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## FEED SITUATION IN CANADA

Initial Payments Increased for Oats and Barley Effective Monday, March 14, 1955, the initial payment price for barley delivered to the 1954-55 pool operated by the Canadian Wheat Board was increased by ten cents per bushel for all grades. This increase raises the initial payment price currently in effect for No. 3 C.W. Six-Row Barley to \$1.06 per bushel, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur. Producers who delivered barley to the Board during the period August 1, 1954 to March 12, 1955 received an adjustment payment of ten cents per bushel.

One week later, effective March 21, 1955, the initial payment price for oats delivered to the Board's 1954-55 oats pool was increased by seven cents per bushel for all grades, making the initial payment price for No. 2 C.W. Oats 72 cents per bushel, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur. Producers who delivered oats to the Board between August 1, 1954 and March 19, 1955 received an adjustment payment of seven cents per bushel.

Initial Prices Announced for 1955-56 Crop Year Speaking in the House of Commons on May 31, the Right Hon. C.D. Howe announced that the government had approved initial prices paid by the Canadian Wheat Board on wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1955 at the same levels as in effect at the beginning of the current crop year. The initial prices for 1955-56 are as follows:

Wheat: \$1.40 per bushel basis No. 1 Manitoba Northern in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver.

Oats: 65 cents per bushel basis No. 2 C.W. in store Fort William-Port Arthur.

Barley: 96 cents per bushel basis No. 3 C.W. Six-Row in store Fort William-Port Arthur.

In reply to a question, Mr. Howe stated that grade spreads would be established after the quality of the grain is known.

Supplementary Oats Quota Authorized On May 31 the Canadian Wheat Board announced that, in order to meet marketing requirements, it wished to obtain larger supplies of oats than were currently being delivered by producers. Effective immediately, the Board authorized a supplementary quota of 1,000 bushels of oats. This quota is in addition to quotas previously authorized and was granted to each holder of a delivery permit book regardless of the acreage shown therein.

Exports of Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed Total exports of Canadian oats, barley, rye and flaxseed during the first three quarters of the 1954-55 crop year have amounted to 78.5 million bushels as against 143.9 million during the corresponding period of the preceding crop year. Current crop-year exports of the four grains to April 30, in millions of bushels, with figures for the corresponding period last year in brackets, were as follows: oats, 17.1 (56.8); barley, 53.9 (69.4); rye, 3.1 (13.4); and flaxseed, 4.4 (4.2).



During the period under review, the United States was the major market for Canadian oats, taking some 12.6 million of the 17.1 million bushels exported. Shipments to Belgium and the United Kingdom, amounting to 2.6 million and 1.2 million bushels, respectively, accounted for most of the remainder. Smaller shipments went to Switzerland, Netherlands, Panama, Colombia, Hawaii, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. Exports of barley during the August, 1954—April, 1955 period went to nine different countries. Shipments to the United Kingdom accounted for 33.1 million bushels or 61 per cent of the total. Other principal markets for Canadian barley, with quantities in millions of bushels, were United States, 16.0; Japan, 2.3; Belgium, 1.0; Switzerland, 0.6 and the Federal Republic of Germany, 0.5. Of the 3.1 million bushels of rye exported up to April 30, 1955 the Federal Republic of Germany took 1.5 million, with smaller shipments going to Sweden, Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belgium, Denmark and the United States. Some 1.3 million bushels of the total of 4.4 million bushels of flaxseed exported during the August—April period went to Japan. The remainder was accounted for by shipments to the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, Greece, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Commercial Supplies Primary marketings of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed by farmers in Western Canada up to May 18 of the current crop year amounted to 153.4 million bushels compared with 160.1 million for the corresponding period of the preceding crop year and average marketings of 168.5 million bushels for the ten-year period 1943-44—1952-53. Deliveries of each of the four grains to May 18, 1955 with comparable figures for 1953-54 and the ten-year averages, respectively, in brackets, were as follows (in millions of bushels): oats, 49.9 (70.4, 82.6); barley, 87.1 (75.2, 71.1); rye, 8.2 (7.6, 7.6); and flaxseed, 8.2 (6.9, 7.2).

Total supplies (excluding stocks on farms) of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed at May 18 amounted to 81.9 million bushels, compared with 86.0 million and 119.0 million bushels at approximately the same date in 1954 and 1953, respectively. Of the current crop year total barley and oats accounted for 47.6 million and 22.6 million bushels, respectively, with the remainder consisting of rye, 9.5 million bushels, and flaxseed, 2.3 million.

Stocks of the four grains in country elevators at May 18 this year totalled 37.5 million bushels, below the comparable totals of 52.2 million bushels a year ago and 58.8 million two years ago. Lakehead stocks of 16.2 million bushels were somewhat above the corresponding 1954 total of 15.0 million bushels but considerably below the 1953 total of 28.4 million. Some 8.6 million bushels were held in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports as against stocks of 4.2 million last year and 6.3 million two years ago. Supplies in Eastern export positions (Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports) at May 18, 1955 were 3.8 million bushels, slightly above the comparable 1954 total of 3.6 million bushels, but well below the 1953 total of 6.8 million. Supplies of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed in west coast ports (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria, Prince Rupert) amounted to 1.9 million bushels at May 18 of the current crop year compared with 1.3 million a year ago and 0.9 million two years ago.

INTENDED ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL GRAIN CROPS AND SUMMERFALLOW IN CANADA\*, 1955

On the basis of their intentions at March 1, Canadian farmers plan substantial increases over 1954 in the acreage seeded to oats, barley and flaxseed, and slight to moderate increases in spring rye and mixed grains. These indicated increases are largely offset by prospective decreases of 2.4 million acres in land for summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces and 0.6 million acres in the area seeded to spring wheat. Reduced acreages seeded to winter wheat and fall rye last autumn also provide some of the area for the increase in acreage planned for feed grains and flaxseed in 1955. However, it is emphasized that intended acreages are merely indicative of farmers' plans at March 1, and that acreages actually seeded, therefore, may vary considerably from the intentions figures, depending upon conditions before and during seeding.

According to farmers' intentions at March 1, wheat acreage in Canada in 1955 will register the third consecutive annual decrease. The combined acreage of spring and winter wheat, at 23.6 million acres, will, if realized, be the smallest since 1945 and will be about 10 per cent below the five-year (1949-1953) average of 26.3 million.

