

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

Vol.6

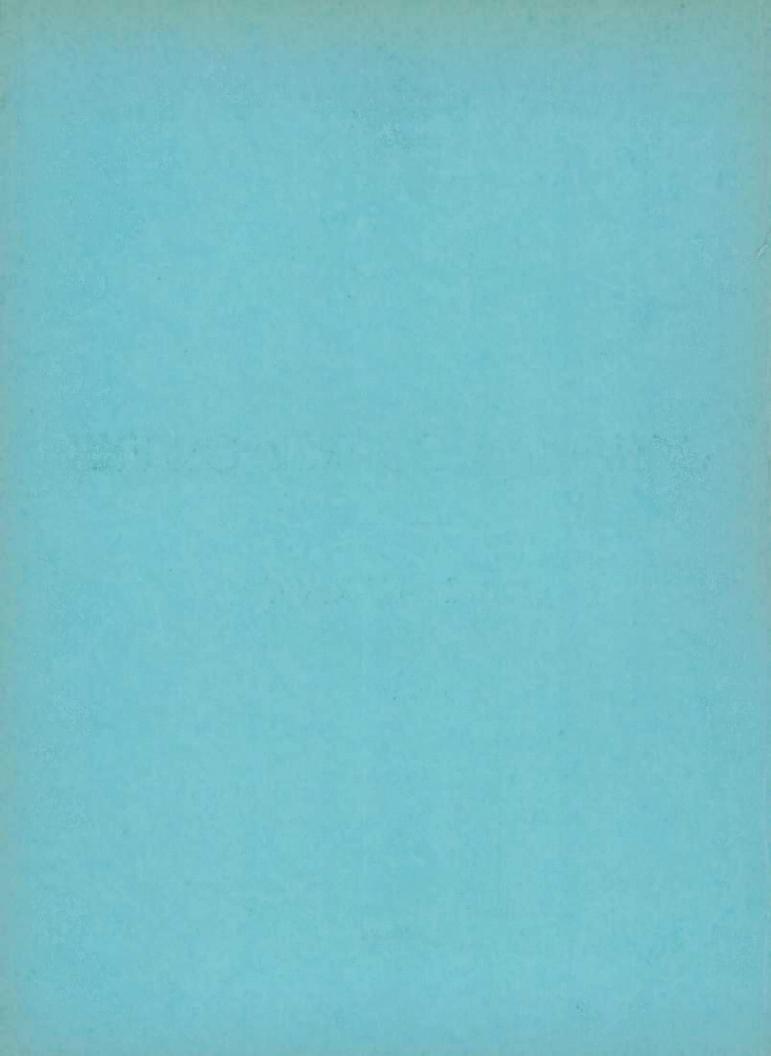
No.4

CANADIAN COARSE GRAINS

QUARTERLY REVIEW

AUGUST,1947

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

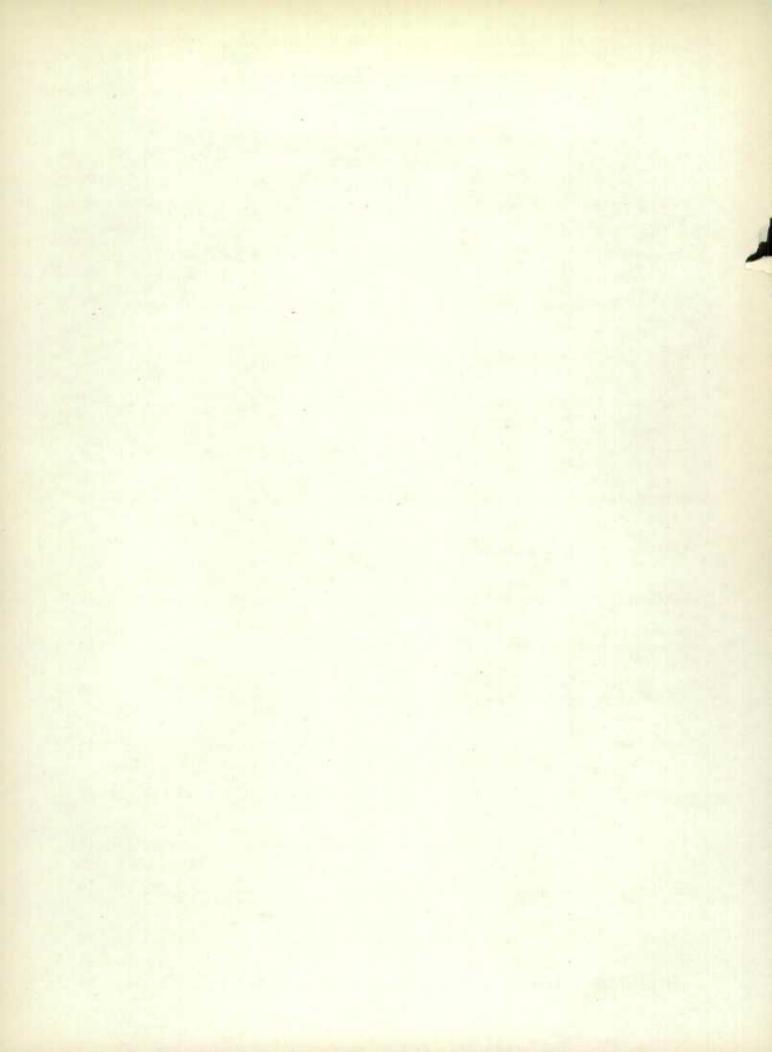


CANADIAN COARSE GRAINS - QUARTERLY REVIEW

AUGUST 1947

TABLE C	F C	ONT	ENTS
---------	-----	-----	------

Feed Situation in Canada	Page 1
acreage and First Estimate of Production of Grains 1947	3
Farmers' Marketings 1946-47	4
Production and Marketings in Prairie Provinces	5
Carry-Over Stocks of Canadian Grain at July 31, 1947	6
Twenty-Four Record of Coarse Grain Carry-Over	8
Rail Movement from Fort William-Port Arthur	9
Freight Assistance Shipments	10
Hog-Barley Ratio and Feed and Live-Stock Prices	11
Consumption of Feed Grains in Canada	12
High Protein Feeds	13
Grain Corn	14
Millfeeds	15
Flaxseed oncommentation of the comment of the comme	16
Telegraphic Crop Report	17
Prices careconocarecon	18
United States Situation	20



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

(Issued August 1947)

Dominion Statistician: Herbert Marshall.

Director, Agricultural Division: C. V. Parker.

Editors: W. D. Porter and W. G. Morris.

FEED SITUATION IN CANADA

Prospective Feed Situation 1947-48 - Present prospects indicate that a continuing tight feed situation is in store for the 1947-48 season. Any hope of relief from the harassing problem of attempting to equate short supplies of and urgent requirements for feed grains, a problem which has faced members of the feeds and live-stock industry for the past two years, seems foredoomed to disappointment this season.

