

Crop Report for the week of May 15, 2005

Saskatchewan farmers now have 47 per cent of the 2005 crop planted, ahead of the five-year average (2000-04) of 35 per cent, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

The south west is furthest advanced with 66 per cent seeded, followed by the west central region with 53 per cent seeded. The north west is least advanced at 29 per cent seeded.

Strong winds and a lack of precipitation continue to dry out topsoil south of Saskatoon. Almost 65 per cent of reporters rate their crop land as having adequate topsoil moisture, down from 82 per cent last week. East central and south western areas are reporting the driest topsoil at this time. A total of 52 per cent of reporters indicate that their hay and pasture land has adequate topsoil moisture, down from 69 per cent last week.

Reports of re-seeding canola, due mainly to frost damage, came from the southeast, southwest, and east central regions. Spraying was hampered by cool, windy weather.

Localized changes to original seeding plans were reported including less flax because of a shortage of quality seed, more peas because of good seed and fewer inputs, fewer oilseeds if surface moisture is not replenished, and more summerfallow due to heavy trash cover.

Pasture and hay lands are slow to grow due to cool, dry weather. Many producers continue to feed their livestock, especially in southern and central areas.

Seeding Progress in SK per cent seeded

	All Crops
May 15/05	47
5-year Avg. (2000-04)	35
May 16/04	41
May 18/03	32
May 12/02	13
May 13/01	43
May 14/00	46

Seeding Progress by Crop District

CD	May 15/05	May 16/04
1a	20	22
1b	41	32
2a	67	40
2b	44	44
3an	61	41
3ase	54	44
3asw	55	17
3bn	60	53
3bs	70	51
4a	83	74
4b	88	79
5a	41	33
5b	41	29
6a	40	41
6b	46	41
7a	60	60
7b	53	57
8a	38	41
8b	42	42
9ae	32	26
9aw	29	30
9b	29	33
Prov.	47	41

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1 Year Ago

Farmers had planted 41% of the 2004 crop.

Many southern areas received precipitation, improving topsoil moisture conditions substantially.

Slow grass growth was causing concern for livestock owners as feed supplies were diminishing.

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

The southeastern corner received rain with some snow flurries during the past week. An average of 8 mm of precipitation fell, ranging from an average low of 2 mm reported in Crop District (CD) 2b, to an average high of 23 mm in CD 1a. The largest amount reported was 48 mm in the Frobisher area. Blowing dust was reported in CD 2b near the end of last week. Reports of re-seeding of canola damaged by frost came from CD 1a. Frost damage to canola, alfalfa, and flowering trees was reported in CD 2a. Possible frost damage to canola and lentils was reported in CD 3ase.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land did not change much from last week. Sixty-one per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions as adequate, compared to 63% last week. Fifty-five per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate, compared to 47% last week. On hay and pasture land, surplus moisture areas dried, and the precipitation improved the short moisture areas.

South eastern farmers made good seeding progress last week. Reports show 43% of the 2005 crop is planted. Crop District 2a is most advanced with 67% planted. Crop District 1a has the least planted at 20%. Cool weather and lack of topsoil moisture is causing germination concerns.

Early plantings of wheat and peas were emerging in CD 2a. Crops seeded in late April were emerging in CD 2b.

In CD 2b, some producers were switching from flax to other crops, due to a shortage of good flax seed.

Spraying to burn off weed growth is poor due to cold conditions. Some of the 2004 crop was burned early last week in CD 2b.

Pastures and hay land are slow to grow because of the cool weather, and many livestock owners continue to feed their animals.

South western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

The southwest was generally cool, windy, and dry during the past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation fell. The largest amount reported was 8 mm in the Kyle area. Dusty field conditions are reported in CD 4a because of the dry, windy weather. Alfalfa crops were hurt by the frost in CDs 3asw and 4a. Early seeded canola crops in CD 3asw were hurt by the frost and may need to be re-seeded. Frost set back the growth of winter wheat in CD 3bs. Re-seeding canola because of the frost took place in CDs 3bn and 4. There were some complaints of frost damage to pea and barley crops in CD 4b. In CD 3bn, the early mustard was well emerged and did not freeze off.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land deteriorated during the past week. Fifty-seven per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions as adequate, compared to 84% last week. Thirty-four per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate, compared to 67% last week. Farmers are looking for a rain to replenish topsoil moisture.