Increases are indicated in the acreages to be seeded in 1955 to each of the three major feed grains. The area intended for oats for grain, at 11.2 million acres, is up 10 per cent from 1954 and is virtually the same as the five-year average. A record barley acreage of 9.8 million acres is in prospect for 1955. An area of the size indicated would be about 25 per cent higher than last year's area of 7.9 million, 30 per cent above the five-year average of 7.6 million and 10 per cent above the previous record of 8.9 million in 1953. An over-all increase of less than two per cent is indicated for mixed grains, with the intended acreage placed at 1.7 million acres.

The area intended for spring rye in 1955, at 222,000 acres, is 25 per cent above last year's level. However, due to a decrease of almost 16 per cent in the area seeded to fall rye last autumn the indicated all-rye acreage of 790,000 acres is some 7 per cent below 1954 and 37 per cent below the five-year average of 1,249,000 acres. Flaxseed acreage, indicated at 1.7 million acres, 38 per cent above last year's acreage, is double the five-year average of 828,000 acres and is the highest since 1948.

Intended Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow, Canada\*,  
at March 1, 1955, compared with Estimated Acreages, 1952-1954

Province and Crop	Seeded Area 1/			Intended Area, 1955	
	1952	1953	1954	Area	as % of 1954
	acres	acres	acres	acres	per cent
<u>CANADA</u>					
Winter wheat 2/ .....	650,000	732,000	710,000	639,000	90.0
Spring wheat 3/ .....	25,345,000	24,780,600	23,556,800	22,954,200	97.4
All wheat .....	25,995,000	25,512,600	24,266,800	23,593,200	97.2
Oats for grain .....	11,062,400	9,830,000	10,160,600	11,177,000	110.0
Barley .....	8,477,400	8,911,100	7,855,900	9,814,800	124.9
Fall rye 4/ .....	772,400	1,031,200	672,500	567,700	84.4
Spring rye .....	501,200	463,000	178,000	222,000	124.7
All rye .....	1,273,600	1,494,200	850,500	789,700	92.9
Mixed grains .....	1,570,100	1,445,400	1,632,600	1,661,500	101.8
Flaxseed .....	1,129,500	972,000	1,206,000	1,665,000	138.1
Summerfallow 5/ .....	21,245,000	22,764,000	25,253,000	22,845,000	90.5

\*Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

1/ Except for summerfallow.

2/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; Ontario only.

3/ Includes relatively small acreages of winter wheat in all provinces other than Ontario.

4/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; includes small acreages of spring rye in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

5/ Prairie Provinces only.



FARM STOCKS AT MARCH 31, 1955

Stocks of the principal grains held on farms in Canada (excluding Newfoundland) at March 31, 1955 were estimated at 593.0 million bushels, compared with 816.2 million in 1954 and the record 843.1 million in 1943, according to a survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Farm stocks of each of the grains were lower than in 1954 but, with the exception of oats, were above the ten-year (1945-1954) averages. This year was the first time in five years that farm stocks of wheat, barley and rye at March 31 failed to show increases over those of the preceding year. March-end stocks of oats, however, have registered decreases for three successive years. This year's March 31 farm stocks of grains in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the ten-year averages, respectively, in brackets, were estimated as follows: wheat, 286.0 (382.7, 187.5); oats, 170.4 (241.4, 185.8); barley, 119.0 (169.8, 84.4); rye, 14.6 (19.5, 5.7); and flaxseed, 2.9 (3.0, 2.2).

The Prairie Provinces, as the major grain-producing area, accounted for the bulk of this year's total March 31 farm-held grain stocks, ranging from 75 per cent of the oats to 99 per cent of the rye. Farm stocks in these provinces, in millions of bushels, and as percentages of total Canadian farm stocks, respectively, were wheat, 277.5 (97.0 p.c.); oats, 128.0 (75.1 p.c.); barley, 114.0 (95.8 p.c.); rye, 14.4 (98.6 p.c.); and flaxseed, 2.8 (97.6 p.c.).

It should be noted that farm-held grain stocks at the end of March include amounts to be used as seed for the 1955 crop as well as quantities required for live stock and poultry feed during the remaining four months of the crop year, leaving the balance to be divided between deliveries and July 31 carryover stocks.

Stocks of Principal Grains on Farms in the Prairie Provinces,  
March 31, 1955, with Comparisons

Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- thousand bushels -					
Average 1935-1939 .....	45,955	61,266	13,999	1,145	168
Average 1940-1944 .....	177,650	152,527	58,696	5,274	1,663
1945 .....	149,000	164,000	54,000	1,575	1,920
1946 .....	101,700	104,600	38,600	586	1,388
1947 .....	129,000	120,000	55,000	564	1,209
1948 .....	112,000	92,000	45,000	1,600	2,500
1949 .....	122,000	114,000	60,000	7,100	3,300
Average 1945-1949 .....	122,740	118,920	50,520	2,285	2,063
1950 .....	106,000	91,000	44,000	3,600	600
1951 .....	152,000	139,000	69,000	3,630	1,360
1952 .....	246,000	224,700	141,500	6,800	2,500
1953 .....	321,000	220,000	139,000	9,900	3,900
1954 .....	374,000	195,000	164,000	19,200	2,900
Average 1950-1954 .....	239,800	173,940	111,500	8,626	2,252
1955 .....	277,500	128,000	114,000	14,400	2,850

FARMERS' MARKETINGS OF OATS, BARLEY, RYE AND FLAXSEED

Total marketings of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces from the beginning of the current crop year to May 18 amounted to 153.4 million bushels, about 4 per cent below marketings of 160.1 million bushels for the corresponding period of 1953-54 and 9 per cent below the comparable ten-year (1943-44-1952-53) average of 168.5 million. Deliveries of barley at 87.1 million bushels, and oats, at 49.9 million, accounted for 57 per cent and 33 per cent, respectively, of the total marketings of the four grains to May 18. The remaining ten per cent was equally divided between deliveries of rye and flaxseed.