Cold, wet weather during the seeding season in eastern Canada and hot, dry weather during the critical growing period in western Canada largely account for the substantial reduction in feed grain production this year. Although the overall oat acreage was down this year as against last, smaller yields were for the most part responsible for a total 1947 outturn of only 291.6 million bushels as compared with 400.0 million bushels in 1946. The significance of the weather factor during the current season is quite apparent in the case of barley. Despite an acreage increase of more than a million acres, total production amounted to only 154.6 million bushels, 5.3 million bushels below that of a year ago.

As was expected the carry-over of coarse grains was further reduced below the low levels of 1946. At July 31, 1947 stocks of oats in all positions totalled 68 million bushels, 10 million less than at the same date a year ago. This year's barley stocks at 29 million bushels were one million bushels below the 1946 level.

When carry-over stocks are combined with production it becomes evident that total supplies of oats and barley for the current season are the smallest on record for the past six years. A table showing carry-over stocks, production and total supplies of oats and barley for the crop years 1942-43 to 1947-48 is presented below:

	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
OATS (000,000 bu.)			- Hest #5-			
Carry-over	29	149	108	98	78	68
Production	652	482	500	382	400	292
Total Supplies	681	631	608	480	478	360
BARLEY (000,000 bu	.)			The Part of the Pa		
Carry-over	11	69	46	29	30	29
Production	259	216	195	158	160	155
Total Supplies	270	285	241	187	190	184

The gravity of the situation from the eastern feeders' standpoint is further heightened by a comparison of the barley and oats situation in eastern Canada this year as against last. It is estimated that eastern feeders will start the feeding season with 125.7 million bushels of oats, including farm carry-over and local production, and 15.0 million bushels of barley. This year they have 100.0 million bushels of oats and 11.0 million bushels of barley. Last year feed banks were in operation under the direction of the Feeds' Administrator and at August 1, 1946 there were about 13 million bushels of oats and barley in eastern elevators and mills. This year no feed banks are in operation and at the beginning of the current season oats and barley stocks in eastern elevators and mills totalled a little over 6 million bushels. While no estimate of mixed grain

production, an important item in the feed picture of Quebec and Ontario, has been made for 1947, the acreage is estimated to be 25 per cent below that of 1946. If yields per acre are as adversely affected by the weather as were those for oats and barley, a substantially smaller feed contribution may be forthcoming from that source this year. It is estimated that during the 1946-47 season about 110 million bushels of wheat, oats and barley were moved into eastern Canada under the Freight Assistance scheme.

On the requirements side it is estimated at this time that any decreases likely to occur in cattle and sheep numbers will be offset by an increase in the hog population. Consequently, it is felt that feed grain needs in the eastern feed deficit areas during the current crop year will be no smaller than they were in 1946-47. If that proves to be the case at least 50-55 million bushels of feed wheat, oats and barley, in addition to an amount equal to last year's Freight Assistance shipments, will have to be made during the next twelve months to compensate for the decrease in the East's production of oats, barley and mixed grains.

Supplies of hay, clover and alfalfa are estimated to be somewhat larger

Supplies of hay, clover and alfalfa are estimated to be somewhat larger than a year ago. Total production this year, including only the first cutting of alfalfa, amounts to 18 million tons as against 16.5 million in 1946-47.

Crop Year 1946-47 in Retrospect - An excerpt from last year's review might well be quoted to summarize the feed grain situation as it existed during the crop year 1946-47, a year - "characterized by a supply situation which, while sufficient for most of the needs of Canada's live-stock population, required economical utilization and some restrictive export measures in order to ensure against the development of a serious shortage before the end of the season. Although sufficiency was attained for the most part, variety was often limited and towards the end of the year oats had become the mainstay of Canada's feeding program".

Marketing of oats and barley by producers in the Prairie Provinces in 1946-47 were not significantly different from those of the previous year. The season's delivery of oats to July 31, 1947 totalled 101.2 million bushels as against 107.4 million bushels a year earlier. Barley marketings at 69.1 million bushels in 1946-47 were slightly above the 67.3 million bushels delivered in 1945-46. While flaxseed deliveries in 1945-46 and 1946-47 were relatively unchanged, rye marketings jumped from 3.1 million to 5.6 million bushels.

Exports of barley during the past crop year amounted to 6.7 million bushels as compared with 5.5 million bushels a year earlier. Of the 1946-47 total, 5.3 million bushels were consigned to the United States. Shipments of oats amounting to 32.6 million bushels in 1946-47 were down by nearly 14 million bushels below the 1945-46 level. About one-third of the past season's total was shipped to the United Kingdom.

Policy for 1947 - The system of advance equalization payments which was discontinued at March 18, 1947 will remain inoperative during the current season and the new support prices announced at the same date will remain in effect until July 31, 1948. These prices are based on 90 cents for No. 1 feed barley and 61 1/2 cents for No. 1 feed oats in store Fort William-Port Arthur. Other grades of these grains will be fixed at appropriate differentials from time to time by the Canadian Wheat Board.

Price ceilings for all grades have been raised in the case of barley to 93 cents and in the case of oats to 65 cents, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver. These ceiling prices correspond with the support prices for the highest grades of barley and oats. For the time being, because of the continuation of the price ceilings on animal products, payment of 10 cents per bushel for oats and 25 cents per bushel for barley will be made within the same conditions as the 25 cent payment on wheat purchased for feeding purposes.

ACREAGE AND FIRST ESTIMATE OF CANADA'S 1947 GRAIN PRODUCTION

In its first estimate of production issued August 13, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics placed Canada's wheat crop at 358.8 million bushels, which is approximately 62 million bushels less than the production in 1946. Of this amount 336 million bushels were produced in the Prairie Provinces. Although wheat acreage was reduced somewhat this year as against last, the greatest factor contributing to the significant decrease in production in western Canada was the period of extremely hot, dry weather which prevailed during the latter part of July and early August.

Cold, wet weather in eastern Canada during the seeding season and the hot, dry weather in the Prairies during the critical growing period served to reduce substantially the yields per acre of coarse grains. Although the acreage of barley was increased by more than a million acres, reduced yields cut the over-all production in 1947 to 154.6 million bushels as compared with 159.9 million a year ago. The most significant reduction among the coarse grains occurred in oats. This the acreage was down less than a million acres, a marked decrease in the yield per acre resulted in a total production of 291.6 million bushels, a decline of more than 100 million bushels below last year's production.

High prices for rye in 1946 are reflected in the gain in rye acreage from 715,000 acres in 1946 to 1,155,500 acres in 1947. Increased yields per acre, especially in the case of fall rye, resulted in a crop of 14.9 million bushels in 1947, an increase over 1946 of approximately 100 per cent. Flaxseed acreage at 1.4 million acres was close to the 1.5 million acres recommended by the Dominion Provincial Agricultural Objectives Conference in December of 1946. With the yield per acre this year unchanged from that of last year, the total production amounted to 10.9 million bushels, as compared with 6.4 million bushels in 1946.