South western farmers continued to make good seeding progress. Reports show 66% of the

2005 crop is planted. Crop District 4b is most advanced with 88% planted. Crop District 3asw has 60% planted. Emergence of early-seeded crops has begun in CDs 3bs, 3bn, and 4b.

More peas are expected to be seeded in CD 3an because of good seed supplies and fewer inputs required. In CD 3bs, heavy trash cover is becoming a problem, and some are considering more summerfallow. Seeding of canola is on hold in CD 3bn – if rain and warmth don't come soon, oats or barley will be seeded instead. Fewer chickpeas than expected were seeded in CD 4b.

Farmers are having a hard time spraying because of wind and freezing temperatures.

Pasture growth is slow. Cattle were moving out to summer pastures.

Gophers are eating emerging crops and digging up seed in CD 3bs.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region saw cool temperatures and some snow flurries during the past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation fell. Farmers are looking for a general rain to complete planting and ensure uniform germination. There were reports of winter wheat crops in CD 5a being damaged because of dry surface moisture. Frost damage meant canola needed to be re-seeded in CD 5b. Emerging crops, alfalfa, and winter cereals sustained frost damage in CD 6a.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land deteriorated during the past week. Fifty-two per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions as adequate, compared

to 84% last week. Thirty-one per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate, compared to 50% last week.

East central farmers made good seeding progress last week. Reports show 41% of the 2005 crop is planted. Crop Districts 5a and 5b each have 41% planted while CD 6a has 40% planted.

Some farmers in CD 5a were changing their seeding plans due to high input costs, lack of rain, and prices for the grains. Some farmers in CD 5b will be lowering their flax and canola acres due to the dry, cold weather. Some farmers in CD 6a will be decreasing projected flax acreage due to inability to find quality seed. Also in CD 6a, some canola acres are being switched to cereals.

Weed control activities were slowed due to the cool weather. A lot of residue burning took place in areas of CD 5b. Some further harvesting was completed in CD 6a.

Pastures are not growing and need a rain and warm weather soon. Many livestock owners continue to feed their stock.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

West central regions were generally cool and windy during the past week with frost most nights. An average of 1 mm of precipitation fell. In the Denzil area, a total of 24 mm was received near the beginning of the week. Dust was blowing in CDs 6b and 7b. Also in CD 6b, emerging crops sustained some frost damage during the week. In CD 7b, early seeded wheat was set back due to frost damage.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land deteriorated this past week. Sixty-five per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions as adequate, compared to 96% last week. Sixty-five per cent of reporters also rated topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate, compared to 91% last week.

West central farmers made good seeding progress last week. Reports show 53% of the 2005 crop is planted. Crop District 7a is most advanced with 60% planted. Crop District 6b has 46% planted. Peas and lentils are emerging in CD 6b.

Some areas in CD 6b seeded more lentils than they expected to a month ago. How much canola goes in will depend on replenishment of the topsoil moisture. In CD 7b, there is an increase in barley acreage, and a small reduction in canola and spring wheat acres.

Spraying is being hampered by cold weather.

Cattle are being moved out to pastures in CD 7a where the grass is looking better.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

Most areas of the northeast were cool, windy, and dry with some snow flurries. An average of 1 mm of precipitation fell. Harsh winds caused soil erosion in CD 9ae.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land were similar to last week. Ninety-five per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions as adequate, compared to 100% last week. Ninety per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate, compared to 95% last week.

North eastern farmers made good seeding progress last week. Reports show 39% of the 2005 crop is planted. Crop District 8b is most advanced with 42% planted. Crop District 9ae has 32% planted.

Lack of surface moisture is worrisome in some areas of CD 8b, especially in regard to sowing small-seed crops.

There was some spraying done. Some more combining and baling of the 2004 crop was completed.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

The northwest was cool and windy with freezing night-time temperatures during the past week. An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation fell. Rain would settle the dust and allow for more even germination.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved as surplus moisture dried up. Eighty-seven per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions as adequate, compared to 82% last week. Eighty per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate, compared to 89% last week.

North western farmers made good seeding progress last week. Reports show 29% of the 2005 crop is planted. Both CDs 9aw and 9b report an average of 29% planted.