Farmers' Marketings of Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces, 1954-55  
with Comparisons

Period or week ending	Oats				Barley			
	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Total	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Total
	- thousand bushels -				- thousand bushels -			
August 1, 1954 -								
February 16, 1955 .....	9,091	24,969	12,324	46,384	22,283	30,174	25,318	77,776
23 .....	38	126	145	309	208	233	461	902
March 2 .....	20	57	65	142	149	36	250	435
9 .....	15	52	52	119	69	104	231	403
16 .....	24	132	160	316	121	229	445	795
23 .....	21	63	151	235	133	147	387	667
30 .....	20	41	102	163	114	158	259	531
April 6 .....	54	137	119	310	249	286	343	878
13 .....	46	105	62	212	219	157	136	512
20 .....	83	196	128	407	393	288	283	964
27 .....	61	100	124	284	249	143	188	579
May 4 .....	73	109	72	254	345	176	134	655
11 .....	81	132	105	318	380	196	289	865
18 .....	74	226	160	460	378	364	353	1,094
Totals .....	9,701	26,445	13,768	49,914	25,291	32,690	29,075	87,057
Adjusted Totals* .....	9,732	26,951	13,231	49,914	25,304	32,897	28,855	87,057
Similar period 1953-54 ....	13,077	33,205	24,082	70,365	21,261	26,646	27,317	75,224
Average Similar Period 1943-44-1952-53 .....	16,098	42,411	24,105	82,614	24,156	26,555	20,363	71,074
	Rye				Flaxseed			
	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Total	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Total
	- thousand bushels -				- thousand bushels -			
August 1, 1954 -								
February 16, 1955 .....	845	4,086	2,607	7,538	2,968	3,175	1,576	7,719
23 .....	4	29	25	58	18	17	17	52
March 2 .....	4	18	17	39	14	13	12	40
9 .....	3	7	19	29	6	8	2	16
16 .....	5	12	23	40	11	28	17	56
23 .....	3	7	20	30	4	11	10	25
30 .....	2	9	11	21	3	2	4	10
April 6 .....	2	21	17	39	12	8	5	25
13 .....	4	14	16	33	11	8	12	32
20 .....	12	37	20	69	17	26	11	54
27 .....	10	28	18	56	12	14	9	36
May 4 .....	5	40	15	60	14	12	8	34
11 .....	19	51	26	96	21	22	13	57
18 .....	15	59	27	101	18	25	12	56
Totals .....	931	4,419	2,862	8,211	3,131	3,370	1,710	8,211
Adjusted Totals* .....	932	4,437	2,842	8,211	3,149	3,453	1,609	8,211
Similar period 1953-54 ...	1,109	4,185	2,280	7,574	2,876	2,319	1,716	6,910
Average Similar Period 1943-44-1952-53 .....	668	4,375	2,573	7,616	2,806	3,182	1,168	7,156

\*Details of adjustments not available by weeks.

Visible Supply of Canadian Oats, May 18, 1955, Compared with  
Approximately the Same Date, 1953 and 1954

Position	1953	1954	1955
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	3,766	3,087	1,579
Saskatchewan .....	9,598	6,677	5,138
Alberta .....	6,780	8,244	5,490
Totals .....	20,144	18,007	12,207
Interior private and mill .....	488	560	827
Interior terminals .....	9	11	3
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	169	168	388
Victoria .....	-	1/	-
Prince Rupert .....	1	-	-
Churchill .....	4	1	1/
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	6,727	5,094	3,439
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	3,526	1,643	1,227
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports ..	2,457	1,471	2,401
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports ...	626	651	712
In transit lake .....	764	501	944
In transit rail (Eastern Division) .....	75	30	413
United States ports .....	722	705	-
Totals .....	35,711	28,842	22,562

Visible Supply of Canadian Barley, May 18, 1955 Compared with  
Approximately the Same Date, 1953 and 1954

Position	1953	1954	1955
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	5,988	5,465	4,017
Saskatchewan .....	12,845	7,783	3,970
Alberta .....	16,092	18,692	15,196
Totals .....	34,926	31,940	23,183
Interior private and mill .....	2,285	1,767	1,978
Interior terminals .....	311	331	427
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	393	946	748
Victoria .....	376	1	1
Prince Rupert .....	-	196	805
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	13,730	6,599	9,237
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	4,094	1,032	2,203
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports ..	3,098	2,278	3,848
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports ...	5,557	1,963	1,867
In transit lake .....	2,940	1,168	3,306
In transit rail (Eastern Division) .....	70	10	6
United States ports .....	426	722	-
Totals .....	68,207	48,953	47,608

1/ Less than 500 bushels.



Visible Supply of Canadian Rye, May 18, 1955 Compared with  
Approximately the Same Date, 1953 and 1954

Position	1953	1954	1955
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	311	222	221
Saskatchewan .....	1,677	972	803
Alberta .....	955	789	643
Totals .....	2,943	1,983	1,666
Interior private and mill .....	24	11	25
Interior terminals .....	-	1/	-
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	-	10	-
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	6,534	2,227	2,655
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	294	420	290
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports ...	332	97	2,058
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports ...	411	797	980
In transit lake .....	471	306	947
United States ports .....	1,132	264	500
In transit U.S.A. ....	-	-	369
Totals .....	12,142	6,115	9,490

Visible Supply of Canadian Flaxseed, May 18, 1955 Compared with  
Approximately the Same Date, 1953 and 1954

Position	1953	1954	1955
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	276	116	144
Saskatchewan .....	273	79	170
Alberta .....	201	86	84
Totals .....	750	280	397
Interior private and mill .....	38	37	30
Interior terminals .....	1/	1/	2
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	1/	1	1/
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	1,416	1,037	914
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	107	129	192
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports ..	383	352	328
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports ...	177	186	255
In transit lake .....	90	49	141
In transit rail (Eastern Division) .....	3	-	-
Totals .....	2,964	2,072	2,260

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

GRADING OF CROPS, 1954-55

The total number of cars of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed (both old and new crop) inspected by the Board of Grain Commissioners during the first three quarters of the current crop year amounted to 77,639, representing a decline of about 9 per cent from the 85,068 cars inspected during the period of 1953-54. Inspections of barley, at 44,822 cars accounted for more than one-half of the August-April total, while inspections of oats, amounting to 22,487 cars made up most of the remainder. Inspections of rye and flaxseed during the period amounted to 5,397 and 4,933 cars, respectively.

In view of the relatively low quality of the 1954 Western grain crop, the proportion of deliveries entering the higher grades during the first nine months of the 1954-55 crop year reflects the considerable extent to which this year's marketings have been drawn from stocks held over from the high quality 1953 harvest. Although proportions of the four grains falling into the higher grades, as indicated by August-April inspections, are down from 1953-54 crop year levels, they compare quite favourably with the five-year (1948-49-1952-53) averages.

Grading of Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed Inspected, August-April, 1954-55 with Comparisons

Grain and Grade	Crop Year		Aug.—Apr.		Grain and Grade	Crop Year		Aug.—Apr.	
	Average		1954-55	Average		1954-55			
	1948-49- 1952-53	1953-54		1948-49- 1952-53			1953-54		
- per cent - cars per cent					- per cent - cars per cent				
<u>OATS</u>					<u>BARLEY</u>				
1 C.W. ....	1/	-	-	-	1 C.W. Six-Row ...	1/	1/	3	1/
2 C.W. ....	1.0	0.6	43	0.2	2 C.W. Six-Row ...	5.3	2.1	292	0.7
Ex. 3 C.W. ....	5.5	4.0	359	1.6	3 C.W. Six-Row ...	20.7	33.3	8,490	18.9
3 C.W. ....	16.3	20.9	3,035	13.5	4 C.W. Six-Row ...	1.4	3.1	461	1.0
Ex. 1 Feed .....	13.9	17.5	3,179	14.1	1 and 2 C.W. Two-Row	0.3	0.4	38	0.1
1 Feed .....	37.8	48.5	11,461	51.0	3 C.W. Two-Row ...	0.8	3.6	1,318	2.9
2 Feed .....	6.1	5.1	1,843	8.2	2 C.W. Yellow ....	1/	-	-	-
3 Feed .....	1.3	0.9	304	1.4	3 C.W. Yellow ....	0.1	-	-	-
Mixed Feed .....	1/	0.1	8	1/	1 Feed .....	24.5	24.1	10,923	24.4
Toughs 2/ 3/ ....	13.8	1.9	1,995	8.9	2 Feed .....	19.0	17.9	7,956	17.8
Damps 2/ 4/ ....	3.1	1/	9	1/	3 Feed .....	5.8	4.3	1,278	2.9
Rejected 2/ ....	0.5	0.3	167	0.7	Toughs 2/ 5/ ....	16.5	10.6	13,564	30.3
All others .....	0.5	0.3	84	0.4	Damps 2/ 4/ ....	5.0	0.1	365	0.8
					Rejected 2/ ....	0.3	0.3	116	0.3
					All others .....	0.2	0.2	18	1/
Totals .....	100.0	100.0	22,487	100.0	Totals .....	100.0	100.0	44,822	100.0
Bushel equivalent (approximately) 54,114,000					Bushel equivalent (approximately) 89,281,000				
<u>RYE</u>					<u>FLAXSEED</u>				
1 C.W. ....	0.5	0.2	7	0.1	1 C.W. ....	62.5	84.7	2,772	56.2
2 C.W. ....	38.7	21.5	1,004	18.6	2 C.W. ....	8.0	10.8	1,038	21.0
3 C.W. ....	35.7	57.3	2,930	54.3	3 C.W. ....	3.2	2.3	165	3.3
4 C.W. ....	5.2	3.6	118	2.2	4 C.W. ....	0.6	0.1	5	0.1
Ergoty .....	4.7	6.5	132	2.4	Toughs 2/ 6/ ....	21.0	1.4	896	18.2
Toughs 2/ 3/ ....	13.3	10.2	1,189	22.0	Damps 2/ 7/ ....	3.9	1/	47	1.0
Damps 2/ 4/ ....	1.4	1/	5	0.1	Rejected 2/ ....	1/	-	-	-
Rejected 2/ .....	0.3	0.4	12	0.2	All others .....	0.7	0.7	10	0.2
All others .....	0.1	0.1	-	-					
Totals .....	100.0	100.0	5,397	100.0	Totals .....	100.0	100.0	4,933	100.0
Bushel equivalent (approximately) 9,433,000					Bushel equivalent (approximately) 7,595,000				

1/ Less than .05 per cent.

2/ All grades.

3/ Moisture content 14.1 per cent to 17 per cent.

4/ Moisture content over 17 per cent.

5/ Moisture content 14.9 per cent to 17 per cent.

6/ Moisture content 10.6 per cent to 13.5 per cent.

7/ Moisture content over 13.5 per cent.

LAKE SHIPMENTS FROM FORT WILLIAM—PORT ARTHUR

Total shipments of the five major grains out of Lakehead positions from the opening of navigation on April 20 to May 18, 1955 amounted to 63.8 million bushels as against 31.3 million moved during the corresponding period last year. The 1954 navigation season was also opened officially on April 20. Although shipments of each of the grains, with the exception of oats, were above 1954 levels for the period under review, the bulk of the increase was accounted for by the sharply increased movement of wheat. Of the current total shipments, wheat and barley accounted for 55 per cent and 26 per cent respectively, while the remainder consisted of oats, 10 per cent; rye, 7 per cent; and flaxseed, 2 per cent.

Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain from the Opening of Navigation to May 18, 1955  
and to Approximately the Same Date, 1945 to 1954\*

Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- thousand bushels -						
1945 .....	60,082	24,062	11,905	1,736	1,089	98,874
1946 .....	29,044	18,259	6,738	518	334	54,893
1947 .....	25,264	8,801	4,373	987	-	39,425
1948 .....	22,407	3,716	3,656	231	1,176	31,187
1949 .....	48,361	4,351	4,888	3,540	2,993	64,133
1950 .....	21,847	2,155	4,024	662	69	28,757
1951 .....	32,253	10,147	6,068	1,362	136	49,966
1952 .....	50,532	12,876	14,006	1,882	1,392	80,688
1953 .....	66,674	18,188	25,412	3,146	1,183	114,604
1954 .....	4,988	12,771	11,196	1,223	1,123	31,301
1955 .....	35,343	6,330	16,271	4,481	1,381	63,807

\*Shipments from opening of navigation to May 21, 1945 through 1947. Shipments for subsequent years to the following dates: May 20, 1948; May 19, 1949; May 18, 1950; May 17, 1951; May 15, 1952; May 21, 1953; and May 17, 1954.

