



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, August 23, 2002

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Estimates of production of principal field crops, as of July 31, 2002**

The 2002 crop year will be remembered as one of the worst growing seasons for western Canada. Total wheat production is expected to decline to the lowest level in 28 years. Barley production could fall to a 34-year low, and the canola crop will reach only half of its annual average over the past decade.

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- **Livestock estimates, as of July 1, 2002**

The national herd of cattle and calves declined up to the end of June amid a favourable export market, according to an annual survey of 22,400 farmers. Meanwhile, despite tumbling prices, hog inventories reached record levels.

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Canadian economic accounts

On August 30, the three national account releases for the second quarter — *National economic and financial accounts*, *Canada's balance of international payments* and *Gross domestic product by industry* (June 2002) — will be published in a new format.

Instead of three separate news releases, a summary analysis will appear in *The Daily* under the title *Canadian economic accounts*. The more detailed analyses, charts and tables formerly released in *The Daily* will be available in a new electronic publication, *Canadian economic accounts quarterly review* (13-010-XIE). This publication will be available free of charge, in HTML and PDF formats, at the same time as the national accounts quarterly release in *The Daily*.

Gross domestic product by industry data for the first two months of each quarter will continue to appear in *The Daily*, in the same format as in the past.



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MAJOR RELEASES

Estimates of production of principal field crops

As of July 31, 2002

The 2002 crop year will be remembered as one of the worst growing seasons for western Canada. Many producers believe that conditions were the driest ever experienced in the West.

Data from a survey of farmers conducted from July 26 to August 2 show that total wheat production is expected to decline to the lowest level in 28 years. Although production of durum wheat is expected to rise, producers anticipate spring wheat production will be the lowest since 1970.

Farmers also expect total barley production to fall to a 34-year low. The canola crop will reach only about one-half of its annual average over the past decade.

Hardest hit are producers in Alberta, where the spring wheat crop is expected to decline 50% from 2001; barley production will be down 44% and canola, 57%.

Soil moisture reserves were low since fall 2001 and the spring brought cool, dry and windy weather. This resulted in delayed seeding, poor crop germination and late plant development. Temperatures warmed up in the summer, but heavy spring rains were limited to the areas south of the Trans-Canada Highway. Central and northern Saskatchewan and Alberta were hit especially hard with a drought and a heavy grasshopper infestation. In early August, unseasonably cool temperatures dipped below freezing, heralding the potential for an early frost.

In 2001, the drought affected the southern areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan. In 2001, the drought hit the larger central and northern areas of these provinces, representing some of the most productive land in western Canada. So far, growing conditions in Alberta and Saskatchewan have been worse than in 1988, the year of the last major drought.

July field crops production as of July 31

	2001	2002	2001 to 2002	Five-year average
	'000 tonnes	'000 tonnes	% change	'000 tonnes
Total wheat	20 568	15 448	-25	24 585
Spring wheat	16 010	10 215	-36	18 365
Barley	10 846	7 883	-27	12 749
Canola	4 926	3 238	-34	6 977
Durum wheat	2 987	3 680	23	4 674
Oats	2 691	3 027	13	3 433
Field peas	2 023	1 554	-23	2 248
Flaxseed	715	709	-1	881
Rye	228	132	-42	321
Soybeans ¹	1 594	2 442	53	2 506
Grain corn ¹	8 116	8 083	0	7 850

¹ Quebec and Ontario only.

Note to readers

The information used to compile the statistical data found in this report was provided by thousands of producers through telephone interviews.

Despite the hardships and difficulties these producers have faced the past few years, they have been extremely co-operative, and an invaluable and reliable source of information that has benefited the entire industry.

Without their contribution to the process, this release would not be possible.

For the second straight year, eastern Manitoba experienced excessive moisture and flooding caused by late spring rains, although the area affected was much smaller than last year. Western Manitoba again suffered from a lack of precipitation. Despite this, Manitoba producers generally fared much better than producers in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

This year's drought also had a significant impact on livestock production. The lack of water, extremely poor pasture conditions and a lack of feed resulted in cattle herd liquidation throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan.

A map of the regions of western Canada affected by the drought can be viewed on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca).

Wheat production lowest since 1974

Wheat yields this season were adversely affected by high temperatures and lack of moisture, especially in western Canada. Total wheat production, estimated at 15.4 million metric tonnes, would be the lowest since 1974. Spring wheat production promises to be the lowest since 1970 at 10.2 million tonnes.

Western Canadian wheat production excluding durum is expected to be down nearly 40% from 2001 to 10.2 million tonnes. The average yield will drop to 23.9 bushels per acre, compared with 29.2 bushels per acre in 2001. This yield is better than expected, but it is based on harvested acres rather than total acres. In western Canada, out of the 25.4 million seeded wheat acres, 4.2 million acres are not expected to be harvested. These abandoned fields will be used for grazing animals or left fallow until next year.