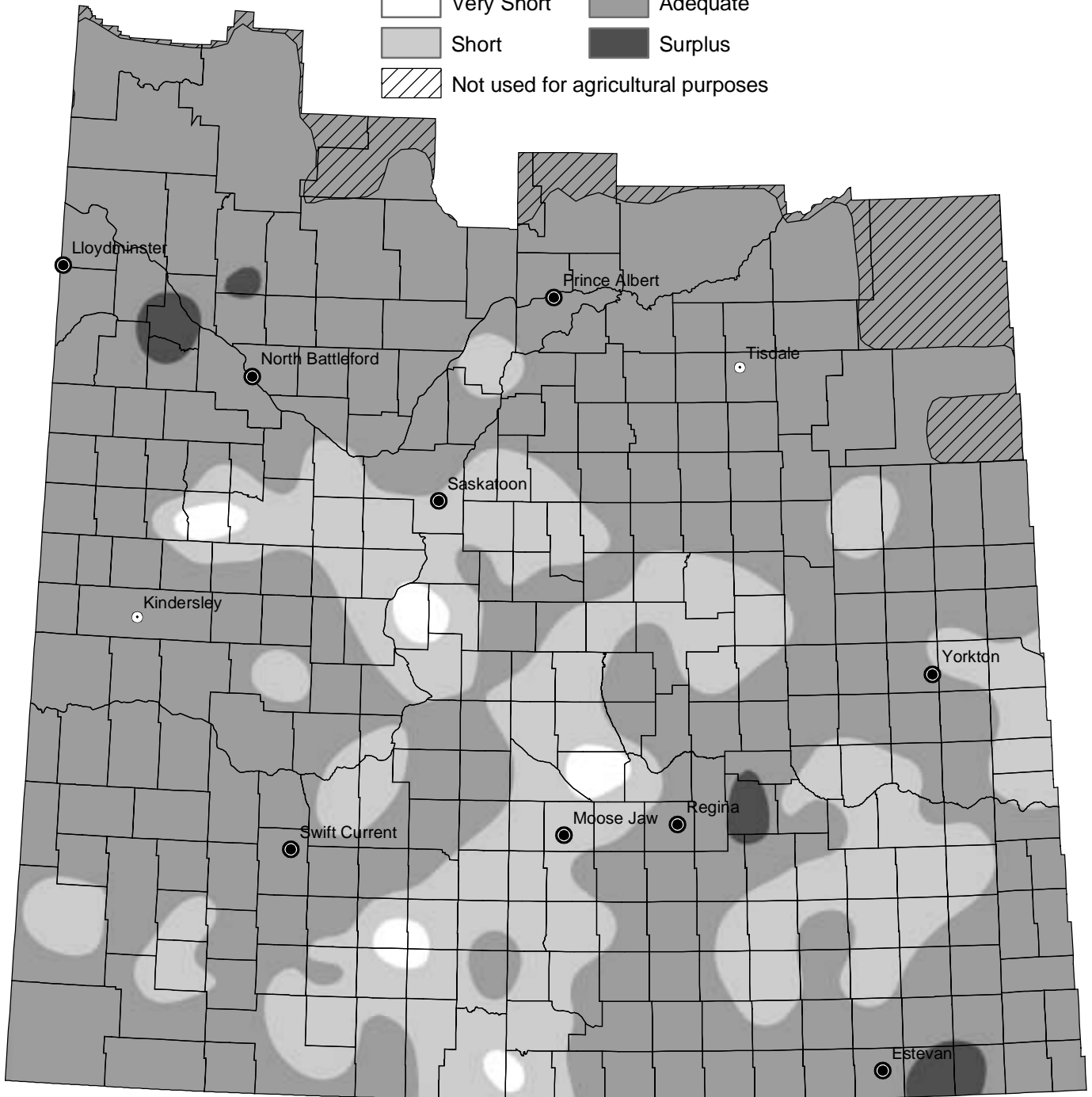
Pea and wheat acres may decrease due to time constraints.

There was some combining of the 2004 crop in CD 9aw, as well as some stubble-burning. Spraying was delayed because of the cold, windy weather.

Pastures are greening up, but some cattle are still being fed. Other cattle are being moved out to summer pastures.

Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions May 15, 2005

Moisture Conditions



Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending May 14, 2005

Crop Dist.	Municipality No. Name	Past Week	Since April 1	Crop Dist.	Municipality No. Name	Past Week	Since April 1	Crop Dist.	Municipality No. Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	2 Mount Pleasant	6	39								
	3 B Enniskillen	48	54		167 Sask. Landing	NIL	32		346 Perdue	NIL	40
	31 Storthoaks	7	33		225 Canaan	NIL	9		376 A Eagle Creek	NIL	53
	32 Reciprocity	37	44		226 Victory	NIL	19		376 B Eagle Creek	NIL	45
	33 B Moose Creek	22	29		228 A Lacadena	8	34		403 Rosthern	NIL	4
	34 Browning	20	29		228 B Lacadena	NIL	29		404 Laird	NIL	21
	63 A Moose Mountain	21	31		256 King George	NIL	18		7A 259 Snipe Lake	NIL	43
	63 B Moose Mountain	25	39		257 Monet	NIL	35		290 Kindersley	2	23
	64 Brock	21	28	4A	19 Frontier	NIL	20		292 Milton	2	37
	65 Tecumseh	8	11		51 Reno	NIL	19		317 B Marriott	NIL	53
1B	91 Maryfield	33	40		79 Arlington	NIL	18		318 A Mountain View	NIL	28
	92 Walpole	16	16		109 A Carmichael	TR	68		318 B Mountain View	NIL	39
	94 Hazelwood	8	16		109 B Carmichael	NIL	52		319 Winslow	TR	21
	95 Golden West	3	8		110 Piapot	NIL	70		320 Oakdale	TR	26
	123 Silverwood	NIL	7		111 A Maple Creek	NIL	40		321 Prairiedale	8	49
	124 Kingsley	1	9	4B	111 B Maple Creek	NIL	78		7B 347 A Biggar	NIL	30
	151 A Rocanville	8	19		139 Gull Lake	TR	43		347 B Biggar	NIL	42
	151 B Rocanville	3	10		141 Big Stick	NIL	66		350 A Mariposa	NIL	15
	153 Willowdale	TR	6		142 Enterprise	NIL	51		350 B Mariposa	NIL	22
	154 Elcapo	TR	TR		171 Fox Valley	TR	53		351 Progress	NIL	34
2A	36 Cymri	12	26		229 Miry Creek	NIL	30		352 Heart's Hill	NIL	50
	67 Weyburn	TR	18		231 Happyland	NIL	37		377 A Glenside	NIL	51
	68 Brokenshell	2	19	5A	232 Deer Forks	NIL	41		378 A Rosemount	NIL	37
	96 Fillmore	2	4		152 Spy Hill	3	8		378 B Rosemount	NIL	36
	97 Wellington	4	5		184 A Grayson	1	2		379 Reford	NIL	34
	99 Caledonia	3	45		184 C Grayson	2	9		380 A Tramping Lake	NIL	17
2B	126 Montmartre	6	6		185 Mcleod	5	19		382 Eye Hill	24	59
	127 Francis	5	10		186 Abernethy	2	5		409 Buffalo	NIL	31
	129 Bratt's Lake	2	25		187 North Qu'appelle	TR	4		410 Round Valley	NIL	43
	131 Baildon	2	28		213 Saltcoats	2	9		411 Senlac	NIL	35
	156 A Indian Head	3	5		214 Cana	2	12	8A	395 Porcupine	2	14
	156 B Indian Head	2	9		241 Calder	3	6		397 Barrier Valley	2	27
	157 South Qu'appelle	1	65		243 Wallace	3	10		398 Pleasantdale	3	37
	158 Edenwold	2	20		245 B Garry	1	16		428 Star City	2	16
	160 Pense	NIL	10		246 Ituna Bon Accord	2	5		456 Arborfield	4	15
	191 Marquis	1	17		247 Kellross	3	8		457 B Canought	NIL	4
3ASE	8 Lake Alma	7	23	5B	248 Touchwood	NIL	17		458 Willow Creek	2	17
	9 Surprise Valley	6	16		271 Cote	1	11		486 Moose Range	2	13
	38 A Laurier	3	36		276 Foam Lake	3	8		487 Nipawin	2	14
