

MEAN LAKE LEVELS DURING AUGUST, 1925

By UNITED STATES LAKE SURVEY

[Detroit, Mich., Sept. 9, 1925]

The following data are reported in the "Notice to Mariners" of the above date:

Data	Lakes ¹			
	Superior	Michigan and Huron	Erie	Ontario
Mean level during August, 1925: Above mean sea level at New York.....	Feet 601.49	Feet 578.42	Feet 571.08	Feet 244.90
Above or below—				
Mean stage of July, 1925.....	+0.10	-0.10	-0.03	-0.31
Mean stage of August, 1924.....	-0.09	-1.22	-1.07	-1.14
Average stage for August last 10 years.....	-1.04	-2.29	-1.50	-1.45
Highest recorded August stage.....	-2.44	-5.09	-3.03	-3.36
Lowest recorded August stage.....	-0.09	-1.22	-0.30	+0.55
Average departure (since 1860) of August level from July level.....	+0.11	-0.05	-0.19	-0.31

¹ Lake St. Clair's level: In August, 1925, 573.77 feet.

EFFECT OF WEATHER ON CROPS AND OUTDOOR OPERATIONS, AUGUST, 1925

By J. B. KINCER

General summary.—There were further beneficial rains in the Southwest during the first part of August, and crops that were not too badly damaged by the previous drought showed considerable improvement, and, at the same time, the more frequent rainfall in many other sections of the eastern half of the country was helpful. In the Central and Northern States east of the Rocky Mountains the first three weeks of the month had mostly favorable weather for growing crops, except that rain was still needed in some central-northern districts and locally in the Ohio Valley, while in the Central Plains area they came too late to be of material benefit to some crops.

In the west Gulf area scattered showers were of benefit, but it continued generally too dry, and there was very little relief in the dry sections of the Southeast, including much of Georgia, central and northern South Carolina, western North Carolina, southwestern Virginia, and eastern Tennessee. The drought in the Southeast was intensified by record-breaking temperatures and crops suffered badly. At the close of the month droughty conditions prevailed over much the greater portion of the country east of the Rocky Mountains, with rains especially needed for late gardens and truck and for the preparation of soil for fall seeding. With the prevailing warmth, crops matured rapidly, and seasonal farm operations made good progress quite generally.

Small grains.—August was generally favorable for the harvesting of wheat and other small grains in the late

districts, and for threshing in the principal Wheat Belt. At the close of the month harvest had been completed, except in the more elevated districts of the Rocky Mountains. Plowing for winter wheat advanced favorably until near the end of the month when the soil became too dry in most sections of the Wheat Belt. Some wheat was seeded in northwestern Kansas and in Iowa. Buckwheat grew well under weather favorable for that crop and rice developed satisfactorily in California and continued in very good condition in Texas.

Corn.—Conditions were mostly favorable for corn from the central and upper Mississippi Valley eastward, but it was unfavorable in much of the Great Plains and in the South. Early in the period beneficial rains occurred in the upper Mississippi Valley, and moisture was mostly sufficient in the Ohio Valley States and middle Atlantic area, while temperature conditions were favorable for growth. Exceptionally good growing weather prevailed in the last-named section and corn made good to excellent progress. Showers were helpful in the middle Plains, but the rain came too late to be of very great benefit in parts of the area. In the South late corn was unfavorably affected by lack of moisture during most of the month. The latter part was dry and warm, with excessive sunshine, over the principal Corn Belt and the crop made rapid progress toward maturity. In fact, premature ripening, with rather unfavorable effects, was reported from some sections.

Cotton.—In the western Cotton Belt good rains the latter part of the preceding month and early in August largely relieved droughty conditions, while in central and eastern districts showers were beneficial in many places. Thereafter, it again became too dry in the West, and at the close of the month rain was badly needed in Oklahoma, but at the same time, in Texas, cooler weather and showers checked shedding and premature opening. In the eastern portion of the belt, moisture was insufficient in most districts, and considerable deterioration to cotton occurred, with extensive premature opening and shedding, particularly in northern Georgia, much of South Carolina, and in the western cotton districts of North Carolina. The weather was favorable for rapid maturity in nearly all parts of the belt and, in general at the close of the month the crop was much in advance of an average year. Picking and ginning made good progress in southern districts.

Miscellaneous crops.—Pastures and meadows had insufficient moisture from the Ohio River southward and also in central-northern districts, but conditions continued generally favorable in the great western grazing sections. Potatoes were favorably affected by the weather in the central Rocky Mountain area and from the upper Ohio Valley and Lake region eastward, but it was too dry in some other sections. Sugar beets made good progress in most States where they are grown and cane did well in the extreme lower Mississippi Valley.