Durum production is expected to be up 23% from 2001 to 3.7 million tonnes. This change is a result of an area increase of 15% to 6.2 million acres combined with an 11% increase in yield to 24.1 bushels. The 10-year average for yield is 31.3 bushels per acre. Durum is mainly grown in the southern part of the Prairies, which suffered a drought in 2001. This year,

growing conditions in the south are much better, thanks to timely and adequate spring rains.

Barley production lowest since 1968

Barley production is expected to drop to 7.9 million tonnes from 10.8 million tonnes in 2001. This estimate is the lowest since 1968, when production totalled 7.1 million tonnes. Barley yield for 2002 is estimated at 40.6 bushels per acre, the lowest yield in the past 30 years. Harvested acres were estimated at 8.9 million acres, about 3.8 million less than what was seeded. A high percentage of barley fields were cut for silage, used for grazing cattle or simply abandoned because of poor harvest prospects.

Western Canadian barley production is estimated at 6.7 million tonnes in 2002. Feed usage in this region over the past few years has been in the range of 7.0 to 8.5 million tonnes. Feed usage, combined with export demand, industrial use and seed, will result in a serious deficit situation for barley in 2002. Tight barley stocks in the 2001/02 crop year resulted in US corn imports estimated at 2.0 million tonnes. These imports will undoubtedly increase in 2003; however, the demand will be tempered by the liquidation of cattle throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Supplies of other feed stuff for the livestock industry are very tight. Hay production across western Canada was drastically reduced as a result of the hot dry weather. Cattle producers were forced to pay exorbitant prices for baled hay or reduce their herd size. Statistics Canada will release production estimates for hay in November.

Dry weather cuts canola production

Canola production is expected to drop to 3.2 million tonnes, compared with 4.9 million tonnes in 2001. This is about half of the 10-year average production of 6.3 million tonnes.

Although the seeded acreage for 2002 was up 2% from 2001 to 9.6 million acres, dry and hot conditions throughout the growing area decimated production.

Harvested area was reported to be 1.7 million acres less than the seeded acreage. Yields were estimated at only 18.0 bushels per acre against the 10-year average of 24.3 bushels.

Oat production up on increased acreage

Seeded oat area increased 26% from 2001 to 5.9 million acres, the highest oat area since 1976. Production for 2002 is estimated at 3.0 million tonnes,

up from 2.7 million in 2001, but well below the 10-year average of 3.4 million tonnes.

Dry weather is expected to reduce yields to 53.8 bushels per acre, compared with the 10-year average of 64.3 bushels.

Corn production unchanged

Corn producers in Quebec and Ontario have been experiencing below-average conditions. However, corn production is expected to reach 8.1 million tonnes, the same as 2001.

Corn yields were reported to be up 3.6 bushels per acre from 2001 to 109.3 bushels, but still slightly below the 10-year average of 112.0 bushels per acre. Although moisture conditions were good in the spring, high temperatures throughout July reduced yield prospects.

Ontario farmers had better conditions than in 2001 and yields were estimated at 112.4 bushels per acre, up 9.3 bushels from 2001. Quebec growers experienced difficult climate conditions this summer; as a result, yield estimates fell to 103.7 bushels per acre, a decline of 6.9 bushels from 2001.

Ontario and Quebec began the year with cool wet conditions, but the situation improved as the summer brought warmer temperatures. Ontario crops suffered some stress in July during a period of prolonged heat and dry weather. However, good rains improved the situation in early August for most counties. High temperatures returned to eastern Canada in mid-August, causing yield reductions in corn.

Soybean production up

Quebec and Ontario experienced good growing conditions for soybeans to bring production up to 2.4 million tonnes, compared with 2001's disastrous 1.6 million tonnes. Yield estimates jumped 66% to 37.6 bushels per acre.

Ontario had the greatest improvement in yields, moving from 21.1 bushels per acre in 2001 to 37.3 bushels. Quebec yield estimates improved 23% from 2001 to 39.7 bushels per acre, just below the 10-year average of 41.4 bushels.

Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0004, 001-0010 and 001-0017 to 001-0020.

*Field crop reporting series: Preliminary estimates of principal field crop areas, Canada, 2002, Vol. 81, no. 5 (22-002-XIB, \$11/\$66; 22-002-XPB, \$15/\$88) is now available. See *How to order products*.*

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; dave.burroughs@statcan.ca), David Roeske

(613-951-0572; david.roeske@statcan.ca) or Brent Wilson (613-951-0730; brent.wilson@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Livestock estimates

As of July 1, 2002

The national herd of cattle and calves declined 1.0% from July 1, 2001, amid a favourable export market, according to an annual survey of 22,400 farmers. The vast majority of exports went to the United States.

As of July 1, livestock producers had an estimated 15,277,200 head of cattle on their farms, down slightly from the record 15,424,500 head on farms as of July 1, 2001.