The acreages and first estimate of production of Canada's 1947 grain crops, together with figures for 1946, are shown below:

Crops	Area		Yield P	er Acre	Production	
OR THEOLOGY HOLE	1946 1/	1947 2/	1946 3/	1947	1946 3/	1947
CANADA	- ac	res -	- bush	els -	- t	oushels -
Fall wheat	546,100	712,300	29.8	26.8	16,274,000	19,090,000
Spring wheat	23,530,000	23,162,900	17.2	14.7	404,451,000	339,696,000
All wheat	24,076,100	23,875,200	17.5	15.0	420,725,000	358,786,000
Dats	12,074,700	11,150,000	33.1	26.2	400,069,000	291,620,000
Barley	6,258,500	7,441,400	25.5	20.8	159,887,000	154,554,000
Fall rye	486,000	840,800	10.8	14.0	5,253,000	11,802,000
Spring rye	229,000	314,700	9.6	9.9	2,195,000	3,104,000
All rye	715,000	1,155,500	10.4	12.9	7,448,000	14,906,000
Flaxseed	839,500	1,438,000	7.6	7.6	6.384.000	10,916,000
	1002		- to	ns -	mod united - t	ons -
Hay and clover	9,882,500	9,658,000	1.45	1.66	14,372,800	16,017,000
Alfalfa (first cut)	1,263,300	1,190,600	1.67	1.63	2,105,000	1,945,000
PRAIRIE PROVINCES			- bus	hels -	- bus	hels -
Wheat	23,354,000	22,992,000	17.1	14.6	400,000,000	336,000,000
Oats	8,522,000	7,898,000	32.4	25.4	276,000,000	200,300,000
Barley	5,797,000	7,035,000	25.0	20.6	145,000,000	144,600,000
Rye	641,000	1.072,000	9.2	12.4	5,915,000	13,246,000
Flaxseed	821,000	1,414,000	7.6	7.5	6,208,000	10,649,000

^{1/} Areas, 1946: Prairie Provinces - preliminary census figures.

^{2/} Areas, 1947: Prairie Provinces and Ontario - June Survey acreages of grain crops; other provinces - Intentions Survey acreages of grain crops.

^{3/} Production, 1946: Prairie Provinces and Canada includes revised estimates.

FARMERS' MARKETINGS

Little change was evident in the total marketings of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed by western farmers in 1946-47 as against 1945-46. The total for the past season amounted to just over 180 million bushels as against a little more than 182 million a year earlier. This feature may be attributed to the fact that the production of these grains in the Prairie Provinces during 1945 and 1946 displayed a remarkable similarity.

Marketings of oats were down about 6 million bushels in 1946-47 as compared with 1945-46. Barley and flaxseed marketings displayed small increases. The great gain was featured by the deliveries of rye. With unrestricted marketing, a larger crop and high prices, farmers in western Canada increased their marketings of rye in 1946-47 as against 1945-46 by nearly 80 per cent.

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, 1946 to July 31, 1947

The second second				
OATS			BARL	EY
Bushels	% 1946 Crop		Bushels	% 1946 Crop
16,962,074	30.8		25,416,148	53.0
49.264.763	42.1		25,861,637	56.2
35,007,221	33.7		17,828,119	35.0
101,234,058	36.7		69,105,904	47.7
107,359,887	39.3		67,255,294	46.7
RYE		Av.	FLAXS	EED
Bushels		(1)	Bushels	% 1946 Crop
		155		
275,146			2,251,757	75.6
3,010,321			2,115,203	81.5
2,271,016			472,152	74.4
5,556,483		34.5	4,839,112	77.9
		01		
3,096,064			4,732,762	64.5
	Bushels 16,962,074 49,264,763 35,007,221 101,234,058 107,359,887 R Y E Bushels 275,146 3,010,321 2,271,016 5,556,483	Bushels % 1946 Crop 16,962,074 30.8 49,264,763 42.1 35,007,221 33.7 101,234,058 36.7 107,359,887 39.3 RYE Bushels 275,146 3,010,321 2,271,016 5,556,483	Bushels % 1946 Crop 16,962,074 30.8 49,264,763 42.1 35,007,221 33.7 101,234,058 36.7 107,359,887 39.3 RYE Bushels 275,146 3,010,321 2,271,016 5,556,483	Bushels % 1946 Crop Bushels 16,962,074 30.8 25,416,148 49,264,763 42.1 25,861,637 35,007,221 33.7 17,828,119 101,234,058 36.7 69,105,904 107,359,887 39.3 67,255,294 RYE FLAXS Bushels Bushels 275,146 2,251,757 3,010,321 2,115,203 2,271,016 472,152 5,556,483 4,839,112

PRODUCTION AND MARKETINGS IN THE 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 Suppl Marketed
	acres	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	p.c.
OATS							
1043	0 175 000	21.9	179 000 000	20,137,000	198,137,000	33,206,047	16.8
1941	8,137,000		178,000,000	11,952,000	511,952,000	120,841,072	23.6
1942	9,666,000	51.7	500,000,000		494,000,000	144,046,208	29.2
1943	11,789,500	33.2	392,000,000	102,000,000		, ,	
1944	10,446,900	35.5	370,800,000	61,830,000	432,630,000	135,964,571	31.4
1945	10,749,000	25.4	273,500,000	54,500,000	328,000,000	107,359,887	32.7
5-year average	10,157,680	33. 5	342,860,000	50,083,800	392,943,800	108,283,557	27.6
1946	8,522,000	32.4	276,000,000	40,902,000	316,902,000	101,234,058 4	31.9
BARLEY							
1941	4,735,000	20.0	94,700,000	4,895,000	99,595,000	26,535,412	26.6
		37.6	241,000,000	4,194,000	245,194,000	85,858,654	35.0
1942	6,414,000			40,000,000	244,000,000	85,234,231	34.9
1943	7,896,000	25.8	204,000,000			76,627,540	38.1
1944	6,763,400	26.4	178,400,000	22,825,000	201,225,000		
1945	6,859,000	21.0	144,000,000	17,000,000	161,000,000	67,255,294	41.8
5-year average	6,533,480	26.2	172,420,000	17,782,800	190,202,800	68,302,226	35.9
1946	5,797,000	25.0	145,000,000	13,250,000	158,250,000	69,105,904 💆	43.7
							ENT
RYE							
1941	861,000	11.5	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	4,692,981	39.5
1944	572,550	12.4	7.109.000	1,000,000	8,109,000	4,087,348	50.4
1945	410,000	10.9	4,476,000	465,000	4,941,000	3,096,064	62.7
INTO	410,000	10.3			4,541,000	0,000,000	
5-year average	717,530	13.0	10,088,800	1,601,800	11,690,600	5,414,853	46.3
1946	641,000	9.2	5,915,000	215,400	6,130,400	5,556,483 4	90.6
FLAXSEED							
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	14,409,711	80.1
1944	1,297,500	7.2	9,405,000	814,000	10,219,000	7,172,674	70.2
1945	1,034,000	7.1	7,338,000	750,000	8,088,000	4,732,762	58.5
							## A
	1,539,580	7.2	10.936.800	396 400	11.333.200	8.522.375	75.2
5-year average	1,539,580	7.2	10,936,800	396,400	11,333,200	8,522,375 4,839,112 4/	75.2

^{1/} Includes Peace River Block in British Columbia.

^{2/} Stocks at end of July.

^{3/} August 1 to July 31, 1941-42 to 1945-46.

^{4/} August 1, 1946 to July 31, 1947.

CARRY-OVER STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT JULY 31, 1947

The carry-over of Canadian wheat in all positions at July 31, 1947 stood at 84,472,580 bushels as compared with a revised estimate of 73,600,209 bushels carried over at the end of July 1946. A high level of exports relative to the total supply of wheat available in 1946-47 is largely responsible for keeping present wheat stocks at near minimum levels. Compared with a year ago, stocks of oats, barley, rye and flax at July 31, 1947 were down slightly.

Farm stocks of wheat at 25,988,000 bushels were moderately below the 27,203,000 bushels on farms at the same date a year ago and compare with 28,650,000 bushels at the end of July 1945. With the exception of flaxseed, small gains were noted in the farm carry-over stocks of other grains this year as against last.

Position of Canadian Grain Stocks, July 31, 1947

	Wheat	Oats	Barley - bushels -	Rye	Flaxseed
In Canada On Farms	25,988,000 16,358,762 4,532,509 79,145 2,258,749 2,116,692 5,617,884 2,803,944 7,720,905	5,017,510 1,349,827 311,839 237,312 1,400 2,051,628 782,341 1,813,581	2,618,283 241,438 63,427 1,847,543 368,191 1,114,890	280,000 84,275 9,808 - - 159,255 - 8,976 133,075	441,000 68,469 26,101 297 21 - 169,844 - 27,542 43,760
Eastern Mills Total in Canada Canadian Grain in U.S.A	14,082,783 2,826,207 84,385,580 87,000		361,096 28,636,494	3,645 679,034 23,000	777,034
Total Canadian Grain in Canada and United States	84,472,580	67,996,649	28,636,494	702,034	777,034
Carry-over on July 31, 1946 -	Revised				
In Canada	73,466,209 134,000		29,832,559	768,149	1,649,218
Total in Canada and U.S.A	73,600,209	77,491,528	29,937,099	768,149	1,649,218

A fairly heavy feeding program relative to total available supplies of feed grains during the past crop year has been largely responsible for the continued general decline in the crop year end carry-over stocks of Canadian coarse grains. Coupled with these carry-over stock figures, the first estimate of Canada's 1947 feed grain production does nothing to brighten the Canadian feed situation for the current crop year. Compared with a year ago the over-all production of oats and barley this year is estimated to be more than 20 per cent smaller. Consequently, it is felt that the downward trend of feed grain year end stock figure is expected to continue for another year at least.

A year ago the farm stocks of wheat in the Prairie Provinces amounted to 25.8 million bushels, while the carry-over of oats totalled 40.9 million bushels and barley 13.3 million bushels. Rye stocks in 1945 aggregated 215,400 bushels, while flax stocks of a year ago were nearly 200,000 bushels above current carry-over. The farm-stock position in each of the three Prairie Provinces at the end of July 1947 was as follows:

Farm Stocks in Prairie Provinces, July 31, 1947

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
		-	bushels -		
Manitoba	1,948,000 13,698,000	6,256,000 17,446,000	3,726,000 4,780,000	7,000	86,000 283,000
Alberta	8,841,000	16,110,000	6,947,000	119,000	67,000
Prairie Provinces	24,487,000	39,812,000	15,453,000	212,000	436,000

Although there was some over-all gain in the size of the farm carry-over stocks of grain in eastern Canada and British Columbia this year as against last, it was not significant when considered in the light of the present productive capacity of these areas. Compared with the same date last year all provinces in eastern Canada except New Brunswick and Quebec displayed larger carry-over stocks at July 31, 1947. The greatest gain was evident in Ontario where the over-all year end grain stocks were 55 per cent larger than a year ago. The farm stocks by provinces as of July 31, 1947 is set forth in the following table:

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
		- 0	00 bushels -		
Prince Edward Island .	4	337	14	-	
Neva Scotia	-	128	2	-	-
New Brunswick	-	696	7	_	
Quebec	35	3,476	247	13	-
Ontario	1,369	7,895	753	55	5
Manitoba	1,948	6,256	3,726	7	86
Saskatchewan	13,698	17,446	4.780	86	283
Alberta	8,841	16,110	6,947	119	67
British Columbia	93	222	16	-	-
Total - Canada	25,988	52,566	16,492	280	441
July 31, 1946	27,203	51,087	13,884	253	643

24-YEAR RECORD OF COARSE GRAIN CARRY-OVER

A continuation of feed grain requirements at a high level relative to available supplies in 1946-47 has resulted in a further lowering of the carry-over stocks of Canadian coarse grains in all positions. From a high bench-mark of 149.3 million bushels in 1943 the carry-over of oats has dropped steadily until at July 31, 1947 it stood at 68.0 million bushels. This year witnessed the resumption of the downward trend of barley stocks which was temporarily reversed a year ago. At July 31 of this year, these carry-over stocks stood at 28.6 million bushels, the lowest level since the high mark of 69.3 million bushels was established in 1943.

Not since 1967 have rys stocks been as small as they are this year, when they reached the low level of 0.7 million bushels. Flaxseed carry-over at 0.8 million bushels is the smallest carry-over figure since 1941 when it stood at 0.6 million bushels.

The following is a 24-year record of the carry-over of Canadian coarse grain and flaxered both in Canada and the United States.

	Gats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
		- bush	nels -	
August 1, 1924	55,144,854	3,529,753	2,588,567	554,329
1925	35,370,628	4,606,415	1,322,488	1,540,414
1926	46,140,394	8,562,809	1,354,833	2,603,714
1927	23,079,267	5,684,767	1,307,145	2,068,869
1928	28,665,256	6,589,531	2,088,714	1,296,347
1929	45,301,314	13,271,663	4,294,819	524, 283
1930	21,723,135	24,637,747	9,795,946	538,413
1931	63,444,729	29,580,254	14,419,542	833,914
1932	29,849,319	7,195,655	5,766,334	1,321,358
1933	42.044.758	11,338,322	6,006,488	1,179,57
1934	31,060,497	11,092,030	4,050,207	471,29
1935	26,470,703	6,018,787	3,165,715	312,979
1936	40,379,860	10,234,224	3,685,252	269,28
1937	18,266,043	4,796,213	408,864	464,96
1938	19,498,653	6,630,934	1,000,576	219,02
1939	48,887,155	12,804,186	2,921,434	118,822
1940	46,931,028	12,653,875	5,351,661	583,30
1941	41,563,379	10,642,658	4,919,122	620,313
1942	28,607,188	10,821,462	3,353,203	1,027,040
1943	149,340,515	69,278,502	15,267,755	3,740,12
1944	108,479,383	45,949,269	5,594,285	3,648,642
1945	98,255,162	28,919,181	2,023,933	2,932,11
1946	77,491,528	29,937,099	768,149	1,649,218
1347	57,996,849	28,636,494	702,034	777,03

RAIL MOVEMENT FROM FORT WILLIAM-PORT ARTHUR

Although rail shipments of oats, barley and rye from the Lakehead during 1946-47 were much the same as they were a year earlier, a decline in the movement of wheat brought the total grain shipments during the past season to 29.7 million bushels as against 32.2 million bushels for the 1945-46 crop year. During the close of navigation when the rail movement of grain from the Lakehead is the heaviest, total shipments amounted to 20 million bushels in 1946-47 as against 25 million a year earlier. This reduction can be attributed largely to an overall shortage of grain-tight box cars relative to the demand. In addition, severe blizzards and unusually heavy snowfall added further to the difficulty of moving grain eastward by rail during the winter months.

