

Field Crop Reporting Series



March Intentions of Principal Field
Crop Areas



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Field Crop Reporting Series

March Intentions of Principal Field Crop Areas

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Note of appreciation

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User information

Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

Table of contents

Highlights	4
Analysis	5
March intentions of principal field crop areas	5
Related products	6
Statistical tables	
1 March 2011 intended areas of principal field crops and summerfallow, compared with 2010 seeded areas	9
Data quality, concepts and methodology	
Concepts and definitions	12
Methodology and data quality	13
Field crop reporting series calendar	15

Highlights

March intentions of principal field crop areas

- In 2011, Prairie farmers anticipate planting a record area of canola, and expect to plant more durum wheat, barley and oats compared with 2010. In the East, Quebec and Ontario farmers expect to seed the largest area of corn for grain since 2007.

Subsequent to survey data collection, farmers may modify their plans prior to planting time as a result of environmental conditions.

Analysis

March intentions of principal field crop areas

In 2011, Prairie farmers anticipate planting a record area of canola, and expect to plant more durum wheat, barley and oats compared with 2010. In the East, Quebec and Ontario farmers expect to seed the largest area of corn for grain since 2007.

Subsequent to survey data collection, farmers may modify their plans prior to planting time as a result of environmental conditions.

Canola acreage may hit a record

Early indications are that Canadian farmers may seed a record 19.2 million acres of canola in 2011, up 14.3% or 2.4 million acres from the previous record set in 2010 at 16.8 million acres. This would be the fifth consecutive annual increase in canola area at the national level.

In Saskatchewan, after 3 years of seeded area at 7.7 to 7.9 million acres, canola area could rise by 25.6%, or 2.0 million acres, to a record 9.8 million acres. The provincial record was 7.9 million acres set in 2009.

Farmers in Alberta reported expecting to plant a record 5.9 million acres, an increase of 8.1% from the record seeded area of 5.5 million acres set in 2010.

Area for durum wheat expected to jump

Prairie durum wheat area could rise by 60.3% or 1.9 million acres to 5.1 million acres in 2011. Over the past decade, durum area has fluctuated considerably, from 6.5 million acres to a low of 3.2 million acres in 2010.

In Saskatchewan, where the majority of Canadian durum is grown, farmers may seed 4.4 million acres, up 57.0% or 1.6 million acres. Alberta farmers expect to plant 670,000 acres, an increase of 86.1% over the 2010 seeded area.

Eastern farmers set to plant more corn for grain

Farmers in Ontario and Quebec may plant the greatest area of corn for grain since 2007.

Ontario corn for grain seeded area should rise by 125,000 acres to 2.0 million acres, an increase of 6.7% over 2010. The record area of corn for grain in Ontario was set in 2007 at 2.1 million acres.

The area seeded to corn for grain in Quebec is reported to rise 8.1% to 988,400 acres. The record area was set in 2002, and repeated in 2007 at 1.1 million acres.

Barley and oats acreage also on the rise

The area intended to be seeded to barley and oats also increased in 2011. At the national level, farmers anticipate seeding 7.8 million acres of barley, a 13.4% increase as compared to the 6.9 million acres seeded in 2010. Similarly, acres seeded to oats could reach 4.1 million acres, an increase of 39.3% over 2010.

Related products

Selected publications from Statistics Canada

21-206-X	Statistics on Income of Farm Operators
21-207-X	Statistics on Income of Farm Families
21-208-X	Statistics on Revenues and Expenses of Farms
22-003-X	Fruit and Vegetable Production
22-008-X	Canadian Potato Production
23-221-X	Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products
23-501-X	Livestock Feed Requirements Study
23-502-X	Alternative Livestock on Canadian Farms
96-325-X	Canadian Agriculture at a Glance
96-328-M	Canadian Agriculture at a Glance - Teacher's Kit

Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

001-0004	Estimated summerfallow areas, annual
001-0010	Estimated areas, yield, production and average farm price of principal field crops, in metric units, annual
001-0014	Area, production and farm value of potatoes, annual
001-0017	Estimated areas, yield, production, average farm price and total farm value of principal field crops, in imperial units, annual
001-0018	Estimated areas, yield, production, average farm price and total farm value of selected principal field crops: sugar beets, tame hay and fodder corn, in imperial units, annual
001-0019	Estimated area, yield, production, average farm price and total farm value of selected major speciality field crops, in imperial units, annual
001-0020	Estimated area, yield, production, average farm price and total farm value of selected principal field crops: dry beans (white and coloured), in imperial units, annual
001-0040	Stocks of grain and oilseeds at March 31, July 31 and December 31, 3 times per year

001-0041	Supply and disposition of grains in Canada as of March 31, July 31, August 31 (soybeans only) and December 31, 3 times per year
001-0042	Supply and disposition of corn in Canada and selected provinces as of March 31, August 31 and December 31, 3 times per year
001-0043	Farm supply and disposition of grains as of March 31, July 31, August 31 (soybeans only) and December 31, 3 times per year

Selected surveys from Statistics Canada

3401	Field Crop Reporting Series
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Selected summary tables from Statistics Canada

- *Field and specialty crops*

Statistical tables

Table 1
March 2011 intended areas of principal field crops and summerfallow, compared with 2010 seeded areas

Province and crop	Seeded area 2010	Intended area 2011	2010 to March 2011	Seeded area 2010	Intended area 2011
	thousands of hectares		% change	thousands of acres	
Canada					
Winter wheat ¹	582.4	684.0	17.4	1,439.4	1,690.4
Spring wheat	6,667.0	7,277.3	9.2	16,475.4	17,983.5
Durum wheat	1,274.8	2,043.6	60.3	3,150.0	5,050.0
All wheat ²	8,524.2	10,004.9	17.4	21,064.8	24,723.8
Oats	1,178.9	1,641.5	39.3	2,912.8	4,056.1
Barley	2,796.6	3,170.0	13.4	6,910.7	7,833.3
Fall rye ¹	93.1	91.1	-2.2	230.0	225.0
Flaxseed ³	374.3	489.7	30.8	925.0	1,210.0
Canola	6,806.1	7,779.9	14.3	16,818.4	19,224.7
Corn for grain	1,214.3	1,299.7	7.0	3,000.3	3,211.4
Soybeans	1,483.0	1,520.3	2.5	3,664.9	3,757.1
Dry peas	1,396.2	1,110.8	-20.4	3,450.0	2,745.0
Summerfallow	4,698.0	2,055.0	-56.2	11,610.0	5,080.0
Maritimes					
Winter wheat ¹	3.8	4.2	10.5	9.5	10.5
Spring wheat	12.4	11.9	-3.6	30.6	29.5
All wheat ²	16.2	16.1	-0.2	40.1	40.0
Oats	16.6	13.7	-17.1	41.0	34.0
Barley	34.1	32.7	-4.1	84.5	81.0
Mixed grains	2.6	2.4	-7.7	6.5	6.0
Corn for grain	10.6	13.4	26.9	26.0	33.0
Soybeans	23.2	27.0	16.5	57.5	67.0
Fodder corn	10.4	10.3	-1.9	26.0	25.5
Quebec					
Winter wheat ¹	4.0	4.0	0.0	9.9	9.9
Spring wheat	48.5	36.0	-25.7	119.8	89.0
All wheat ²	52.5	40.0	-23.8	129.7	98.8
Oats	110.0	100.0	-9.1	271.8	247.1
Barley	87.5	94.0	7.4	216.2	232.3
Mixed grains	22.0	14.0	-36.4	54.4	34.6
Canola	11.5	12.0	4.6	28.4	29.7
Corn for grain	370.0	400.0	8.1	914.3	988.4
Soybeans	262.0	255.0	-2.7	647.4	630.1
Fodder corn	50.0	50.0	0.0	123.6	123.6
Ontario					
Winter wheat ¹	329.8	433.0	31.3	815.0	1,070.0
Spring wheat	46.5	36.4	-21.7	115.0	90.0
All wheat ²	376.3	469.4	24.7	930.0	1,160.0
Oats	34.4	30.4	-11.8	85.0	75.0
Barley	76.9	48.6	-36.8	190.0	120.0
Fall rye ¹	14.2	12.1	-14.3	35.0	30.0
Mixed grains	48.6	44.5	-8.3	120.0	110.0
Canola	28.3	24.3	-14.3	70.0	60.0
Corn for grain	758.8	809.4	6.7	1,875.0	2,000.0
Soybeans	987.4	959.1	-2.9	2,440.0	2,370.0
Dry coloured beans	22.2	16.1	-27.3	55.0	40.0
Fodder corn	109.3	68.8	-37.0	270.0	170.0

