luxuriant second growth most beautiful to see. Many pieces of alfalfa, although considerably winter-killed, have yielded most satisfactory first cuttings, the average cut being two good loads to the acre.

SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING

Pastures have become hard and brown, and while affording a good living for young stock they must be supplemented with other feed for the milk cows. Much of the spring seeding to red clover in Brant county has been lost on account of the dry weather, and the prospects are that the dairy cows will have to be fed extra from now until late next May again, no matter what the weather may be from this time forward since there is little if any old clover and no new seeding to come on and furnish fall pasture.

The fall wheat promises well. Much of it by the time this report reaches Farm and Dairy readers will be cut and in shock. The straw is of good average length and stands up well. The fly has reduced the yield by at least five bushels to the acre in many fields.

Spring grains are coming on fairly well in spite of the drought. Barley is looking exceptionally well, and has headed out with splendid long heads, better than is usually seen. Oats will be very short in the straw unless a good rain comes soon, which, if it were to come now as the crop is shooting into head, would work wonders in increasing the yield.

Small fruits are less than an average crop. Strawberries were far from a successful crop, and raspberries, although many are set they are being dried by the prevailing weather conditions, and without rain cannot be expected to yield up to the average. Apples range from a fair to a short crop, with the exception of fall and softer fruits, which will probably be nearly an average crop.

HALDIMAND CO., ONT.

CANBORO, July 6.—Increased acreages of oats and alfalfa have been seeded. Roots have decreased. Fall wheat never looked better. Spring grains are not so good owing to drought. The first cutting of alfalfa has been made. It is a fair crop, but not as good as last season, as it was somewhat winter-killed.—J. H. Houser.

MIDDLESEX CO., ONT.

APPIN, July 3.—Haying is in full swing. The weather is very dry. Pastures are becoming very short and parched, and all crops will be very short if rain does not soon come. Fall wheat will be cut by the 8th inst. The extreme heat and drought are hastening wheat and spring crops, and harvest will be over in July unless a change comes in the weather.—C.M.M.

ELGIN CO., ONT.

FROME, July 5.—Crops are very light owing to the dry weather of the last two months. Haying is the order of the day, and a short job it is. Young clover is not showing up much, and unless we get rain very soon will be a complete failure. Pastures are very dry.—S.J.H.

BRUCE CO., ONT.

SKIPNESS, July 6.—A great number of apple trees are being set out this year. Many were set out last year and 1912 will see a larger number yet. Some are setting out peaches but we fear that our winters will be too cold. The only way to find out, however, is to try. The apple crop will not be heavy this year.—J. D.

WALKERTON, July 5.—The spring grains are well advanced and promise a full crop. Fall wheat is good. The hay crop varies a good deal. In some sections it is up to the average, in other places light. Roots are fair, but need rain. Strawberries are good, other small fruits light. All other fruits are very light.—J.A.L.

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Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Peterboro and at the Office of the Post Office Inspector at Kingston.

G. C ANDERSON,
Superintendent

Post Office Department, Mail Service Branch, Ottawa, June 23rd, 1911.

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