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

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye
		- bushels -		
1946-47				
August	187,825	578,708	215,598	1,500
September	175,773	724,439	406,947	3,500
October	255,754	605,548	260,834	3,000
November	256,249	375,734	103,740	1,50
December	1,601,883	916,402	282,251	118,81
January	2,462,002	1,326,096	1,159,905	283,62
February	1,816,087	1,469,150	930,289	158,88
March	1,711,013	1,966,427	975,959	66,31
April	566,006	1,560,982	625,695	1,50
May	361,386	1,924,885	592,483	12,85
June	241,475	1,038,141	322,933	2,00
July	123,145	551,620	349,984	4,00
T o t a 1	9,758,598	13,038,132	6,226,618	657,48
1945-46				
August	23,255	119,004	73,451	28,00
September	57,533	245,986	233,729	11,00
October	73,776	224,426	123,897	3,00
November	99,197	135,740	35,941	21,73
December	2,280,636	1,035,367	688,060	11,31
January	4,533,707	2,313,500	1,624,006	183,00
February	1,127,764	1,192,514	824,524	37,45
March	2,223,266	1,756,601	799,149	230.98
April	1,015,730	2,157,563	1,063,837	35,89
May	536,462	1,093,681	524,346	20,61
June	920,233	964,538	282,190	25,50
July	130,276	806,941	293,199	4,00
rotal	13,021,835	12,045,861	6,566,329	612,47

FREIGHT ASSISTANCE SHIPMENTS

Preliminary returns of claims for payment under the Federal Freight Assistance Policy reveal that during the first eleven months of the 1946-47 crop year a total of more than 113 million bushels of wheat and coarse grains were shipped into eastern Canada and British Columbia. As further claims are made, including payments for the month of July 1947, it is expected that the total shipments for the past crop year will closely parallel the 114.9 million bushels shipped in 1945-46. Smaller wheat shipments in 1946-47 are nearly offset by a larger movement of oats. The non-movement of rye under Freight Assistance during the first eleven months of 1946-47 can be attributed to the high price of this grain for purposes other than feeding.

The following tables contain the distribution of shipments for the first eleven months of 1946-47 and the crop year 1945-46:

August 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947

and the factor of the	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Screen- ings	Mill- feeds
	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	tons	tons
1946-47						
Ontario	8,912,748	27,927,787	13,439,189		30,669	266,175
Quebec	7,071,879	20,061,144	16,073,469	-	24,643	302,076
New Brunswick	737,115	2,557,002	1,521,171	-	3,456	52,964
Nova Scotia	867,974	2,655,441	1,691,065		2,171	53,725
Prince Edward Island	398,619	609,894	531,980	-	534	15,260
British Columbia	3,768,763	3,705,383	1,342,007	-	2,786	65,130
Total (11 months)	21,757,098	57,516,651	34,598,881	-	64,259	755,330

August 1, 1945 to July 31, 1946

1945-46 1/

Ontario	11,982,108 8,505,845 929,812 1,056,540 525,630 4,016,785	26,002,268 17,022,309 2,222,570 2,515,200 583,397 3,926,171	16,245,115 14,440,387 1,499,079 1,579,148 547,696 1,246,954	1,284	35,371 17,970 2,942 1,222 131 2,714	265,591 316,619 55,768 58,210 15,126 70,633
Total (12 months)	27,016,720				60,350	781,947

^{1/} Revised.

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 1942 to July 1947:

(Long-time Average = 17.2)

10.50 950 00	1942	1943 1	1944 2/	1945 2/	1946 2/	1947
January	20.0	21.4	18.1	18.3	17.1	20.7 2/3/
February	20.0	21.4	18.1	18.3	17.3	21.4 2/
March	19.7	22.0	18.2	18.3	17.1	19.7 4/
April	19.5	22.0	18.2	18.4	18.3 3/	18.1 5/
May	18.9	21.9	18.2	18.5	18.3 3/	18.1 5/
June	18.3	21.2	18.3	19.0	18.4 3/	18.1 5/
July	19.4	20.5	18.3	19.1	18.4 3/	18.1 5/
August	21.3	20.4	18.3	18.0	20.3 3/	TI DE
September	21.0	20.3	18.3	18.2	21.0 3/	
October	23.4	20.2	18.3	17.2	19.6 3/	
November	23.5	20.8	18.3	17.0	19.5 3/	
December	23.5	21.1	18.3	17.0	19.5 3/	

- 1/ If the advance Equalization payment of 15 cents per bushel were 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 Advance Equalization payment on barley and Subsidy on hogs.
- 3/ Revised. Commencing April 1, the subsidy paid on hogs was reduced from \$3.00 to \$2.00 for Grade A and from \$2.00 to \$1.00 for Grade B-1.
- 4/ Includes Subsidy on hogs and Advance Equalization payment on barley to March 17, 1947. At that date barley advance equalization payment discontinued.

5/ Includes Subsidy on hogs.

FEED AND LIVE-STOCK PRICES

Increased prices for rye and smaller increases for millfeeds and hay have caused the index of feed prices to increase by 2.3 points between April and July of this year. The current price index for live-stock and animal production is relatively unchanged from that of April although there was a slight increase during the intervening period due to higher prices for live stock, eggs and wool. The decline in the July index is largely attributable to a drop in the prices for cattle, calves and lambs.

Index Numbers of Feed Prices and Prices of Live Stock and Live-Stock Products by Months, 1944-1947 (1926 = 100)

Months	1944		19	1945		1946		1947	
MOHORIS	Feed	Animal	Feed 1/	Animal	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal	
January	101.4	123.8	115.5	122.7	108.3	125.0	110.5	138.3	
February	103.0	124.1	117.3	122.7	108.3	126.0	112.9	140.1	
March	102.4	123.7	118.3	123.6	105.7	126.1	118.8	141.0	
April	102.6	123.4	113.6	124.2	104.6	126.5	122.2	142.4	
May	102.8	119.6	113.0	121.1	105.4	127.7	122.7	143.4	
June	102.7	120.2	113.7	122.4	104.8	130.5	123.1	144.4	
July	102.0	119.0	114.2	122.3	102.8	130.6	124.5	142.7	
August	102.1	117.9	109.3	121.4	103.4	129.3			
September .	107.7	117.8	108.5	119.5	105.1	129.2			
October	115.6	122.0	107.0	124.8	108.7	135.8			
November	116.1	122.5	106.9	125.5	109.6	137.1			
December	116.4	122.0	108.3	125.4	110.7	137.0			

^{1/} Revised.