RAIL SHIPMENTS FROM FORT WILLIAM—PORT ARTHUR

Rail movement of wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed from the Lakehead during the first three-quarters of the 1954-55 crop year amounted to 17.6 million bushels, only slightly below the total of 18.6 million for the corresponding August—April period of 1953-54.

Rail Shipments of Canadian Grain from Fort William-Port Arthur  
August—April 1954-55 and 1953-54

Month	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- thousand bushels -						
August, 1954 .....	61	220	97	3	-	381
September .....	51	161	83	2	-	296
October .....	46	96	85	-	2	229
November .....	81	236	73	2	10	401
December .....	179	788	1,204	8	964	3,143
January, 1955 .....	352	1,352	2,055	10	911	4,681
February .....	318	1,269	1,126	29	643	3,385
March .....	246	1,706	692	12	658	3,315
April .....	169	1,109	410	13	57	1,758
Totals .....	1,503	6,937	5,826	78	3,244	17,589
Same period 1953-54 ....	2,900	9,451	4,302	73	1,856	18,582



# FREIGHT ASSISTANCE SHIPMENTS

Claims filed for payment up to April 30, 1955 indicate that on the basis of preliminary data some 51.4 million bushels of wheat, oats, barley and rye were moved from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the August-March period of the current crop year. This preliminary total, subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims is already about 9 per cent above the revised total of 47.2 million bushels moved under the policy during the corresponding period of the preceding crop year. Although shipments of each of the four grains up to April 30, 1955 are above revised totals for the comparable period of 1953-54, most of the increase was accounted for by an increased movement of barley.

According to preliminary data, the movement of screenings and millfeeds under the freight assistance policy during the August-March period of the 1954-55 crop year represent shipments of 42,700 tons and 345,763 tons, respectively. On the assumption of approximately the same rate of submission of claims during both the current and preceding crop years, it would appear evident that this year's shipments of screenings have been running somewhat below the comparable level for the same period a year ago. Shipments of millfeeds, however, already exceed by about 10 per cent the 1953-54 revised total of 315,191 tons moved during the period August 1, 1953 to April 30, 1954. As with wheat, oats, barley and rye these totals are based on claims submitted up to April 30, 1955 and will likely be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims.

The bulk of all freight-assisted shipments went to Ontario and Quebec, with the two provinces together accounting for 71 per cent of the wheat, 83 per cent of the oats, 85 per cent of the barley, 95 per cent of the rye, 83 per cent of the screenings and 77 per cent of the millfeeds.

## Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Shipments, August-March 1954-55 and 1953-54

Province	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Screenings	Millfeeds
	- thousand bushels -				- tons -	
Newfoundland .....	52	425	87	1/	376	2,204
Prince Edward Island .	78	118	185	1/	270	4,459
Nova Scotia .....	543	1,452	759	5	2,206	23,464
New Brunswick .....	316	768	496	3	1,513	20,147
Quebec .....	3,519	11,219	8,406	131	16,910	173,862
Ontario .....	2,942	11,010	4,612	37	18,348	93,628
British Columbia .....	1,600	1,910	700	-	3,078	27,399
Totals 2/ .....	9,051	26,903	15,244	177	42,700	345,763
Same Period 1953-54						
Preliminary 3/ .....	8,325	25,591	11,404	15	58,002	295,652
Revised 2/ .....	8,702	26,392	12,068	15	59,665	315,191

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

2/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1955.

3/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1954.

Exports of Canadian Oats and Barley, 1954-55

Destination	February	March	April	Aug.—April
- bushels -				
<u>OATS 1/</u>				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom .....	279,993	296,470	-	1,245,439
<u>North America</u>				
Jamaica .....	-	-	-	3,764
Trinidad and Tobago .....	-	-	-	2,353
Totals, Commonwealth Countries	279,993	296,470	-	1,251,556
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium .....	404,841	75,765	46,037	2,618,454
Netherlands .....	-	70,964	188,424	354,094
Switzerland .....	-	-	52,574	256,544
<u>North America</u>				
Panama .....	10,294	3,529	1,176	40,293
United States				
For domestic use 2/ .....	1,623,668	2,540,536	1,538,674	12,606,035
<u>Oceania</u>				
Hawaii .....	-	-	-	6,177
<u>South America</u>				
Colombia .....	-	2,356	-	15,327
Totals, Foreign Countries ....	2,038,803	2,693,150	1,826,885	15,896,924
Totals, All Countries .....	2,318,796	2,989,620	1,826,885	17,148,480
<u>BARLEY 1/</u>				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom .....	4,963,437	3,602,126	557,028	33,078,984
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Asia</u>				
Japan .....	420,755	-	850,734	2,327,938
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium .....	-	-	11,666	1,040,745
Germany, Federal Republic .....	-	-	-	547,334
Netherlands .....	-	-	-	125,832
Norway .....	-	-	-	219,100
Switzerland .....	45,936	-	-	557,480
<u>North America</u>				
Costa Rica .....	1,250	-	-	2,500
United States				
For domestic use 2/ .....	812,179	1,112,080	1,837,448	16,003,968
Totals, Foreign Countries ....	1,280,120	1,112,080	2,699,848	20,824,897
Totals, All Countries .....	6,243,557	4,714,206	3,256,876	53,903,881

1/ Subject to revision.

2/ Compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and shippers and advice from American grain correspondents.

Exports of Canadian Rye and Flaxseed, 1954-55

Destination	February	March	April	Aug.—April
- bushels -				
<u>RYE 1/</u>				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom .....	-	-	168,500	192,500
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium .....	24,761	-	11,500	146,553
Denmark .....	-	-	-	137,300
Germany, Federal Republic .....	-	-	365,260	1,549,485
Netherlands .....	102,652	-	-	372,806
Sweden .....	-	-	59,380	423,511
Switzerland .....	-	-	-	173,584
<u>North America</u>				
United States				
For domestic use 2/ .....	-	-	-	127,701
Totals, Foreign Countries .....	127,413	-	436,140	2,930,940
Totals, All Countries .....	127,413	-	604,640	3,123,440
<u>FLAXSEED 1/</u>				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom .....	138,321	10,204	-	915,086
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Asia</u>				
Japan .....	267,236	203,181	246,911	1,269,561
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium .....	66,415	161,394	321,087	804,442
France .....	358,885	252,000	-	830,885
Germany, Federal Republic .....	21,186	-	-	21,186
Greece .....	20,087	-	-	50,332
Italy .....	-	-	-	39,823
Netherlands .....	87,499	53,524	-	339,611
Norway .....	-	-	81,534	81,534
Totals, Foreign Countries .....	821,308	670,099	649,532	3,437,374
Totals, All Countries .....	959,629	680,303	649,532	4,352,460

1/ Subject to revision.

2/ Compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and shippers and advice from American grain correspondents.



Customs Exports of Canadian Rolled Oats, 1/ 1954-55

Destination	February	March	April	August--April
- bushels -				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom .....	-	-	-	-
<u>Asia</u>				
Ceylon .....	555	390	335	4,022
Hong Kong .....	-	-	-	2,593
India .....	-	55	55	220
Malaya and Singapore .....	-	-	-	2,324
<u>North America</u>				
Bahamas .....	-	22	55	456
Barbados .....	-	50	159	1,165
Bermuda .....	593	324	313	4,681
Jamaica .....	3,440	7,269	423	27,077
Leeward and Windward Islands .....	143	324	1,050	6,159
Trinidad and Tobago .....	99	-	49	1,473
<u>South America</u>				
British Guiana .....	-	-	-	225
Totals, Commonwealth Countries .....	4,830	8,434	2,439	50,395
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Africa</u>				
Belgian Congo .....	-	-	-	247
Portuguese West Africa .....	-	-	33	33
<u>Asia</u>				
Philippine Islands .....	-	-	-	775
Thailand .....	-	-	-	6
<u>Europe</u>				
Iceland .....	-	-	3,022	7,582
Switzerland .....	-	-	4,835	26,940
<u>North America</u>				
Costa Rica .....	187	-	-	929
Guatemala .....	5,110	5,275	6,538	30,604
Nicaragua .....	-	-	-	269
Panama .....	-	-	275	275
St. Pierre and Miquelon .....	-	225	-	445
United States .....	2,637	-	-	12,291 2/
<u>South America</u>				
Colombia .....	549 3/	-	1,483	31,741 3/
Ecuador .....	-	-	-	99
Peru .....	-	994	473	29,176
Venezuela .....	21,665	39,561	49,072	224,022
Totals, Foreign Countries .....	30,148 3/	46,055	65,731	365,434 4/
Totals, All Countries .....	34,978 3/	54,489	68,170	415,829 4/

1/ In terms of oats equivalent. Conversion rate: 1 bushel of oats equals 18.2 pounds of oatmeal and rolled oats.

2/ Includes 110 bushels of oatmeal.

3/ Includes 549 bushels of oatmeal.

4/ Includes 659 bushels of oatmeal.

### HOG-BARLEY RATIO

During the February—April period of the current crop year the hog-barley ratio showed only minor fluctuations, with prices of both hogs and barley declining in approximately the same proportion during the period. The monthly average price of No. 1 Feed Barley, basis Fort William—Port Arthur, stood at \$1.21 5/8 per bushel in February and declined to \$1.09 1/8 per bushel in March and \$1.07 1/8 in April. During the same period the monthly average price of hogs, basis B-1 dressed weight at Winnipeg, declined from \$22.79 per hundredweight in February to \$21.16 per hundredweight in March and \$20.55 per hundredweight in April. As a result of this simultaneous decline in prices, fluctuations in the index were confined to a range of less than one per cent during the period.

Number of Bushels of No. 1 Feed Barley  
Equivalent in Price to 100 Pounds of B-1 (Live) Hog at Winnipeg, by Months, 1950—1955  
(Long-time average 1913—1949, with 1930 omitted due to extreme abnormality, is 18.3)

Month	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
January .....	16.3	17.0	14.6	15.1	28.1	16.2
February .....	17.3	17.2	14.7	16.1	28.9	15.3
March .....	16.4	17.4	15.4	17.0	30.7	16.0
April .....	14.6	16.4	16.5	17.0	30.6	15.9
May .....	15.0	20.2	17.4	19.0	31.7	
June .....	16.5	24.3	17.2	20.7	28.3	
July .....	17.3	26.1	17.5	21.4	23.6	
August .....	18.6	25.1	15.9	23.2	18.4	
September .....	17.8	21.2	15.2	23.8	16.3	
October .....	16.7	17.0	14.4	26.5	15.8	
November .....	16.1	15.2	14.2	24.8	16.0	
December .....	17.4	15.8	16.3	27.4	17.1	

Note: The above data include the effect of subsidies on hogs.

### FEED AND LIVE-STOCK PRICE INDICES

The index of feed prices remained at a relatively high level during the February—April quarter of the current crop year. The February index of 218.6 points was the highest monthly level since April 1952, and was largely attributable to higher prices for hay, barley and feed wheat. In March the index declined to 210.5 points due to lower prices for such components of the index as hay, barley and oats. In April the index rose again to a level of 215.1 points, reflecting increased prices for hay and oats.

Reversing the upward trend of the preceding three months, the index of prices of farm animals and farm animal products declined during each month of the February—April period of the current crop year. Although prices of some commodities, such as eggs, poultry and wool were generally higher, a gradual decline in hog prices and lower prices for steers, calves and lambs were sufficient to bring about a decline in the index from 248.4 points in January to an April level of 238.7.

Index Numbers of Feed Prices and Prices of Farm Animals and Farm Animal Products  
by Months, 1952—1955 (1935—1939 = 100)

Month	1952		1953		1954		1955	
	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal
January .....	234.8	318.2	211.3	266.4	201.6	266.3	215.7	248.4
February .....	232.6	297.3	210.4	263.1	202.8	264.7	218.6	245.8
March .....	230.9	283.3	209.8	264.3	202.2	262.0	210.5	241.3
April .....	224.4	273.7	207.5	255.8	204.4	260.4	215.1	238.7
May .....	213.7	265.4	203.7	263.2	203.3	268.0		
June .....	212.4	271.4	200.0	268.7	202.8	267.3		
July .....	208.9	276.8	197.0	265.3	201.1	262.1		
August .....	211.0	277.2	196.6	269.9	201.9	248.2		
September .....	211.3	269.1	195.0	263.7	208.2	245.5		
October .....	212.2	263.0	192.5	265.3	214.1	240.5		
November .....	215.7	266.5	191.8	258.0	215.8	243.1		
December .....	211.8	268.3	192.6	261.6	215.2	245.9		

MILLFEEDS

Supply and Distribution of Millfeeds, August—April, 1954-55 and 1953-54

Month	Production				Imports	Exports	Apparent Domestic Disappearance 1/
	Bran	Shorts	Middlings	Total			
- tons -							
August, 1954 .....	24,389	26,593	8,790	59,772	177	12,571	46,204
September .....	26,456	27,266	10,155	63,877	402	11,254	49,449
October .....	25,907	27,050	10,267	63,224	474	11,235	53,114
November .....	26,023	26,696	9,374	62,093	181	13,873	48,966
December .....	23,412	24,703	8,018	56,133	433	5,357	48,056
January, 1955 .....	22,360	22,651	6,639	51,650	122	2,761	51,829
February .....	23,901	21,756	8,567	54,224	198	8,316	41,859
March .....	27,961	25,624	10,724	64,309	439	9,661	56,284
April .....	24,192	24,182	8,708	57,082	2/	13,480	50,880
Totals .....	224,601	226,521	81,242	532,364	2,426	88,508	446,641
Same period 1953-54 (revised) .....	226,384	216,398	71,277	514,059	936	140,241	376,751

<sup>1/</sup> Adjusted for change in mill stocks.    <sup>2/</sup> Not available.

CROP AND WEATHER CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

According to the Bureau's telegraphic crop report of June 1 the general crop outlook had improved considerably over most areas of the Prairie Provinces during the preceding week. Good progress had been made with wheat seeding, operations being practically completed in Manitoba, western Saskatchewan and in Alberta except for Foothill sections. A considerable advance had been made in northern, central and eastern districts of Saskatchewan during the week. The situation was still serious in flooded areas, however, and might cause a reduction in total crop area. Seeding of coarse grains had also advanced rapidly but a considerable acreage remained to be sown.

Seeding was nearly completed in Manitoba except in scattered areas where operations had been held up because of excessive moisture. Delay in seeding was also attributable to cultivation for wild oat control prior to seeding. Special crops were nearly all planted, with reduced areas seeded to sunflowers and rapeseed. Grain acreages will likely fall short of intentions except for barley and flax. Summerfallow operations and chemical weed control measures had started. The crop outlook in general was promising, with moisture in ample supply, germination good and growth strong.

Considerable improvement in the general crop situation had occurred in Saskatchewan during the week, particularly in northern and eastern districts. Showers in southern districts, however, had again delayed seeding and caused further difficulty in flooded areas. Sharp reductions in wheat acreage were indicated in many districts where seeding had been unusually late but, since seeding was still in progress, it was too soon to assess the overall effect of changes in seeding plans. Indications were that some of the land intended for wheat would be sown to coarse grains and flaxseed if the season was not too late. While the situation in those areas affected by flooding was still serious, the overall outlook was considerably more promising than earlier in the season.

Good progress had been made with seeding in Alberta during the week. Wheat seeding was practically completed in the Peace River District and in the area east and north of a line from Edmonton to Red Deer, Drumheller and Empress. About 80 to 90 per cent had been done from Medicine Hat through to Coutts. Seeding had been very slow, however, in the Foothills and Cypress Hills areas. Coarse grain seeding was well advanced in the Peace River, Edmonton and northeast-central areas but little has been done in the Foothills.



Canadian Wheat Board Monthly Average Cash Grain Prices,  
Basis in Store Fort William—Port Arthur

Grain and Grade	February 1955	March 1955	April 1955
- cents and eighths per bushel -			
<u>OATS</u>			
<u>Initial Payment to Producers 1/</u>			
2 C.W. ....	65	72	72
Ex. 3 C.W. ....	62	69	69
3 C.W. ....	62	69	69
Ex. 1 Feed ....	62	69	69
1 Feed ....	60	67	67
2 Feed ....	55	62	62
3 Feed ....	48	55	55
<u>Domestic and Export 2/</u>			
2 C.W. ....	95/2	89/5	91/6
Ex. 3 C.W. ....	94/6	88/6	91/2
3 C.W. ....	87/5	81/4	84/2
Ex. 1 Feed ....	87/2	80/1	81/7
1 Feed ....	81/2	75/7	78/2
2 Feed ....	78/2	72/7	75/2
3 Feed ....	75/4	70/1	72/4
<u>BARLEY</u>			
<u>Initial Payment to Producers 3/</u>			
1 C.W. Six-Row ....	98	108	108
2 C.W. Six-Row ....	98	108	108
3 C.W. Six-Row ....	96	106	106
4 C.W. Six-Row ....	90	100	100
1 C.W. Two-Row ....	91	101	101
2 C.W. Two-Row ....	91	101	101
3 C.W. Two-Row ....	88	98	98
1 Feed ....	87	97	97
2 Feed ....	82	92	92
3 Feed ....	75	85	85
<u>Domestic and Export 2/</u>			
1 C.W. Six-Row ....	134/2	122/2	122/1
2 C.W. Six-Row ....	134/2	122/2	122/1
3 C.W. Six-Row ....	129/2	117/2	117/1
4 C.W. Six-Row ....	122/1	109/5	107/4
1 C.W. Two-Row ....	131/2	121/2	121/1
2 C.W. Two-Row ....	131/2	121/2	121/1
3 C.W. Two-Row ....	128/2	117/2	117/1
1 Feed ....	121/5	109/1	107/1
2 Feed ....	121/1	108/5	106/5
3 Feed ....	118/7	106/5	104/5

1/ Initial payments include increase of 7 cents per bushel effective March 21, 1955; increase retroactive to August 1, 1954. 2/ For local sales and for spot sales subject to confirmation. 3/ Initial payments include increase of 10 cents per bushel effective March 14, 1955; increase retroactive to August 1, 1954.