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 1 – continued

March 2011 intended areas of principal field crops and summerfallow, compared with 2010 seeded areas

Province and crop	Seeded area 2010	Intended area 2011	2010 to March 2011	Seeded area 2010	Intended area 2011
	thousands of hectares		% change	thousands of acres	
Manitoba					
Winter wheat ¹	97.1	78.9	-18.8	240.0	195.0
Spring wheat	1,133.0	1,139.1	0.5	2,800.0	2,815.0
All wheat ²	1,230.1	1,218.0	-1.0	3,040.0	3,010.0
Oats	226.6	354.1	56.3	560.0	875.0
Barley	194.2	246.9	27.1	480.0	610.0
Fall rye ¹	18.2	14.2	-22.2	45.0	35.0
Flaxseed ³	70.8	74.9	5.7	175.0	185.0
Canola	1,363.8	1,355.7	-0.6	3,370.0	3,350.0
Corn for grain	74.9	76.9	2.7	185.0	190.0
Soybeans	210.4	279.2	32.7	520.0	690.0
Dry coloured beans	40.5	32.4	-20.0	100.0	80.0
Dry peas	32.4	28.3	-12.5	80.0	70.0
Sunflower seeds	54.6	26.3	-51.9	135.0	65.0
Fodder corn	22.3	20.2	-9.1	55.0	50.0
Summerfallow	287.0	121.0	-57.7	710.0	300.0
Saskatchewan					
Winter wheat ¹	76.9	93.1	21.1	190.0	230.0
Spring wheat	2,974.3	3,520.7	18.4	7,350.0	8,700.0
Durum wheat	1,129.1	1,772.5	57.0	2,790.0	4,380.0
All wheat ²	4,180.3	5,386.3	28.8	10,330.0	13,310.0
Oats	376.4	768.9	104.3	930.0	1,900.0
Barley	864.0	1,133.1	31.1	2,135.0	2,800.0
Fall rye ¹	42.5	50.6	19.0	105.0	125.0
Flaxseed ³	287.3	388.5	35.2	710.0	960.0
Canola	3,156.5	3,965.9	25.6	7,800.0	9,800.0
Dry peas	995.6	754.7	-24.2	2,460.0	1,865.0
Lentils	1,351.7	1,092.7	-19.2	3,340.0	2,700.0
Mustard seed	149.7	107.2	-28.4	370.0	265.0
Canary seed	119.4	129.5	8.5	295.0	320.0
Chick peas	82.9	66.8	-19.5	205.0	165.0
Summerfallow	3,723.0	1,497.0	-59.8	9,200.0	3,700.0
Alberta					
Winter wheat ¹	70.8	70.8	0.0	175.0	175.0
Spring wheat	2,428.1	2,509.0	3.3	6,000.0	6,200.0
Durum wheat	145.7	271.1	86.1	360.0	670.0
All wheat ²	2,644.6	2,850.9	7.8	6,535.0	7,045.0
Oats	384.5	344.0	-10.5	950.0	850.0
Barley	1,517.6	1,578.3	4.0	3,750.0	3,900.0
Fall rye ¹	18.2	14.2	-22.2	45.0	35.0
Mixed grains	72.8	40.5	-44.4	180.0	100.0
Flaxseed ³	16.2	26.3	62.5	40.0	65.0
Canola	2,209.6	2,387.6	8.1	5,460.0	5,900.0
Dry peas	368.2	327.8	-11.0	910.0	810.0
Triticale	16.2	20.2	25.0	40.0	50.0
Summerfallow	668.0	425.0	-36.4	1,650.0	1,050.0
British Columbia					
Spring wheat	24.2	24.2	0.0	60.0	60.0
Oats	30.4	30.4	0.0	75.0	75.0
Barley	22.3	36.4	63.6	55.0	90.0
Canola	36.4	34.4	-5.6	90.0	85.0
Fodder corn	10.1	8.1	-20.0	25.0	20.0
Summerfallow	20.0	12.0	-40.0	50.0	30.0