CONSUMPTION OF FEED GRAINS IN CANADA

Although the gain was slight, the downward trend in the domestic consumption of oats and barley was reversed in 1946-47 for the first time since 1942-43 for oats and 1943-44 for barley. When compared with the data of the previous year, preliminary estimates for the crop year 1946-47 indicate that the domestic consumption of oats and barley in Canada rose by 6 and 2 per cent respectively. Since the amounts of barley and oats used for food, seed and industrial purposes during each of the crop years 1945-46 and 1946-47 are estimated to be about the same, the increase in domestic consumption can be attributed to somewhat larger quantities being fed to live stock.

A review of the oat supply position in 1946-47 as against 1945-46 indicated that total supplies of the past season were down only by approximately 2 million bushels. However, a reduction in total exports and carry-over of 24 million bushels in 1946-47 served to provide an additional 22 million bushels for domestic use. In the case of barley, total exports and carry-over stocks for the last two crop years remained almost unchanged with the result that the gain of 3 million bushels for domestic consumption in 1946-47 was attributable entirely to increased total supplies available during that period.

For the past two years the domestic utilization of oats for human food and seed is estimated to be about 36 million bushels, while the use of barley for food, seed and industrial purposes has been set at approximately 20 million bushels. Live-stock feed and waste account for the remainder.

The following is a summary of the total disposition of the oats and barley crops during the past thirteen years:

	Domestic Disappearance 1/	Exports	Carry-over
not a second	- mill	ion bushels -	
Oats			
Average 1934-35 to 1938-39	312	11	30
1939-40	362	24	47
1940-41	371	15	42
1941-42	306	12	29
1942-43	469	63	149
1943-44	448	75	108
1944-45	418	92	98
1945-46	35 5	47	78
1946-47 (estimate)	377	33	68
Barley			
Average 1934-35 to 1938-39	66	14	9
1939-40	92	11	13
1940-41	103	3	11
1941-42	108	2	11
1942-43	167	34	69
1943-44	203	36	46
1944-45	171	41	29
1945-46	151	6	30
1946-47 (estimate)	154	7	29

^{1/} Includes human food, animal feed, seed, waste and industrial use.

HIGH PROTEIN FEEDS

Preliminary estimates place the production of high protein feeds for the first six months of 1947 slightly above the 160,000 ton mark. This amount seems to be closely in line with the revised estimate of approximately 317,000 tons for the calendar year 1946. The substantial quantity of soy bean cake and meal manufactured during the January to June period of this year reflects the significant increase in the production of soy beans in Canada last year. This gain, however, is largely offset by the decline in production of copra cake and meal and the non-production of peanut cake and meal. A newcomer to the list of vegetable proteins is mustard cake and meal.

Fish meal figures for the first half of the current year indicates an amount produced only about 20 per cent below the entire production of 1946.

Reduced slaughterings are reflected in a decline in the production of tankage.

The following table sets out the total production of protein feeds, January to June 1947, along with production in 1946:

	Total Supply January-June 1947	Total Supply 1946
	- tons	- 1
Linseed cake and meal	46,825 31,596 1/ 1/ 4,845 1/ 20,000 3,000 13,000	90,658 42,657 1,743 1/ 12,022 1/ 40,000 6,000 24,000
Total Vegetable Protein	139,011	265,617
Fish meal	7,842 13,900 2,500	10,000 36,000 5,000
Total Animal Protein	24,242	51,000
Total Protein Supplies	163,253	316,617

^{1/} Confidential, less than three firms reporting.

^{2/} Estimated amount used by the prepared stock and poultry feeds industry.

GRAIN CORN

Preliminary acreage figures for 1947 indicate that the area devoted to this crop in Canada was 216,500 acres or nearly 15 per cent below the 1946 acreage of 251,700 acres. When compared with the Agricultural Program outlined in December of last year it will be seen that actual seeded acreage fell short of recommendations by 48,500 acres or nearly 20 per cent.

It was hoped that grain corn production would be revived this year in Manitoba and that 25,000 acres would be seeded. Despite these recommendations, however, corn grain acreages in that province continued their downward trend from the 100,000 acres sown in 1942 to the current figures of 10,500 acres. As a potential producer of grain corn, Manitoba is well equipped with machinery and the rehabilitation of this industry seems to depend to a large extent on adequate supplies of suitable seed.

The cold, wet weather which prevailed throughout Ontario during the past spring and did much to hamper seeding operations has taken its toll of grain corn acreage in Canada's "Corn Belt" this year. Preliminary estimates indicate that the 1947 Ontario acreage at 206,000 acres is 34,000 acres or about 15 per cent below the 1946 acreage and the recommendation for this year. In spite of this unavoidable set-back this year there are good prospects for the future of the husking corn industry in Canada. The development of new hybrid varieties is expanding the area in which this crop can be profitably produced, and the introduction of mechanical pickers is an important factor contributing to economical production.

At the middle of August it was estimated that the condition of the Ontario crop was considerably below average. In addition, the crop is much laterthan usual due to the retarded seeding season. Consequently, the ultimate outturn and quality of the crop will depend to a large extent on the length of the frost-free growing season. If killing frosts occur before the corn is mature there will result, in all likelihood, large quantities of soft, undeveloped grain. This, in turn, may lead to the feeding of larger than usual quantities to live stock.

In recent years only 40 to 50 per cent of the domestic crop has found its way into commercial channels. Therefore, in order to satisfy the requirements of the starch and glucose industries and stock and poultry feeds manufacturers, it has been necessary to rely upon substantial imports of this grain.

The production and imports of corn during the past several calendar years are set forth in the following table:

Year	Production	Imports	Year	Production	Imports
	- bushel	S -	eserge Marie	- bushel	.s -
1939	8,097,000	805,396	1943	7,775,000	2,803,872
1940	6,956,000	683,026	1944	11,700,000	4,213,970
1941	13,362,000	2,287,420	1945	10,365,000	1,659,972
1942	14,372,000	4,631,973	1946	10,542,000	4,625,246

Prior to the war, Canadian imports of corn came from the United States, Argentina and British South Africa. During the years 1942-1945, the United States became the sole supplier of corn to Canada and not until early in 1946 did Argentina resume shipments to this country. Although total Canadian imports of corn, largely from the United States, during the first five months of this year amounted to 3,802,682 bushels, present prospects suggest that shipments from the United States may decline due to the estimated sharp drop in production in that country this year as against last.

MILLFREDS

During the first eleven months of the 1946-47 crop year Canada's mill-feed production rose to 892,443 tons, an amount well above the all-time record production of 881,844 tons established for the crop year 1945-46. With the July production figures yet to be recorded, it is estimated total millfeed production for the season just closed will be substantially above the 950,000 ton mark.

Total exports of millfeeds for the eleven-month period ending June 1947 were slightly above those for the same period a year ago. Nevertheless, the increase was not significant and the Canadian feeder continues to receive the lion's share of Canada's production.

According to the record of claims paid under the Freight Assistance Policy, as shown elsewhere in this Review, nearly 85 per cent of the millfeeds produced during the first eleven months of 1946-47 was moved into feeding areas under this scheme.

