

Local Crop Damage

A hit-and-run storm last Sunday evening caused considerable damage to several Fitzroy Township farmers.

The area directly in the path of the storm was a section of several farms along the third line on both sides of the Galetta sideroad.

Worst hit of the farmers was Donald Lytle who owns a 100 acre farm besides renting more acreage from his father nearby.

Mr. Lytle figured on Monday that only four or five acres of the 50 acres which had he had sowed last spring are recoverable.

The rest is almost flattened and some is broken.

Mr. Lytle said it is at least a \$5,000 loss. Considering depreciation on the machinery, labour, spraying, and sowing, \$100 an acre becomes a conservative cost.

His buckwheat was also knocked down by the heavy rain combined with a strong wind which struck the area about 6:00 p.m. last Sunday. However, the buckwheat should stand up enough to allow for

insure his own crops and there is no legislation which can help in such a case now.

Insurance agent Dan Herrick, who lives on the third line, explained yesterday that the individual farmer must now look after his own crops.

He said that whereas before the government always had a little money to help out in such a situation, now the new crop insurance plan is the outlet for this money.

Both the federal and provincial governments subsidize the crop insurance process. However, the farmer must still pay a premium.

Such insurance guarantees the farmers so many tons of a crop, so he does not have to worry about such things as hail, wind, insects or drought.

The only thing which the crop insurance does not cover is crop losses due to bad farming practices.

Ewart Miller's farm on the third line was also hit by the storm but his losses will be covered under crop insurance.

His 90 acres of corn are sporadically knocked down but