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 1 – continued

March 2011 intended areas of principal field crops and summerfallow, compared with 2010 seeded areas

Province and crop	Seeded area 2010	Intended area 2011	2010 to March 2011	Seeded area 2010	Intended area 2011
	thousands of hectares		% change	thousands of acres	
Western Canada					
Winter wheat ¹	244.8	242.8	-0.8	605.0	600.0
Spring wheat	6,559.6	7,193.0	9.7	16,210.0	17,775.0
Durum wheat	1,274.8	2,043.6	60.3	3,150.0	5,050.0
All wheat ²	8,079.2	9,479.4	17.3	19,965.0	23,425.0
Oats	1,017.9	1,497.4	47.1	2,515.0	3,700.0
Barley	2,598.1	2,994.7	15.3	6,420.0	7,400.0
Fall rye ¹	78.9	78.9	0.0	195.0	195.0
Flaxseed ³	374.3	489.7	30.8	925.0	1,210.0
Canola	6,766.3	7,743.6	14.4	16,720.0	19,135.0
Dry peas	1,396.2	1,110.8	-20.4	3,450.0	2,745.0
Summerfallow	4,698.0	2,055.0	-56.2	11,610.0	5,080.0

1. The area remaining after winterkill.

2. All wheat is the sum of winter wheat after winterkill, spring wheat and durum wheat.

3. Excludes solin.

Concepts and definitions

Crop categories

Definitions of the crop categories referenced in Report No. 2, Field Crop Reporting Series are listed below.

Major field crops: wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed, canola, corn for grain and soybeans.

Oilseeds: canola, flaxseed, soybeans and sunflower seed.

Major special crops: dry field peas, lentils, mustard seed, canary seed, sunflower seed, chick peas and coloured dry beans.

Methodology and data quality

Survey frame and sample selection

Every five years, the Census of Agriculture collects information on agricultural operations across Canada, including institutional farms, community pastures, Indian reserves, etc. The Census of Agriculture provides a list of farms and their crop areas from which probability sample for the March Farm Survey is selected.

The target population for the March Farm Survey includes all farms in Canada enumerated in the Census of Agriculture except those on Indian reserves and farms from the Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nunavut and Atlantic region. Institutional farms are also excluded from the target population.

Probability surveys can use two types of sampling frames, list and area. In the March Farm Survey, only the list frame is used in sample selection. This list frame is stratified into homogenous groups on the basis of Census characteristics (such as farm size and crop area) and sub-provincial geographic boundaries. A sample of approximately 12,600 farms is drawn from the list frame for the March 2011 Farm Survey.

Data collection

The March 2011 Farm Survey was carried out from March 24 to March 31. Data collection is undertaken using the "Computer assisted telephone interview" (CATI) system.

Edit and imputation

With the CATI system, it is possible to implement edit procedures at the time of the interview. Computer programmed edit checks in the CATI system inform interviewers during the interview of possible data errors, which can then be corrected immediately by the interviewer and respondent. CATI significantly reduces the need for subsequent telephone follow-up, thereby reducing respondent burden and survey processing time.

Response rate

Usually by the end of the collection period, 80% of the questionnaires have been fully completed. The refusal rate to the survey was approximately 8 to 9%. The remainder of the sample unaccounted for can be explained by non-contact and non-response. Initial sample weights are adjusted by a process called "raising factor adjustment" in cases of total and partial non-response. No imputation is performed for missing values.