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

Production and Use of Millfeeds

1946-47	Production Exports		Domestic Disappearanc		
	tons	tons	tons		
August	72,320	852	67,906		
September	77,376	3,437	78,146		
October	83,587	7,039	76,735		
November	85,708	2,549	83,874		
December	80,577	1,220	81,298		
January	83,543	3,608	79,236		
February	73,874	3,279	69,263		
March	79,671	4,512	82,591		
April	81,179	3,976	78,633		
May	89,825	3,753	84,947		
June	84,783	4,311	79,692		
Total (11 months) .	892,443	38,536	862,321		

The breakdown of millfeed production during the first eleven months of the current season with comparative figures for the corresponding period in the crop year 1945-46 is as follows:

	Bran	Shorts	Middlings	Total
August-June				
1945-46 (revised)	350,493	324,423	139,783	814,699
1946-47	390,635	360,999	140,809	892,443

FLAXSEED

On March 17, 1947 it was announced that, effective August 1, 1947, the price of flaxseed, basis No. 1 C.W. in store Fort William-Port Arthur, would be raised from \$3.25 to \$5.00 per bushel. This move was made in an effort to help combat the current world-wide shortage of fats and oils by encouraging a substantial increase in the acreage devoted to flaxseed in Canada in 1947. According to the results of the June survey, farmers' response to this upward price revision was quite gratifying. Through this survey it was estimated that the flaxseed acreage in 1947 totalled 1,438,000 acres as against the revised estimate of 839,500 acres of a year ago. The 1947 acreage compares very favourably with the 1,500,000 acres recommended by the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Objectives Conference which met in Ottawa last December.

The first estimate of production issued on August 13, 1947 set the 1947 flaxseed crop at 10.9 million bushels, the largest outturn since 1943 when flax-seed production reached the wartime high of 17.9 million bushels. Yields per acre this year were unchanged from those of a year ago. Consequently, the increase in production in 1947 can be attributed entirely to the expanded acreage.

The following table sets forth the acreage, yield and production of flaxseed in Canada for the period 1935-39 and for the years 1940 to 1947:

Acreage	Yield	Production
acres	bu.	bu.
306,800	4.9	1,509,000
381,500	8.0	3,049,000
996,500	5.8	5,788,000
1,492,200	10.0	14,992,000
2,947,800	6.1	17,911,000
1,323,100	7.3	9,668,000
	7.2	7,593,000
	7.6	6,384,000
1,438,000	7.6	10,916,000
	acres 306,800 381,500 996,500 1,492,200 2,947,800 1,323,100 1,059,200 839,500	acres bu. 306,800 4.9 381,500 8.0 996,500 5.8 1,492,200 10.0 2,947,800 6.1 1,323,100 7.3 1,059,200 7.2 839,500 7.6

It will be noted from the above table that the current flaxseed acreage is the largest acreage devoted to this crop since 1943 when an all-time record of 2.9 million acres was established. At that time the Government was paying farmers \$2.00 per acre for each acre diverted from wheat to coarse grains and flaxseed, and doubtless much more land than usual was given over to the latter crop.

Flaxseed deliveries during the 1947-48 season are not subject to delivery quotas and the Canadian Wheat Board remains the only marketing agent. As has been the case in the past no participation certificates will be issued. Deliveries during the 1946-47 crop year, together with the estimated production in the Prairie Provinces, are as follows:

	Estimated Production 1946	Farmers' Deliveries August 1, 1946 to July 31, 1947
	= 000 b	ushels -
Manitoba	2,979	2,251,757
Saskatchewan	2,594	2,115,203
Alberta	635	472,152
Prairie Provinces	6,208	4,839,112

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT, AUGUST 19, 1947

The weather continues to be hot and dry throughout the Maritime Provinces. Haying is completed in most areas and harvesting of grains is now under way. With heavy top growth the prospects are for satisfactory yields of potatoes. However, more rain is needed for the continued development of the apple crop.

During the last two weeks of hot, dry weather, farmers in Quebec have almost finished the harvest of a heavy yield of good quality hay. However, pastures have suffered from the drought and generally speaking milk production seems to be decreasing almost everywhere in the province. The harvesting of grains is just getting started and present indications suggest fair yields in the Quebec area. On the other hand, the outturn in the Montreal district is expected to be disappointing. Potatoes look promising but the appearance of other vegetables is only fair. The canning pea crop is a near failure and tobacco growth is very uneven. Unless rain comes soon to relieve the drought and heat of the past two weeks, many crops may burn up.

The weather has been very hot and dry in Ontario for the past several weeks with the exception of local thundershowers in south-western Ontario last weekend. Late crops need rain badly. Pastures are drying up and the flow of milk is beginning to decline. Haying is nearly completed and the cutting of oats and barley is becoming general. Late-sown grain fields are ripening too fast and will yield poorly. Flue-cured tobacco is being harvested and the yields are generally good. Potatoes are promising but there is danger of late blight due to the weather. Early peaches are being marketed.

Wet, cool weather during the past week has delayed harvesting throughout the Prairie Provinces. Dry weather is urgently needed to prevent loss in southern Manitoba where a large part of the crop is swathed or cut and the remainder is dead ripe. Elsewhere in the west this problem is not so pressing and rain is benefiting late crops. Harvesting has been held at a standstill in Manitoba because of general rains during the past week. The Red River Valley area is very wet and most crops are ripe. Only a start has been made in swathing and several drying days will be needed to permit tractors to operate. West of the Valley to the Saskatchewan boundary and south of the main line 50 per cent has been swathed or cut. Unless the weather changes there will be considerable sprouting. In central and northern sections the problem is less pressing and the crop is only just ready and given favourable weather harvesting should progress normally. In southern Manitoba the sample and yield of grain have been affected by heat with the outturn somewhat below expectations. Beets, corn, sunflowers and pastures have been favoured by the weather. Rains during the past week have delayed harvesting operations in central and northern districts of Saskatchewan, but are proving beneficial to late fields of coarse grains and flax. Sawfly damage is causing considerable loss in wheat over wide areas, especially in southern and western districts, and grasshoppers are becoming more numerous in some areas. Good progress has been made with harvesting in the south-west where many fields have been swathed to prevent further losses from sawfly damage. In Alberta, continued cool weather and rains have delayed harvesting operations and retarded ripening of the more advanced crops. However, the added rainfall was beneficial to filling of late crops in most districts. Warmer weather is required to bring the crops to maturity before the occurrence of early frosts, particularly in the northern districts. Harvesting is expected to become general over the southern half of the province next week but in the northern areas only some barley fields will be cut before the end of the month. Prospects remain fair to good except in the southeastern and east-central districts where earlier drought conditions adversely affected prospective yields.

Satisfactory harvesting weather has prevailed throughout the week in the southern coastal and interior areas of British Columbia. Harvesting of the grain crops is under way and yields, except in the Prince George and Peace River areas, are satisfactory. Picking of hops has commenced and good yields are expected. Record peach and pear crops are now moving to market and apples are beginning to take on colour.