Winnipeg Grain Exchange Monthly Average Cash Grain Prices,  
Basis in Store Fort William—Port Arthur

Grain and Grade	February 1955	March 1955	April 1955
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- cents and eighths per bushel -

OATS

Domestic and Export

2 C.W. ....	95/2	89/4	91/6
Ex. 3 C.W. ....	94/6	89	90/3
3 C.W. ....	86/4	81/3	83/1
Ex. 1 Feed ....	85/4	79	80/4
1 Feed ....	79/6	75/3	77/7
2 Feed ....	77/6	72/4	74/6
3 Feed ....	74/4	69	71/1

BARLEY

Domestic and Export

1 C.W. Six-Row ....	131/5	119/2	118/3
2 C.W. Six-Row ....	131/5	119/2	118/3
3 C.W. Six-Row ....	124/5	112/5	111/1
4 C.W. Six-Row ....	120/6	108/1	105/1
1 C.W. Two-Row ....	128/2	117/2	116/3
2 C.W. Two-Row ....	128/2	117/2	116/3
3 C.W. Two-Row ....	124/5	114/3	112/3
1 Feed ....	120/6	108/1	105/1
2 Feed ....	119/3	106/6	104/4
3 Feed ....	117/6	105/1	102/3

RYE

Producers', Domestic, and Export Prices

2 C.W. ....	115/5	103/3	99/7
3 C.W. ....	110/6	98/7	96/3
4 C.W. ....	100/5	89/2	89/7
Ergoty ....	98/5	86/6	87/7

FLAXSEED

Producers', Domestic, and Export Prices

1 C.W. ....	315/6	307/7	315/6
2 C.W. ....	308/5	299/7	306
3 C.W. ....	290/7	279/5	281

## UNITED STATES FEED SITUATION

The following summary of the feed situation in the United States has been taken from the May 23, 1955 issue of The Feed Situation published by the Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Below average disappearance of feed grains during October—March, from the big supply for the 1954-55 season, left record stocks of feed grains on hand April 1. The total carryover into 1955-56 is now expected to be around one-fifth larger than last year's record of 32 million tons. This will mean another large supply of feed grains next year, if the 1955 growing season is near average. The total stocks expected to be carried over into 1955-56 would be equal to nearly a third of the average feed grain production of recent years.

Conditions have been generally favourable for feed crops so far this year in most areas of the country. Planting of corn has made good progress in the Corn Belt. Small grains are in good condition from the northern Great Plains to the Atlantic coast, although the March freeze caused damage in areas of the South. Condition of pastures on May 1 was slightly below a year ago, but the hay supply for 1955-56 is expected to be at least as large as last year.

The combined stocks of oats, barley, and corn in all positions on April 1 totalled 74 million tons, 11 per cent above the previous record stocks on that date last year. Of this, about 29 million tons were under loan and purchase agreement or owned by CCC. Stocks of corn totalled 2,115 million bushels, 122 million bushels more than a year earlier. Over 40 per cent was owned by CCC or under price support. April 1 stocks of oats and barley were much larger than a year earlier and off-farm stocks of sorghum grains were the largest in recent years. Carryover of each of the four feed grains into 1955-56 is now expected to be the largest on record, with the corn carryover totalling around 1 billion bushels.

The total quantity of high protein feeds available for feeding in 1954-55 is now expected to be a little smaller per animal unit than in 1953-54. The total tonnage of oilseed cake and meal fed probably will be about the same as in the 1953-54 feeding season, but less dried milk products will be fed. During October—March the quantity of oilseed meal fed was 8 per cent smaller than a year earlier. However, heavier production and feeding are in prospect for April-September than in that period of 1954.

Prices of most feeds have been lower this spring than a year ago. The greatest decline has been in high-protein feeds, which averaged about 24 per cent lower in April this year than last. Prices received by farmers for feed grains in mid-April averaged 6 per cent lower and prices paid for feeds purchased, 5 per cent lower. The general level of feed prices probably will remain below a year earlier during the next few months if prospects continue favourable for the 1955 feed crops. The price of corn has shown practically no seasonal increase since last fall, and has remained well below the 1954 support price. Prices of oats, barley, and sorghum grains are lower than a year ago, but in April were somewhat above the announced lower support levels on the 1955 crops. If yields this year are average or above, prices of these grains, when harvested this summer, probably will decline to levels more in line with the 1955 supports.



CALENDAR OF COARSE GRAIN EVENTS

- March 14 The initial payment price for barley delivered to the 1954-55 pool operated by the Canadian Wheat Board was increased by ten cents per bushel for all grades.
- 16 Based on farmers' intentions at March 1, the indicated acreage of Canada's major grain crops for 1955, in millions of acres, with 1954 acreages in brackets were as follows: spring wheat, 23.0 (23.6); oats for grain, 11.2 (10.2); barley, 9.8 (7.9); spring rye, 0.2 (0.2); mixed grains, 1.7 (1.6); and flaxseed, 1.7 (1.2). It should be noted, however, that in view of adverse weather conditions in the Prairie Provinces this spring, acreages actually seeded may vary considerably from the intentions figures.
- 18 The Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture, in its report on prospective plantings for 1955, indicates that farmers in the United States were planning as of March 1 to seed 82.0 million acres to corn, a record 47.7 million acres to oats and 15.8 million acres to barley. Estimated plantings for 1954 were corn, 81.9 million; oats, 47.3 million and barley, 14.5 million acres. Acreages of oats and barley include actual seedings last fall together with intended spring seedings.
- 21 The initial payment price for oats delivered to the 1954-55 pool operated by the Canadian Wheat Board was increased by seven cents per bushel for all grades.
- 28 According to a report issued by the Foreign Agriculture Service, United States Department of Agriculture, the third estimate of world production of barley and oats in 1954 places the total at 137 million short tons, one of the largest outturns on record for these grains. The barley outturn, estimated at a record 2,815 million bushels, was slightly above the 1953 crop of 2,810 million bushels and 30 per cent greater than the 1945-1949 average of 2,170 million bushels. The world crop of oats was estimated at 4,325 million bushels, well above both the 1953 harvest of 4,150 million bushels and the 1945-1949 average of 3,931 million bushels.
- April 15 Total stocks of Canadian, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed in all North American positions as at March 31, 1955, in millions of bushels, were estimated as follows: oats, 200.9; barley, 175.7; rye, 25.4; and flaxseed, 6.5. Farm-held stocks of these grains in millions of bushels, were placed at 170.4 for oats, 119.0 for barley, 14.6 for rye, and 2.9 for flaxseed.
- 20 The 1955 season of navigation on the Great Lakes was declared officially open. This was the same date as the official opening last season.
- 20 Following settlement of a wage dispute, 1,200 Lakehead grain handlers returned to work, ending a five-day strike. Press reports indicate that only one day's loading was actually lost because inclement weather would have held up operations in any event.







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