	38 B Laurier	2	41		277 Emerald	2	7	8B	369 St. Peter	1	10
	39 A The Gap	5	29		303 Keys	2	8		370 Humboldt	TR	9
	39 B The Gap	3	42		304 Buchanan	2	11		371 Bayne	NIL	6
3ASW	10 Happy Valley	1	12		307 Elfros	2	17		372 Grant	TR	10
	12 Poplar Valley	TR	10		308 Big Quill	3	7		400 Three Lakes	NIL	NIL
	40 Bengough	2	30		335 Hazel Dell	NIL	18		401 Hoodoo	NIL	3
	42 Willow Bunch	5	36		336 Sasman	1	9		402 Fish Creek	TR	8
	43 A Old Post	3	16		337 Lakeview	1	16		429 A Flett's Springs	TR	51
	43 B Old Post	3	10		338 Lakeside	2	13		429 B Flett's Springs	NIL	13
	44 Waverley	1	16		366 A Kelvington	TR	18		430 Invergordon	TR	8
	70 Key West	2	19		366 B Kelvington	TR	26		459 Kinistino	NIL	21
	71 A Excel	NIL	31		367 Ponass Lake	5	19	9AE	461 Prince Albert	NIL	10
	71 B Excel	1	34	6A	189 Lumsden	NIL	12		488 Torch River	NIL	9
	71 C Excel	TR	27		190 A Dufferin	4	13	9AW	406 Mayfield	NIL	38
	73 A Stonehenge	NIL	3		190 B Dufferin	TR	1		435 Redberry	1	28
	73 B Stonehenge	4	21		190 C Dufferin	1	13		436 Douglas	NIL	35
3AN	101 B Terrell	1	19		219 B Longlaketon	1	2		463 Duck Lake	NIL	3
	102 Lake Johnston	TR	26		220 Mckillop	1	3		464 Leask	NIL	18
	104 Gravelbourg	NIL	10		222 Craik	1	15		466 Meeting Lake	NIL	40
	132 Hillsborough	NIL	18		251 Big Arm	TR	3		467 Round Hill	NIL	41
	134 Shamrock	NIL	26		252 Arm River	NIL	6		493 Shellbrook	NIL	4
	164 Chaplin	NIL	6		279 A Mount Hope	2	9		494 Canwood	NIL	28
	193 Eyebrow	NIL	31		279 B Mount Hope	NIL	8		496 Spiritwood	NIL	33
	194 Enfield	NIL	22		280 Wreford	TR	TR		497 Medstead	NIL	29
3BS	17 A Val Marie	NIL	27		281 Wood Creek	NIL	NIL	9B	438 A Battle River	NIL	43
	17 B Val Marie	NIL	4		282 Mccraney	1	17		438 B Battle River	TR	33
	45 Mankota	2	25		309 Prairie Rose	2	6		440 Hillsdale	NIL	44
	46 B Glen Mcpherson	NIL	15		310 Osborne	TR	TR		442 Manitou Lake	NIL	39
	75 A Pinto Creek	3	15		312 Morris	NIL	12		468 A Meota	TR	40
	75 B Pinto Creek	3	15		313 Lost River	NIL	7		468 B Meota	NIL	12
	76 A Auvergne	NIL	12		339 A Leroy	2	2		472 Wilton	NIL	48
	76 B Auvergne	NIL	18		339 B Leroy	1	11		498 A Parkdale	NIL	24
	78 A Grassy Creek	NIL	19		340 A Wolverine	2	7		498 B Parkdale	NIL	33
	78 B Grassy Creek	NIL	12		340 B Wolverine	2	3		499 Mervin	1	87
	78 C Grassy Creek	TR	22		341 Viscount	NIL	1		501 A Frenchman Butte	TR	57
	105 Glenbain	1	12		343 Blucher	NIL	6		501 B Frenchman Butte	NIL	67
	106 Whiska Creek	NIL	13	6B	254 Loreburn	1	17		501 C Frenchman Butte	1	14
	108 Bone Creek	TR	30		283 Rosedale	TR	21		502 Britannia	2	36
3BN	135 Lawtonia	NIL	17		284 Rudy	TR	20		561 Loon Lake	NIL	55
	136 Coulee	NIL	30		285 Fertile Valley	NIL	17		588 A Meadow Lake	NIL	37
	137 Swift Current	NIL	22		286 Milden	NIL	13		588 B Meadow Lake	NIL	52
	138 Webb	NIL	38		314 Dundurn	1	19		588 C Meadow Lake	NIL	64
	166 Excelsior	NIL	30		344 Corman Park	NIL	24		622 Beaver River	NIL	21
					345 Vanscoy	NIL	15				

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities

