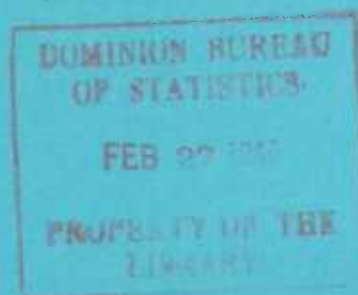


2-001  
DOES NOT CIRCULATE  
NE PAS PRÊTER



CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



Vol. 5

No. 2

# CANADIAN COARSE GRAINS

---

## QUARTERLY REVIEW

FEBRUARY, 1946

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.  
Minister of Trade and Commerce  
Ottawa

Price \$1 a year



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
The Feed Situation in Canada .....	1
The Feed Situation in the United States .....	3
Agricultural Program, 1946 .....	3
Third Estimate of Crop Production .....	4
Farmers' Marketings .....	5
Production and Marketings in the Prairie Provinces .....	6
Hog Barley Ratio and Feed and Live-Stock Prices .....	7
Rail Movement from Fort William-Port Arthur .....	8
Freight Assistance Shipments .....	9
Shipments to the United States and Coarse Grain Exports .....	10
Millfeeds .....	11
Grading of 1945-46 Crops .....	12
Shelled Corn .....	13
Oilseed Crops -	
Flaxseed .....	15
Soybeans .....	16
Sunflower .....	17
Rapeseed .....	17
United States Oilseed Policy for 1946 .....	18
Prices .....	19





DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

(Issued February 1946)

Dominion Statistician:  
Chief, Agricultural Branch:  
Editor:

Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.  
J. B. Rutherford, M.Sc.  
W. G. Morris.

THE FEED SITUATION IN CANADA

Partial results of the December live-stock survey indicate that the downward trend in numbers of live stock which was evident last June is continuing. Hog numbers as at December 1945 are estimated to be 23.5 per cent smaller than a year ago, while the indicated number of sows bred to farrow suggest that the spring pig crop of 1946 will be approximately 9 per cent smaller than it was in 1945. This disclosure comes at a time when a review of Canada's feed grain supplies reveals that estimated total supplies available for the crop year have had to undergo some downward revision since the issue of the September estimate of feed grain production for 1945. Generally speaking, it is felt that this reduction in the estimated amount of feed grain available for live-stock feeding is compensated for by the estimated reduction in live-stock numbers and that overall supplies should continue to be sufficient to meet requirements for the remainder of the crop year. At the same time, a reduction in live-stock numbers, particularly of hogs, should be instrumental in affording a certain amount of relief to a somewhat tight supply position in the high-protein class of feedstuffs.

Expressed in terms of grain-consuming animal units, the size of Canada's live-stock population expanded significantly during the war years, reaching its peak during the 1944 crop year. Since that time a downward trend has been in evidence and during the year June 1, 1944 to June 1, 1945, the number of grain-consuming animal units declined over 7 per cent. Heavy marketings during the fall of 1945 were an important factor in a further liquidation of live-stock numbers. Hog numbers have displayed the most significant decline with the greatest reduction apparent in the Prairie Provinces.

Since live-stock feeders in eastern Canada rely on substantial amounts of western feed grains for their feeding programs, one of the problems they have had to face during the past couple of years has been one of securing an adequate distribution of available supplies. In an effort to mitigate this situation during the present crop year, an all-time record amount of oats, in addition to substantial quantities of barley, was moved down the Great Lakes into eastern positions. As a result, visible supplies of coarse grains in eastern Canada at January 31, 1946 were higher than at the same date for the two preceding years, and approximately 60 per cent greater than they were on January 31, 1945. The rail movement of grain from the Lakehead prior to the close of navigation was relatively small owing to the necessity of keeping a large percentage of available box cars in the Western Division to build up supplies at Fort William-Port Arthur for vessel movements down the lakes. Since the closing of navigation the eastern rail movement from the Head of the Lakes has been stepped up but coarse grain shipments have been low relative to wheat. The desperate need for wheat in the world's deficit areas makes it a matter of grave necessity to place as much wheat as possible in eastern seaboard positions within the next few weeks. To accomplish this the movement of coarse grains into eastern Canada may have to be somewhat curtailed. Nevertheless, it is felt that supplies available to the eastern feeder will remain sufficient unless any unforeseen transportation difficulty develops in the near future.

Of the grains used for live-stock feedings, oats seem to be in greatest supply and may prove to be the backbone of feed supplies for the remainder of the year. Up to the end of January, marketings of oats by farmers in the Prairie Provinces totalled over 67 million bushels, as compared with 63 million at the same date in 1945, while supplies in eastern positions were almost twice as large as they were a year ago. Restricted exports of oats are still being maintained by a system of export permits which are issued only after careful consideration of the merits of each request for export supplies. At the beginning of February, all delivery points were placed on an open-quota basis for the delivery of oats, thus releasing the last of grains from marketing restriction.

Barley stocks are scarce and existing supplies are being retained for the Canadian feeder by means of an embargo on all barley exports. It is estimated that over 80 per cent of marketable western barley has already been delivered. Marketings by western farmers so far this year have been substantially reduced. In an effort to expedite its movement to eastern Canada since western "feed-bank" reserve requirements have been met, all restrictions on barley shipments eastward out of Alberta have been cancelled as were the restrictions on eastward oat shipments at an earlier date.

In other years surplus wheat stocks have been regarded as potential reserves for feeding purposes, especially those of the lower grades. During the war years, when surpluses were somewhat burdensome, live-stock consumption of wheat expanded until it reached almost 100 million bushels per year. This year Canada's wheat crop has been grading very high and emphasis will be placed upon its use as human food rather than animal feed. Even now the feed wheat situation is becoming "tight" and not much improvement is anticipated for the remainder of the crop year.

A review of fodder crop production reveals that the production of hay and clover in 1945 was over 15 per cent greater than it was a year ago. Production of alfalfa was up slightly too, but fodder corn declined almost 20 per cent. As far as the eastern feeder is concerned, production distribution was quite satisfactory with above-average crops produced in eastern Canada. With reduced live-stock numbers this year's supplies appear to be quite sufficient.

Millfeed production during the first five months of the 1945-46 crop year gives promise of another record production year. During that time over 360 thousand tons were produced as compared with 344 thousand for the same period a year ago. Most of this product moves to the feed-deficit areas under the Freight Assistance scheme and so far during the present crop year shipments under this plan seem to be in line with those made a year ago. Keen demand by domestic feeders has necessitated restricted exports with the result that during the August-December period of 1945 only about 5 per cent of total production left the country.

Comparisons between the various feed concentrates used by the Canadian feeder reveal that the high protein feeds are in shortest supply with the fishmeal situation on the Pacific Coast in a particularly acute condition. However, it is felt that supplies are sufficient to meet minimum requirements, provided that the strictest feeding economy is practised. In keeping with the times, some of the high protein feed manufacturers have instituted a system of voluntary rationing of supplies to their customers in an effort to ensure more equitable distribution of available stocks.



## THE FEED SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports that the total supplies of feed concentrates for the 1945-46 season, including feed grains and by-product feeds amount to about 158.5 million tons--some 2 per cent smaller than in 1944-45, but 16 per cent larger than the 1937-41 average. An exceptionally strong demand exists for feed concentrates, and the supply, in relation to demand at ceiling prices is about as tight as in the 1943-44 season.

Competition for available supplies is expected to be keen throughout the winter and spring, and reports indicate that some rather serious local shortages have already developed. Supplies of oats are exceptionally large, but even with a considerable substitution of oats for other feed grains, carry-overs of corn and barley probably will be reduced to fairly low levels at the end of the current season.

Feeding operations are on a large scale during the current season, especially in the Corn Belt, where feeding has been expanded to utilize the relatively large quantities of frost-damaged corn. More cattle will be fed this season than last, but a smaller number of sheep and lambs are available to be fed. The 1945 fall pig crop was 12 per cent larger than the fall crop of 1944. A 4 per cent increase in spring farrowings, compared with 1945, is expected on the basis of farmers' reported intentions.

Recommendations for 1946 production goals were announced by the Secretary of Agriculture on December 1. Goals for feed grains, including corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums, are all at or slightly above the 1945 acreages. The suggested goals are being considered at State meetings and final goals for 1946 are to be announced after reports on local conditions and recommendations are received from the various States.

### THE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM FOR 1946

The Dominion-Provincial Conference on Agriculture, meeting in Ottawa last December, recommended that wheat acreage for the 1946 season be maintained at a figure equal to the 1945 seeded acreage. An increase in the production of feed grains was suggested, with the object of maintaining live-stock production at a relatively high level.

#### Recommended Production of Selected Crops and Live-Stock Products

	Unit	1945	Recommended 1946	1946 of 1945 p.c.
Wheat . . . . .	1,000 seeded acres	23,414	23,414	10
Oats . . . . .	" " "	14,393	14,310	99
Barley . . . . .	" " "	7,350	8,000	109
Rye . . . . .	" " "	487	487	100
Mixed Grain . . . . .	" " "	1,453	1,453	100
Flaxseed . . . . .	" " "	1,060	1,250	118
Summerfallow . . . . .	" " "	19,397	19,397	100
Marketings of:				
Cattle . . . . .	Number	1,840,000	1,840,000	100
Hogs . . . . .	"	5,900,000	6,148,000	104
Sheep and Lambs . . . . .	"	1,200,000	1,100,000	92
Eggs . . . . .	1,000 dozen	370,659	358,605	97

### THIRD ESTIMATE 1945 CROPS

With the exception of corn and rye, revisions in the over-all production of the principal grains in the third estimate were slightly upward. Production of corn remained unchanged, while rye registered a decline of less than 2 per cent. In the case of oats and flax, all upward revisions took place in Saskatchewan, while that province shared with Alberta upward revisions in barley estimates and with Quebec mixed grain increases.

The third estimate of the Canadian oat crop in 1945 is 381.6 million bushels as compared with 499.6 in 1944. Barley estimates place the 1945 crop at 157.8 million bushels as against 194.7 million a year ago. This year rye has declined to 5.9 million bushels from the 1944 crop of 8.5 million. The final estimate of these crops for 1945 will not be made until January 1947, but further changes are unlikely.

Production of the principal grains by provinces is shown in the following table, rounded off to millions of bushels:

	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Shelled Corn	Mixed Grains
Prince Edward Island ..	4.4	0.4	-	-	-	2.1
Nova Scotia .....	1.9	0.2	-	-	-	0.1
New Brunswick .....	6.5	0.4	-	-	-	0.4
Quebec .....	37.9	2.9	0.1	-	-	6.8
Ontario .....	53.9	9.4	1.3	0.2	10.2	33.5
Manitoba .....	54.5	52.5	0.4	2.8	0.2	1.0
Saskatchewan .....	143.0	54.5	2.6	3.8	-	1.4
Alberta .....	76.0	37.0	1.5	0.8	-	1.4
British Columbia .....	3.5	0.5	-	-	-	0.2
T o t a l .....	381.6	157.8	5.9	7.6	10.4	46.9

Production of forage crops in 1945, especially hay and clover, was above that of 1944, with the most significant increases revealed in eastern Canada. Fodder corn production, on the other hand, declined almost 10 per cent.

### FINAL ESTIMATE 1944 COARSE GRAIN CROPS IN WESTERN CANADA

The final estimate of the production of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed in the three Prairie Provinces in 1944 is tabulated below:

	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total Prairie Provinces
- bushels -				
Oats .....	61,000,000	198,000,000	111,800,000	370,800,000
Barley .....	54,700,000	72,000,000	51,700,000	178,400,000
Rye .....	612,000	4,800,000	1,697,000	7,109,000
Flaxseed .....	1,762,000	6,400,000	1,243,000	9,405,000



## FARMERS' MARKETINGS

Marketings of oats in the Prairie Provinces this year have displayed an increase of almost 3 per cent, while barley deliveries have declined nearly 15 per cent. Farm stocks of both these grains have been smaller this year owing to smaller crops and reduced farm carry-overs at July 31, 1945. Country elevator space for coarse grains has been quite readily available this year, with only the delivery of oats placed on a quota basis. Since the first of February, however, oats, too, have been freed from all quota restrictions. This situation differs considerably with that of a year ago, when only about 65 per cent of all delivery points were on an open quota for oats, with most of the remainder on a 10-bushel quota. It is unlikely that marketings for the 1945-46 season will approach those of a year ago when some 136 million bushels of oats and 77 million bushels of barley were delivered.

The smaller flaxseed crop in western Canada this year is reflected in the marketings which are some 30 per cent below those of 1944.

Marketings, by provinces, are shown in the following table, the records being those of the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners:

### Deliveries August 1, 1945 to February 7, 1946

	OATS		B A R L E Y	
	Bushels	% 1945 Crop	Bushels	% 1945 Crop
Manitoba .....	10,888,356	20.0	20,271,695	38.6
Saskatchewan .....	42,039,355	29.4	26,364,356	48.4
Alberta .....	15,384,340	20.2	8,226,815	22.2
T o t a l .....	68,311,951	25.0	54,862,866	38.1
Same Period in 1945 ....	66,359,464	17.9	63,924,755	35.8

	R Y E		F L A X S E E D	
	Bushels	% 1945 Crop	Bushels	% 1945 Crop
Manitoba .....	188,293	49.7	1,587,832	56.7
Saskatchewan .....	1,540,038	58.8	2,460,004	64.7
Alberta .....	891,878	60.4	503,244	68.2
T o t a l .....	2,620,209	58.5	4,551,080	62.0
Same Period in 1945 ....	2,867,088	40.3	6,598,067	70.2

PRODUCTION AND MARKETINGS IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES 1/

Harvest Year	Seeded Acreage	Yield Per Acre	Total Production	Carry-over on Farms 2/	Total on Farms	Farmers' Marketings 3/	Per Cent of Supply Marketed
	acres	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	p.c.
<u>OATS</u>							
1940 .....	7,818,000	29.3	229,000,000	23,214,000	252,214,000	32,274,610	12.8
1941 .....	8,137,000	21.9	178,000,000	20,137,000	198,137,000	33,206,047	16.8
1942 .....	9,666,000	51.7	500,000,000	11,952,000	511,952,000	120,841,072	23.6
1943 .....	11,789,500	33.2	392,000,000	102,000,000	494,000,000	144,276,857	29.2
1944 .....	10,446,900	35.5	370,800,000	61,830,000	432,630,000	135,964,571	31.4
5-year average ..	9,571,480	34.3	333,960,000	43,826,600	377,786,600	93,312,631	24.7
1945 .....	10,749,000	25.4	273,500,000	54,500,000	328,000,000	68,311,951 4/	20.8
<u>BARLEY</u>							
1940 .....	3,622,000	22.9	83,000,000	5,351,000	88,351,000	20,980,344	23.7
1941 .....	4,735,000	20.0	94,700,000	4,895,000	99,595,000	26,535,412	26.6
1942 .....	6,414,000	37.6	241,000,000	4,194,000	245,194,000	85,858,654	35.0
1943 .....	7,896,000	25.8	204,000,000	40,000,000	244,000,000	85,549,252	35.1
1944 .....	6,763,400	26.4	178,400,000	22,825,000	201,225,000	76,627,540	38.1
5-year average ..	5,886,080	26.5	160,220,000	15,453,000	175,673,000	59,110,240	33.6
1945 .....	6,859,000	21.0	144,000,000	17,000,000	161,000,000	54,862,866 4/	34.1
<u>RYE</u>							
1940 .....	943,000	13.0	12,250,000	545,000	12,795,000	5,091,064	39.8
1941 .....	861,000	11.6	9,989,000	399,000	10,388,000	5,334,539	51.4
1942 .....	1,246,000	18.5	23,000,000	145,000	23,145,000	9,863,332	42.6
1943 .....	498,100	11.8	5,870,000	6,000,000	11,870,000	4,690,383	39.5
1944 .....	572,550	12.4	7,109,000	1,000,000	8,109,000	4,087,348	50.4
5-year average ..	824,130	13.5	11,643,600	1,617,800	13,261,400	5,813,333	43.8
1945 .....	410,000	10.9	4,476,000	465,000	4,941,000	2,620,209 4/	53.0
<u>FLAXSEED</u>							
1940 .....	363,700	7.9	2,875,000	26,500	2,901,500	2,587,846	89.2
1941 .....	982,000	5.7	5,641,000	14,000	5,655,000	4,902,825	86.7
1942 .....	1,466,000	10.0	14,700,000	19,000	14,719,000	11,393,906	77.4
1943 .....	2,918,400	6.0	17,600,000	385,000	17,985,000	14,239,167	79.2
1944 .....	1,297,500	7.2	9,405,000	814,000	10,219,000	7,172,674	70.2
5-year average ..	1,405,520	7.4	10,044,200	251,700	10,295,900	8,059,284	78.3
1945 .....	1,034,000	7.1	7,338,000	750,000	8,088,000	4,551,080 4/	56.3

1/ Includes Peace River Block in British Columbia.

2/ Stocks at end of July.

3/ August 1 to July 31, 1940-41 to 1944-45.

4/ August 1, 1945 to February 7, 1946.



## HOG-BARLEY RATIO

In the following table is shown the number of bushels of No. 1 Feed barley equivalent in price to 100 pounds of B-1 hog at Winnipeg, by months, from January 1941 to January 1946.

(Long-time Average = 17.2)

	1941	1942	1943 <sup>1/</sup>	1944	1945 <sup>2/</sup>	1946 <sup>2/</sup>
January .....	21.4	20.0	21.4	18.1	18.3	17.1
February .....	20.4	20.0	21.4	18.1	18.3	
March .....	17.6	19.7	22.0	18.2	18.3	
April .....	17.7	19.5	22.0	18.2	18.4	
May .....	21.0	18.9	21.9	18.2	18.5	
June .....	22.0	18.3	21.2	18.3	19.0	
July .....	23.1	19.4	20.5	18.3	19.1	
August .....	24.9	21.3	20.4	18.3	18.0 <sup>3/</sup>	
September .....	22.1	21.0	20.3	18.3	18.2 <sup>3/</sup>	
October .....	22.3	23.4	20.2	18.3	17.2 <sup>3/</sup>	
November .....	22.4	23.5	20.8	18.3	17.0	
December .....	21.1	23.5	21.1	18.3	17.0	

1/ If the advance Equalization payment of 15 cents per bushel was added to the price of barley, the hog-barley ratio in August and September would stand at 16.2, in October at 16.1, in November at 16.5 and in December at 16.7.

2/ Including Equalization payment on barley and Subsidy on hogs.

3/ Revised.

## FEED AND LIVE-STOCK PRICES

The sharp decline of the index of feed prices, which commenced in March of 1945, was not reversed until December 1945, when the prices for hay and rye posted slight gains. However, the margin between the index of live-stock and animal-product prices and that of feed prices continues fairly wide, owing to the sharp advance of the former index, occasioned by the resumption of the milk subsidy in October.

On the basis of the present relationships of live-stock and animal-product prices to feed prices, the situation is still favourable to the live-stock producer and particularly favourable to those producers who utilize a relatively large proportion of hay in their production program.

Index Numbers of Feed Prices and Prices of Live Stock and Live-Stock Products by Months, 1943-1946 (1926 = 100)

Month	1943		1944		1945		1946	
	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal	Feed <sup>1/</sup>	Animal	Feed	Animal
January ...	96.3	116.2	101.4	123.8	115.5	122.7	108.3	125.0
February ..	100.2	116.8	103.0	124.1	117.3	122.7		
March .....	100.0	117.8	102.4	123.7	118.3	123.6		
April .....	99.2	118.2	102.6	123.4	113.6	124.2		
May .....	100.0	118.7	102.8	119.6	113.0	121.1		
June .....	99.7	119.4	102.7	120.2	113.7	122.4		
July .....	99.1	119.4	102.0	119.0	114.2	122.3		
August ....	97.2	118.6	102.1	117.9	109.3	121.4		
September .	97.8	117.6	107.7	117.8	108.5	119.5		
October ....	99.8	125.0	115.6	122.0	107.0	124.8		
November ..	101.3	125.7	116.1	122.5	106.9	125.5		
December ..	101.4	126.1	116.4	122.0	108.3	125.4		

1/ Revised.



# RAIL MOVEMENT FORT WILLIAM-PORT ARTHUR

Total rail movement of wheat, oats, barley and rye from the Lakehead into eastern positions during the first half of the present crop year amounted to 14.2 million bushels as against 12.8 million bushels for the corresponding period in 1944-45. By way of contrast, 27.7 million bushels moved up to the end of January two years ago. Some shortage of transportation facilities for coarse grain movement into eastern positions is occasioned by the preference given to wheat, in an effort to move maximum quantities of that grain to the eastern seaboard for overseas export. Fortunately for the eastern feeders, substantial quantities of oats and barley were moved eastward by water before the end of navigation in 1945, resulting in the accumulation of larger stocks of feed grains in the eastern feed deficit areas this year than were available a year ago. The Feeds Administrator is of the opinion that, unless some unforeseen transportation difficulty arises between now and the end of the crop year, supplies of feed grains should be sufficient to meet needs.

The following table shows the shipments monthly during the present crop year together with comparative figures for last season.

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye
- bushels -				
<u>1945-46</u>				
August .....	23,255	119,004	73,451	12,000
September .....	57,533	245,986	233,729	11,000
October .....	73,776	224,427	123,897	3,000
November .....	99,197	135,740	35,941	21,732
December .....	2,280,636	1,035,367	688,060	11,310
January .....	4,533,707	2,313,500	1,624,006	183,000
T o t a l .....	7,068,104	4,074,024	2,779,084	242,042
<u>1944-45</u>				
August .....	91,891	104,111	92,112	-
September .....	169,603	60,650	133,892	3,000
October .....	86,572	147,886	130,979	-
November .....	97,512	219,456	118,020	2,000
December .....	1,236,339	2,485,676	848,466	27,829
January .....	1,936,038	3,667,010	1,081,367	64,091
T o t a l .....	3,617,955	6,684,789	2,404,837	96,920

# SHIPMENTS UNDER FREIGHT ASSISTANCE

During the first five months of the crop year 1945-46 claims were paid on more than 45 million bushels of wheat, oats, barley and rye, as well as on some 332,000 tons of screenings and millfeeds shipped under the Freight Assistance Policy. The wheat shipments to the end of December of some 12 million bushels represented about 48 per cent of the quantity of wheat moved under the scheme during the entire crop year 1944-45. In the case of oats, claims paid during the August-December period of 1945 were equal to about 46 per cent of the total claims in the last crop year, while barley movement was over 43 per cent of the 1944-45 crop-year total. Rye shipments have been extremely small this year so far, but the movement of screenings and millfeeds have been fairly well maintained.

Ontario has received the major part of the total grain shipments, while Quebec claimed the largest share of screenings and millfeeds. Moderate shipments have been made to the Maritime provinces, with Nova Scotia receiving the largest amounts for this area.

The following tables contain the distribution of shipments for the first five months of 1945-46 and the crop year 1944-45.

## August 1, 1945 to December 31, 1945

Crop Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Screen-ings	Mill-feeds
	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	tons	tons
<u>1945-46</u>						
Ontario .....	5,430,443	8,836,298	5,496,700	518	18,792	95,066
Quebec .....	4,123,918	7,674,358	5,767,663	1,123	8,128	130,251
New Brunswick .....	433,713	865,847	609,361	-	935	23,403
Nova Scotia .....	472,513	918,658	650,760	-	281	24,068
Prince Edward Island ..	235,728	191,444	231,347	-	4	6,326
British Columbia .....	1,484,484	1,351,593	461,271	-	904	23,754
Total (5 months) .....	12,180,799	19,838,198	13,217,102	1,641	29,044	302,868

## August 1, 1944 to July 31, 1945

<u>1944-45</u>						
Ontario .....	11,565,022	20,550,023	12,782,742	9,371	39,025	234,727
Quebec .....	8,292,662	14,883,094	13,388,919	9,227	23,893	300,655
New Brunswick .....	883,238	1,751,805	1,348,448	150	2,530	50,828
Nova Scotia .....	1,130,533	1,931,518	1,409,856	70	687	58,348
Prince Edward Island ..	407,586	243,291	412,690	-	216	11,883
British Columbia .....	3,742,623	3,303,573	1,213,608	36	1,889	62,331
Total (12 months) .....	26,021,664	42,663,304	30,556,263	18,854	68,240	718,772



## SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES

The shipments of Canadian grain to the United States during the first 28 weeks of the present crop year aggregated about 81 million bushels with wheat accounting for more than 70 per cent of this total. However, more than 50 million bushels out of the 60 million of wheat shipped to the United States have been re-exported overseas from American ports. During the first 28 weeks of the 1944-45 crop year Canada shipped over 75 million bushels of wheat south with about 31 million bushels cleared from United States ports to overseas destinations.

As in the case of wheat, exports of the other grains to the United States have displayed substantial reductions, with the movement of oats and barley totalling 15 million and 4 million bushels respectively as compared with 40 million and 22 million bushels for the same period a year ago. Flaxseed exports reveal the greatest percentage reduction with only 400,000 bushels moving into the United States as compared with over 3 million a year ago.

The following table shows the shipments of the various grains and the areas from which they have been made during the 28 weeks ending February 7, 1946.

	Pacific Coast Terminals	Western Elevators	Fort William- Port Arthur	Eastern Elevators	Total
- bushels -					
Wheat .....	15,000	83,356	54,765,420	4,771,729	59,635,505
Oats .....	413,515	593,607	12,864,439	1,173,387	15,044,948
Barley ....	-	216,563	3,958,304	1,666	4,176,533
Rye .....	-	-	1,469,268	-	1,469,268
Flaxseed ..	-	2,170	365,250	-	367,420
T o t a l .	428,515	895,696	73,422,681	5,946,782	80,693,674

## COARSE GRAIN EXPORTS AUGUST 1945 - JANUARY 1946

The following are Customs figures for the export of coarse grains and flaxseed to all destinations during the first six months of 1945-46.

	<u>Bushels</u>
Oats .....	27,428,578
Barley .....	5,430,633
Rye .....	2,638,179
Flaxseed .....	359,642

The exports of oats do not include rolled oats and oatmeal, which amounted to an equivalent of 1,280,677 bushels of oats for the six-month period ending January 31, 1946.



## MILLFEEDS

December production of millfeeds was over 4,000 tons less than the previous month's record production for the 1945-46 season. However, the total production of these by-products during the first five months of the current crop year is 15,000 tons above the output for the same period of 1944. Comparisons between the monthly production for each of the first five months of the crop years 1944-45 and 1945-46 reveal that in no month during 1945-46 was production exceeded by the output for the corresponding month of the previous year. If this level of production can be maintained for the remainder of the crop year, 1945-46 may well exceed the all-time record of 814 million bushels set a year ago.

Since the outbreak of World War II, demand for millfeeds increased as Canada's wartime live-stock population expanded. To conserve domestic supplies, restrictive export regulations have been enforced. From a total export of over 300,000 tons during the crop year 1940-41, the movement of millfeeds from the country had declined by more than 85 per cent in 1944-45.

During the first five months of the present crop year domestic disappearance amounted to some 341,000 tons, an increase of some 14,000 tons over that recorded for the same period a year ago. It is also of interest to note that between August 1 and December 31, 1945 domestic disappearance accounted for, roughly, 95 per cent of total production for the same period.

In the table which follows, the production, exports and domestic disappearance are shown by months.

### Production and Use of Millfeeds

<u>1945-46</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Domestic Disappearance</u>
	tons	tons	tons
August .....	68,104	3,716	63,696
September ..	68,403	4,272	61,824
October ....	75,259	3,551	72,406
November ...	76,768	3,255	74,349
December ...	72,425	3,397	68,857
Total (5 months)	360,959	18,191	341,132

The breakdown of millfeed production during the first five months of the current season with comparative figures for the corresponding period in the crop year 1944-45 is as follows:

	<u>Bran</u>	<u>Shorts</u>	<u>Middlings</u>	<u>Total</u>
	tons	tons	tons	tons
<u>August-December</u>				
1944-45 (Revised) ....	139,234	134,011	71,086	344,331
1945-46 .....	153,847	142,146	64,966	360,959

# GRADING OF CROPS 1945-46

The following tabulation shows the grading of coarse grain and flaxseed inspected by the Board of Grain Commissioners between August 1, 1945 and January 31, 1946. Some old-crop is included in these inspection returns but the bulk of the cars contained grain grown in western Canada in 1945.

<u>OATS</u>	<u>Cars</u>	<u>BARLEY</u>	<u>Cars</u>
No. 2 C.W. ....	1,534	1 & 2 C.W. 6-Row .....	689
No. 3 C.W. ....	7,322	No. 3 C.W. 6-Row .....	1,914
No. 1 Feed .....	8,362	1 & 2 C.W. 2-Row .....	283
No. 2 Feed .....	1,923	No. 1 Feed .....	6,650
No. 3 Feed .....	189	No. 2 Feed .....	5,876
Tough .....	1,540	No. 3 Feed .....	1,292
All Others .....	3,582	Tough .....	6,167
		All Others .....	1,824
Total Cars .....	24,452	Total Cars .....	24,695
Bushel equivalent .....	56,510,773	Bushel equivalent .....	46,751,092
<u>RYE</u>	<u>Cars</u>	<u>FLAXSEED</u>	<u>Cars</u>
1 & 2 C.W. ....	528	No. 1 C.W. ....	2,539
No. 3 C.W. ....	378	No. 2 C.W. ....	81
No. 4 C.W. ....	19	No. 3 C.W. ....	18
Tough .....	371	Tough .....	60
All Others .....	53	All Others .....	16
Total Cars .....	1,349	Total Cars .....	2,714
Bushel equivalent .....	2,258,280	Bushel equivalent .....	4,394,156

The average gross contents of cars unloaded at Fort William-Port Arthur and the Pacific coast elevators during the first six months of the crop year 1945-46 was as follows:

	<u>Average bushels per car</u>
Oats .....	2,311
Barley .....	1,893
Rye .....	1,674
Flaxseed .....	1,619



## SHELLED CORN

In the third estimate of production of field crops in Canada, the 1945 corn crop for husking or shelling is placed at 10.4 million bushels as against 11.7 million bushels produced in 1944. Total acreage devoted to this crop amounted to 237,000 acres in 1945 as opposed to 270,000 acres in 1944. The greatest percentage reduction in acreage occurred in Manitoba with a decline of about 66 per cent, while Ontario acreage was down 5 per cent from the 1944 figure of 240,000 acres.

The following table sets forth comparisons between acreage, yield and production in 1944 and 1945:

	Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945
	- acres -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
Ontario .....	240,000	237,000	46.0	45.1	11,040,000	10,215,000
Manitoba ....	30,000	10,000	22.0	15.0	660,000	150,000
T o t a l ...	270,000	237,000	43.3	43.7	11,700,000	10,365,000

For the most part the production of shelled corn in Ontario is confined to the south-western section of the province with over 95 per cent of the crop grown in that area. Extremely wet weather during the corn harvesting season of 1945 has resulted in a corn crop with a very high moisture content, consequently much of it will be retained on farms where grown to be used as live-stock feed.

### Grading of the 1944 Ontario Corn Crop

The following data on corn inspected up to January 31, are indicative of the grade and moisture content of the 1945 crop of eastern corn.

### Inspections of Canadian Eastern Corn, August 1, 1945 to January 31, 1946

#### Yellow Corn

	bushels		bushels
1 C.E. ....	38,318	Moist 4 C.E. ....	3,970
2 C.E. ....	5,995	Moist Sample C.E. ....	1,630
3 C.E. ....	22,880	Moist Sample C.E. musty ...	1,590
4 C.E. ....	2,680	Moist Sample C.E. sour ....	1,575
Ex. Dry 1 C.E. ....	3,760	Sample 1 C.E. ....	1,500
Ex. Dry 3 C.E. ....	7,910	Sample C.E. Sour ....	1,500
Tough 1 C.E. ....	1,345	Wet 1 C.E. ....	12,015
Tough 2 C.E. ....	2,725	Wet 2 C.E. ....	507,270
Tough 3 C.E. ....	14,205	Wet 3 C.E. ....	624,175
Tough 4 C.E. ....	2,450	Wet 4 C.E. ....	145,563
Damp 1 C.E. ....	1,730	Wet 5 C.E. ....	28,575
Damp Sample C.E. Sour ..	2,000	Wet Sample C.E. ....	4,005
Moist 1 C.E. ....	67,290	Wet Sample C.E. sour ....	4,160
Moist 2 C.E. ....	203,194	Wet Sample C.E. heated ....	3,305
Moist 3 C.E. ....	81,360		



Inspections of Canadian Eastern Corn, August 1, 1945 to January 31, 1946 - cont'd.

<u>White Corn</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
nil	
<u>Mixed Corn</u>	
1 C.E. ....	1,350
Ex. Dry 1 C.E. ....	3,035
Moist 2 C.E. ....	3,360
Moist 3 C.E. ....	1,485
Wet 2 C.E. ....	4,205
Wet 3 C.E. ....	9,485
Wet 4 C.E. ....	6,625
Total Eastern Corn .....	1,829,030

Examination of the foregoing table serves to emphasize the abnormally wet weather conditions which prevailed during the corn harvest and reveals that almost 75 per cent of the eastern corn inspections graded wet. Marketings of eastern corn during the first half of the current crop year totalled 814,694 bushels—slightly below the 846,320 bushels delivered for the corresponding period in 1944-45.

Manitoba's drastic acreage reduction this year was accompanied by a 7-bushel reduction below last year's average yield of 22 bushels per acre to give a total production of 150,000 bushels, approximately 78 per cent below the 660,000 bushel production of a year ago. Excess rainfall during the early autumn months is reflected in the percentage of inspections which graded tough, damp and wet.

Inspections of Canadian Western Corn August 1, 1945 to January 31, 1946

	<u>Bushels</u>
2 C.W. ....	3,294
4 C.W. ....	13,176
5 C.W. ....	11,529
Tough .....	4,941
Damp .....	1,647
Wet .....	13,176
Sample .....	6,588
Total Western Corn .....	54,351

Deliveries of western corn during the first half of the 1945-46 season totalled 41,984 bushels, almost 80 per cent less than the 184,662 bushels marketed during the corresponding period a year ago.

Total imports of corn during the 1945 calendar year amounted to about 1.7 million bushels. During the war years our corn imports have been almost entirely from the United States, South Africa and Argentina contributed a substantial part of our large pre-war imports.

The Dominion-Provincial Conference on Agriculture which met in Ottawa last December recommended that the 1946 acreage seeded to corn for husking be increased by 48 per cent to 350,000 acres.

## OIL-BEARING SEED CROPS

### FLAXSEED

For the past two years the acreage devoted to and the production of Canada's principal oilseed crop, flaxseed, have decreased steadily despite the wartime need for vegetable oils. The total area of slightly over a million acres sown to flaxseed in Canada during 1945 was over 20 per cent below the 1945 acreage recommendations advanced by the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Objectives Conference; 20 per cent below the 1944 acreage, and almost 65 per cent less than the flaxseed acreage of two years ago.

The 1943 acreage in flaxseed in Canada of 2.9 million acres was an all-time record. However, production for that year of 17.9 million bushels was considerably below the record crop of 26.1 million bushels in 1912 when much of the crop was first production on new breaking. Expansion of flaxseed acreage during the 1941 to 1943 period was largely the result of government intervention to shift production to meet war requirements. In the face of large stocks of wheat and the urgent need of feed grains for the heavy live-stock production program, coupled with a strong demand for oilseeds to meet the loss in vegetable oil imports from the Far East, the wheat acreage reduction plan was put into effect. This plan provided a bonus of \$2.00 per acre for land diverted from wheat and put into feed grains, flax or grass. Another inducement to farmers to shift production existed in the price relationship of flax to wheat. In the spring of 1943 flax was \$2.25 per bushel with wheat at 90 cents per bushel, basis in store Fort William-Fort Arthur. A further factor stimulating flaxseed acreage at that time was the existence of a delivery quota system on wheat marketings, while no limits were placed on flaxseed deliveries.

By the spring of 1944 price relationships existing between the various grains had changed considerably. In the first place, the two-dollar acreage bonus paid on land diverted from wheat production was discontinued. Secondly, the guaranteed minimum price of wheat at the Lakehead was advanced to \$1.25 per bushel, while flaxseed prices increased to \$2.50 per bushel. The result was that coarse grain acreages decreased and flaxseed acreages were reduced by more than 55 per cent in 1944 as the western farmer turned again to wheat.

With a carry-over of 2.9 million bushels of flaxseed at July 31, 1945 total supplies for the current crop year amounted to 10.5 million bushels as compared with 13.3 million bushels available in 1944-45. Farmers in the Prairie Provinces, who produced over 97 per cent of the 1945 flaxseed crop, had marketed 4.5 million bushels during the first half of the present crop year as against 6.6 million bushels in 1944-45. Crushing capacity for flax and other oilseed crops increased steadily during wartime until now it is estimated to be about 8 million bushels. Crushing reports reveal that during the first five months of the current crop year some 2.3 million bushels of flaxseed were crushed as compared with 1.6 for the comparable period in 1944-45. Latest reports from the Canadian Wheat Board indicate that over 3.5 million bushels of flaxseed had been sold to domestic crushers during the six-month period ending January 31, 1946.

Flaxseed exports have declined drastically during the current season. Up to the end of December 1945 less than 400 thousand bushels left the country, about 85 per cent less than during the corresponding period a year ago. If the present rate of exports continues for the balance of the year, total exports for the 1945-46 season will probably be below the million-bushel mark as compared with 3.6 million in 1944-45 and almost 10 million two years ago.



Since August 1944 the price per bushel for No. 1 C.W. flaxseed, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur has been set at \$2.75. As yet, no announcement has been made regarding prices for the coming year. The Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Objectives Conference which met in Ottawa early in December 1945 has recommended that 1,250,000 acres be sown to flaxseed during the 1946 season, an increase of about 18 per cent above last year's seeded acreage.

### SOYBEANS

The total production of soybeans for beans in 1945 is now estimated at 829,618 bushels, as compared with 681,820 bushels in 1944, an increase of almost 20 per cent, attributable in large part to a substantial increase in acreage. Again this year, as in other years, the commercial production of beans was virtually confined to the province of Ontario, as Manitoba harvested only 2,000 bushels of this crop.

The provincial distribution of the commercial production of this crop for the past three years is as follows:

	Acreage			Production		
	1943	1944	1945	1943	1944	1945
	- acres -			- bushels -		
Ontario .....	32,150	35,800	43,451	544,600	676,620	829,618
Manitoba .....	2,500	400	200	20,000	5,200	2,000
British Columbia .	900	-	-	4,500	-	-
T o t a l .....	35,550	36,200	43,651	569,100	681,820	831,618

British Columbia has not produced soybeans on a commercial basis since 1943, while acreage in Manitoba has been dwindling since the 2,500-acre seeding two years ago. Ontario production is concentrated in southern Ontario where over 75 per cent of the crop is grown. Some five thousand acres were reported seeded to soybeans on Pelee Island with 80 per cent of this area yielding 27.5 bushels per acre. In addition to the 43,451 acres sown for beans in Ontario, some 7,549 acres were planted and cut for hay.

During the calendar year 1945 over 1.3 million bushels of soybeans were imported from the United States to supplement domestic supplies. Imports of soybean cake and meal have been greatly reduced, only 990 tons being imported from the United States during the calendar year 1945 as compared with nearly 17,000 tons imported a year earlier. Soybean crushings up to the end of December of the present crop year totalled 323,432 bushels as compared with the 240,977 bushels crushed during the corresponding period a year ago. Total crushings for the 1944-45 season amounted to 889,283 bushels.

The maximum price for No. 1 and No. 2 Canada grade soybeans is \$2.15 per bushel delivered at Toronto, Winnipeg, Lethbridge or Vancouver and is based on a moisture content of 14 per cent or less. Based on estimated needs in 1946, the soybean acreage objective for the coming year has been set at 43,651 acres, an acreage equivalent to that seeded last year.



## SUNFLOWER SEED

During the past three years sunflower seed production has not achieved the popularity among western farmers that has been desired by the Fats and Oils Administrator. The recommended acreage of 100,000 acres set for 1943 was met by an actual seeded acreage of some 12,370 acres; a seeded acreage of 17,300 acres in 1944 was the response to an appeal for 50,000 acres, while the 28,000 acres requested in 1945 was responded to with only 9,212 acres. In addition, adverse weather conditions worked to provide below-average yields and a resultant overall production of only 2.9 million pounds of seed in 1945.

The provincial distribution of the commercial production of this crop for the past three years is as follows:

	Acreage			Production		
	1943	1944	1945	1943	1944	1945
	- acres -			- pounds -		
Manitoba .....	4,270	11,300	8,500	2,775,500	4,000,000	2,550,000
Saskatchewan .	7,600	6,000	712	2,432,000	2,000,000	356,000
Alberta .....	500	-	-	95,000	-	-
T o t a l ....	12,370	17,300	9,212	5,302,500	6,000,000	2,906,000

With the exception of 1943, when Alberta seeded an estimated 500 acres to sunflower seed, production of sunflower seed has been confined to the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Manitoba accounted for almost 88 per cent of total production, seeded acreage in Saskatchewan having dropped from 6,000 acres in 1944 to 712 acres in 1945. This small acreage was located principally in the central and south-central districts of the province.

During the crop year 1944-45, deliveries of sunflower seed to western elevators totalled 4.7 million pounds. Up to the end of January 31, 1946, elevator receipts for the current crop year have amounted to nearly 400,000 pounds. In 1944-45 over 2 million pounds were processed by the crushing industry. Reports to the end of December reveal no sunflower seed crushings for the current crop year. Total imports of sunflower seed oil during the 1945 calendar year amounted to 16.1 million pounds—equivalent to nearly 65 million pounds of seed.

The Canadian Wheat Board was authorized to purchase the 1945 sunflower seed crop at 5 cents per pound for seed in reasonably clean condition, delivered f.o.b. shipping points named by the Board. With an urgent demand for sunflower seed oil continuing, the Fats and Oils Administrator has requested that the minimum recommended acreage for 1946 be placed at 28,000 acres.

## RAPESEED

A wartime shortage of an important ingredient of marine engine oil has been the principal factor underlying the development of commercial rapeseed production in western Canada. Yields have been good and the acreage devoted to this crop in the Prairie Provinces has shown a marked increase in each of the past three years. The total acreage seeded to rapeseed in Canada in 1945 is now estimated at 20,400 acres, about equal to the goal proposed for that year by the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Objectives Conference and almost 70 per cent above the acreage planted in 1944.

The provincial distribution of the commercial production of this crop for the past three years is as follows:

	Acreage			Production		
	1943	1944	1945	1943	1944	1945
	- acres -			- pounds -		
Quebec .....	8			4,800		
Ontario .....	821	600	600	574,700	390,000	240,000
Manitoba .....	1,500	6,000	9,000	1,200,000	4,200,000	3,600,000
Saskatchewan ..	1,700	4,800	8,500	1,208,000	1,920,000	6,800,000
Alberta .....	22	630	2,300	15,400	90,000	212,000
T o t a l .....	4,051	12,030	20,400	2,822,900	6,600,000	10,852,000

In 1943 Quebec cultivated a small acreage on an experimental basis only. Since results were disappointing, no further attempt has been made in that province to grow rapeseed for commercial purposes. From the above table it will be noted that cultivation of this crop is concentrated in the two provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, where over 85 per cent of the total acreage is located. Alberta, however, has increased her acreage of this crop from 22 acres in 1943 to 2,300 acres in 1945. Yields in the latter province last season were disappointing owing to the drought conditions prevailing in the areas where rapeseed is grown.

Rapeseed crushing operations, which did not get underway until late in the season of 1944-45, were resumed early in the fall of the current crop year. During the five-month period ending December 31, 1945 about 3.7 million pounds of rapeseed were crushed, an amount slightly above that crushed during the entire 1944-45 season. Imports of rapeseed oil during the 1945 calendar year totalled 695,200 pounds, which is the equivalent of about 2.3 million pounds of seed.

The Canadian Wheat Board was authorized to purchase the 1945 rapeseed crop at 6 cents per pound for seed in a reasonably clean condition with a moisture content not exceeding 10 per cent, delivered f.o.b. shipping points named by the Board. The Agricultural Program for 1946 calls for a 1946 acreage equal to that seeded in 1945.

Reports coming from Saskatchewan indicate an increased interest in rapeseed production in that province, and it is felt that the 1946 acreage objective should be easily reached. If the demand for this crop remains near its present level the production of rapeseed, at least on a moderate scale, may well become a permanent factor in Western agriculture.

#### THE UNITED STATES OILSEED POLICY FOR 1946

Tentative acreage goals, subject to revision in State meetings, have been announced by the Secretary of Agriculture for the 1946 oilseed crops and these suggest a moderate increase in cotton acreage, not much change in flaxseed acreage, a 10 per cent decline in acreage of soybeans for beans, and a 23 per cent decrease in peanut acreage picked and threshed. Despite the present shortage of fats and oils, substantial decreases have been suggested for some of the oil-bearing crops owing to the fact that the 1946 oil crop will not be available for crushing until the fall of 1947, by which time sizable quantities of copra and other oil-bearing materials will be available from countries which furnished these supplies before the war.

It has been announced that the average returns to farmers for flaxseed produced in 1946 would be supported at \$3.60 per bushel, Minneapolis basis. This is equivalent to an average return of about \$3.40 per bushel, farm basis, and is nearly equal to returns farmers received from the 1945 crop when, in addition to the ceiling price of \$3.10 per bushel, Minneapolis, flaxseed growers were eligible for a Government payment of \$5.00 per planted acre—equivalent to 58 cents per bushel on the basis of the national average yield.



# PRICES

Monthly Average of Closing Prices, Basis in Store Fort William-Port Arthur

	January		1945-1946		
	1944	1945	November	December	January
	cents and eighths per bushel				
<u>OATS</u>					
No. 2 C. W. ....	51/4	51/4	51/4	51/4	51/4
No. 3 C. W. ....	51/4	51/4	51/4	51/4	51/4
No. 1 Feed .....	51/4	51/4	51/4	51/4	51/4
No. 2 Feed .....	50	49/6	51	50/4	50/4
No. 3 Feed .....	49	47/7	49/4	49	49
<u>BARLEY</u>					
Nos. 1 and 2 C.W. 6-Row ...	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6
No. 3 C.W. 6-Row .....	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6
Nos. 1 and 2 C.W. 2-Row ...	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6
No. 1 Feed .....	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6
No. 2 Feed .....	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6
No. 3 Feed .....	63/6	64/6	64/6	64/6	64/6
<u>RYE</u>					
No. 2 C.W. ....	124/7	116/3	187	182/6	205/7
No. 3 C.W. ....	119/7	111/1	181/4	177/6	200/3
No. 4 C.W. ....	110/7	107/4	175/3	171/5	193/4
Ergoty .....	108/7	101/4	156/1	152/3	177/1
Rejected 2 C.W. ....	112/7	103/4	161/1	157/3	180
<u>FLAXSEED</u>					
No. 1 C.W. ....	250	275	275	275	275
No. 2 C.W. ....	246	271	271	271	271
No. 3 C.W. ....	237	262	262	262	262
No. 4 C.W. ....	233	258	258	258	258
<u>CORN</u>					
No. 3 C.W. Yellow, moisture content 20% ....	80	97/4	97/4	97/4	97/4



STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010687217