Sampling and non-sampling errors

The statistics contained in this publication are based on a random sample of agricultural operations and, as such, are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. The overall quality of the estimates depends on the combined effect of these two types of errors.

Sampling errors arise because estimates are derived from sample data and not the entire population. These errors depend on factors such as sample size, sampling design and the method of estimation. An important feature of probability sampling is that sampling errors can be measured from the sample itself.

Non-sampling errors are errors which are not related to sampling and may occur throughout the survey operation for many reasons. For example, non-response is an important source of non-sampling error. Coverage, differences in

the interpretation of questions, incorrect information from respondents, mistakes in recording, coding and processing of data are other examples of non-sampling errors.

Estimation

The survey data collected are weighted in order to produce unbiased level indicators which are representative of the population. These level indicators then undergo a validation process, based on subject matter analysis and consultation with provincial statisticians, before final estimates are published.

Revisions

The March seeding intentions estimates contained in this publication are not revised, since seeding intentions represent plans, not actual occurrences.

Data quality

The March seeding intentions estimates in this publication are based on level indicators obtained from a probability survey of farming operations. The potential error introduced by sampling can be estimated from the sample itself by using a statistical measure called the “coefficient of variation” (c.v.). Over repeated surveys, 95 times out of 100, the relative difference between a sample estimate and what should have been obtained from an enumeration of all farming operations would be less than twice the coefficient of variation. This range of values is referred to as the “confidence interval”. While published estimates may not exactly equal the level indicators due to the validation and consultation process, these estimates do remain within the confidence interval of the survey level indicators. For the March Farm Survey, c.v.’s range from 5% to 10% for the major crops. C.v.’s for specialty crops and small areas of major crops are usually within 10% to 25%.

Data confidentiality

Data confidentiality is ensured under the *Statistics Act*, which prohibits the divulging of individual or aggregated data where individuals or businesses might be identified.

Field crop reporting series calendar

Catalogue 22-002-X

The eight reports in this series, which are released at strategic times during the crop year, contain data on stocks of grain and crop area, yield and production. Three reports provide data on stocks of grain at both farm and commercial positions for Canada and the provinces (report nos. 1, 3 and 6). The first report on seeded area (no. 2, in April) contains the seeding intentions of producers, while the June report (no. 4) contains the actual seeded areas of field crops. Yields and levels of production by province are estimated before harvest (report no. 5), during harvest (no. 7) and after harvest (no. 8). Release time for all reports is 08:30 a.m., Eastern time. For further information, please contact Client Services, Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada at 1-800-465-1991 or by email: agriculture@statcan.gc.ca.

Report No. and Title

- 1 Stocks of principal field crops at December 31, 2010
- 2 March intentions of principal field crops areas
- 3 Stocks of principal field crops at March 31, 2011
- 4 Preliminary estimates of principal field crops areas
- 5 July 31 estimates of production of principal field crops
- 6 Stocks of principal field crops at July 31, 2011
- 7 September estimates of production of principal field crops
- 8 November estimates of production of principal field crops

2011 Release Dates

- February 4
- April 26
- May 6
- June 23
- August 24
- September 7
- October 4
- December 6

Cereals and oilseeds review

Catalogue 22-007-X

This publication provides up-to-date marketing data and analysis for wheat, coarse grains, oilseeds and special crops. Each monthly issue contains producer marketings, exports of grain and grain products, domestic and international supply-disposition tables, oilseed crushing and grain milling data, and cash and future prices. A situation report highlights the month's events.

Some issues contain annual supplementary data. They include the Prices supplement; the Processing supplement; the Methodology and concepts supplement; the Feed grain purchases supplement and the Grain storage & movement supplement.

Release dates - 2011

January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28						27	28	29	30	31		
30	31																			

April							May							June						
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					1	2						6	7			1	2	3	4	
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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							29	30	31											

July							August							September						
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					1	2												1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	
30							28	29	30	31										

October							November							December						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

 Field crop reporting series

 Cereals and oilseeds review