17

DOMESTIC AND EXPORT FRICES OF CANADIAN COARSE GRAINS

On March 18, 1947 the system of advance equalization payments for oats and barley was discontinued. At the same time the support price of oats was raised from 40 to 61 1/2 cents, basis No. 1 feed oats at Fort William-Port Arthur, and the support price for barley was raised from 56 to 90 cents, basis No. 1 feed barley at the Lakehead. Ceiling prices too, were raised to 65 cents and 93 cents respectively for oats and barley in store at Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver. The ceiling prices correspond with the support prices for the highest grades of barley and oats. While appropriate price differentials were established for the other grades of oats and barley, all grades of both grains down to No. 3 feed have been at ceiling levels since the inception of the revised price schedules.

In order to maintain price ceilings on Canadian live-stock products, subsidies of 10 cents per bushel for oats and 25 cents per bushel for barley are paid on these grains purchased for feeding purposes. These subsidies were to have been discontinued at the end of the past crop year, but with the continuance of ceiling prices on live-stock products it was decided to retain them for the time being.

At the beginning of the 1947-48 season the price of No. 1 C.W. flax-seed at Fort William-Port Arthur increased from \$3.25 to \$5.00 per bushel. Appropriate price differntials have been established for other grades.

	Average prices for the months ending					
	-	July 1946 <u>2</u> /	May 1947	June 1947	July 1947	
		cents and	eighths	per bushel	-	
OATS 1/						
(1) Domestic and Country						
2 C.W. Ex. 3 C.W. 3 C.W. Ex. 1 Feed 1 Feed 2 Feed 3 Feed	51/4 51/4 51/4 51/4 51/4 50/6 49/3	51/4 51/4 51/4 51/4 51/4 51/4	65 65 65 65 65 65	65 65 65 65 65 65	65 65 65 65 65 65	
(2) Export-Schedule of Prices (1) plus equalization fees						
Equalization Fees - East West B.C	20/7 20/7 14	42/6 42/6 42/1	44/7 44/7 44/7	50/3 50/3 50/3	51/2 51/2 51/2	

^{1/} Price basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur and Vancouver. Data supplied by Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners.

^{2/} In addition an advance equalization payments to producers of 10 cents per bushel was paid. This payment was discontinued March 18, 1947.

	Avei	age price	s for the	months end	ling
	July <u>2/</u> 1945	July <u>3/</u> 1946	May 1947	June 1947	July 1947
BARLEY 1/	-	cents and	eighths	per bushel	-
(1) Domestic and Country					
1 C.W. Six-Row	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
2 C.W. Six-Row	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
3 C.W. Six-Row	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
1 C.W. Two-Row	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
2 C.W. Two-Row	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
2 C.W. Yellow	_	_	93	93	93
3 C.W. Yellow	-		93	93	93
1 Feed	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
2 Feed	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
3 Feed	64/6	64/6	93	93	93
(2) Export Schedule of Prices (1) plus equalization fees					
Equalization Fees - East	49	65	100	105	112/1
West	45	61	100	105	112/1
	10	01	100	. 100	110/2
RYE 1					
(1) Domestic and Country					
2 C.V.	161/5	292/4	351/7	357/7	360/6
3 C.W	156/3	287/4	346	352/7	355/6
4 C.W	145/7	227	316/5	319/5	295/1
Ergoty	130/7	209	272/1	273/4	266/2
Rejected 2 C.W	135/7	219	310/1	318/4	291/1
(2) Export - same as Schedule 1					
FLAXSEED 1/					
(1) Domestic and Country				10000	246
(a) Domestic - to crushers					-0400
1 C.W	275	275	325	325	325
2 C.W	271	271	321	321	321
3 C.W	262	262	312	312	312
4 C.W	258	258	308	308	308
(b) Country					
1 C.W	275	275	325	325	325
2 C.W	271	271	321	321	321
3 C.W	262	262	312	312	312
4 C.W	258	258	308	308	308
(0) 7					
(2) Export - same as Schedule 1					

^{1/} Price basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur and Vancouver.

^{2/} Advance equalization payment to producers 15 cents per bushel for barley.

^{3/} Advance equalization payment to producers 20 cents per bushel for barley.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY BIBLIOTHÉQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA 1010687222

UNITED STATES SITUATION

The following summary is extracted from the United States Department of Agriculture publication the "Feed Situation".

According to July indications, the total feed concentrate supply (including feed grains, by-product feeds and wheat and rye for feed) for the 1947-48 feeding season, will be about the same as the average for the past ten years. However, it will be smaller than in any of the past six years and 9 per cent below the very large 1946-47 supply. Smaller corn and oat production in the Corn Belt States will account for much of the decrease from 1946-47.

Total production of the four principal feed grains (corn, oats, barley and sorghum grains) in 1947 was indicated in July at about 106.6 million tons, 15 per cent below the record 1946 production. However, the decline will be partly offset by a larger carry-over of old crop corn. More wheat for feeding, and record or near record supplies of oilseed cake and meal.

The sharp drop in the corn crop from that of 1946 will leave less corn for live-stock feeding and other uses in 1947-48 than in the current season. This year's crop was estimated on July 15 at 2,771 million bushels, 517 million bushels smaller than the record large 1946 crop. With a carry-over of about 350 million bushels in prospect, the corn supply for 1947-48 would be about 3.1 billion bushels, or about 350 million bushels less than in 1946-47.

Because of the sharp reduction in the Corn Belt crop, considerably less corn will be sold by farmers in 1947-48 than in the current season. Ordinarily, about 80 to 90 per cent of the total United States farm sales of corn are made in the North Central region. If the usual relation between sales of corn and corn supplies per animal prevails, farmers in the North Central region would market only about three-fourths as much corn in 1947-48 as this season.

Exports of corn in 1947-48 are now expected to be considerably below those of the current season, which would partly offset the smaller quantity sold from farms. Some reduction also is in prospect for domestic food and industrial uses.

Adequate supplies of hay are in prospect for 1947-48. The 1947 hay tonnage was estimated at July 1 to be a little smaller than the very large supplies for the past two years, but much above average for other recent years. The number of hay-consuming live stock on farms in 1947-48 is expected to be lower than for the current season, and the supply of hay per animal unit is estimated to be the largest on record.

The general decline in live-stock numbers that has been under way since 1944 is expected to continue during the current year, but a less rapid rate than in 1946. The greatest reductions in live-stock numbers during 1947 probably will be in cattle, horses and mules. Hog numbers are expected to be a little larger next January 1 than last. The spring pig crop this year, only part of which will be marketed by January 1, was slightly larger than a year earlier. A larger fall pig crop also is in prospect. Poultry numbers are not expected to be greatly different at the end of 1947 than at the beginning.

Prospects for smaller 1947 feed grain crops and for continued strong demand have kept feed prices high during June and July. The average price received by farmers for corn in mid-July was the highest on record. Prices of oats and barley have shown little weakness, although they usually decline at this season. In late July by-product feed prices generally were higher than last May, but were below the high levels of last summer and fall.

With favourable weather during the remainder of the growing season, feed grain prices probably will decline seasonally during the last half of 1947. The seasonal decline in corn prices this fall is expected to be much less pronounced than in the fall of 1946. Feed prices this coming winter probably will average somewhat higher than last winter.