Led by a 16% plunge in drought-affected Alberta, cattle inventories on Canadian feeding operations tumbled 6.6%. Increases in Manitoba and the East partially offset declines in Alberta and Saskatchewan. The majority of cattle on feeding operations can be found in Alberta, where dry conditions, lower cattle prices and rising feed costs pushed inventories down.

This decline occurred in the wake of a 22% increase in exports of live animals during 2002, and a 12% increase in exports of beef, as opposed to live animals. At the same time, domestic slaughter fell 1.0%.

Dry conditions in portions of the Prairies may have had an impact on farmers' decisions to ship more cattle south of the border for feeding, finishing and slaughter. Other factors behind the exports were favourable exchange rates, general growth in the American demand for beef and strong prices in 2001. Prices for livestock, particularly hogs, softened in 2002.

Average prices for hogs in the second quarter were down about 29% from the second quarter of 2001. Despite concerns over prices, farmers reported a record 14.6 million hogs as of July 1, up 3.9% from the same time a year earlier.

Livestock inventories

July 1

	Cattle		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	'000 head					
Canada	15,425	15,277	14,050	14,594	1,248	1,253
Atlantic	295	292	397	389	47	48
Quebec	1,360	1,370	4,294	4,330	256	279
Ontario	2,130	2,140	3,476	3,590	340	335
Manitoba	1,425	1,470	2,556	2,785	84	78
Saskatchewan	2,900	2,840	1,129	1,230	149	155
Alberta	6,500	6,325	2,029	2,100	287	288
British Columbia	815	840	168	170	85	70

Note: Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Sheep and lamb exports also surged in the wake of increased demand and a lower Canadian dollar. Farmers had an estimated 1,252,500 animals on their farms as of July 1, up 0.4% and a modest gain compared with the last four years.

This release is based on the Livestock Survey conducted in June, in which farmers reported the number of livestock on their farms as of July 1. Consequently, activity that occurred after July 1, principally because of drought conditions in the Prairies, will be reflected in future reports. Historical data have been adjusted to align with the 2001 Census of Agriculture.

Livestock sector expands with fewer producers

Census of Agriculture data show that the livestock sector, dominated by cattle and hogs, continues to grow. Livestock producers have benefited over time from favourable exchange rates and increasing demand for both animals and meat from south of the border. The growth coincides with freer trade.

Western Canada's livestock sector has grown more rapidly than that in the East, partly because of the advantage of feeding animals close to key feed-producing areas. The demise of the Crow Rate, which subsidized transportation of western grain, gave a competitive advantage to producers closer to feed supplies.

Census data showed that the cattle sector grew a modest 4.4% from 1996 to 2001, and 15% from 1981 to 2001. As of May 15, 2001, Census Day, there were a record 15.6 million cattle in Canada.

Even though the beef sector is responsible for the increase in the cattle sector, there were fewer producers. In 2001, 122,000 farms reported cattle, down 14% from 1996 and 34% from 1981.

The average beef operation had 244 cattle, excluding farms with agricultural sales less than \$25,000. Cattle can be found on all sizes of farms, with no one size dominating. Beef producers with sales of more than \$500,000 held 28% of the cattle at the time of the census.

Cattle, particularly beef, are more prevalent in the West. Three-quarters of the national herd is in the West, with Alberta alone accounting for 43% of Canadian cattle, or about 6.6 million animals.

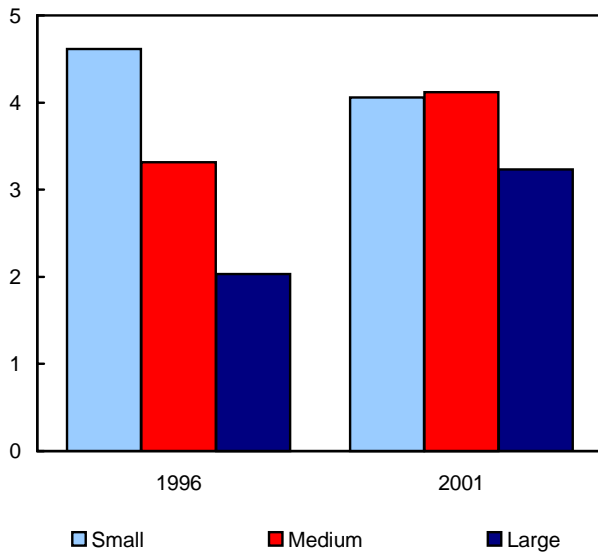
At the same time, 21,900 producers reported dairy cows. Dairy farms are more common in the East with 38% of the herd in Quebec and 34% in Ontario.

The trend to fewer dairy cows continued in 2001. The number of farms reporting dairy cows declined 29%, and the number of dairy cows fell 14% compared with 1996. Efficiency gains continued to be made in the

dairy industry, as production remained stable due to increased production per animal.

More beef on medium and large farms

Cattle, millions



Hog numbers at record levels

One of the most significant increases shown by the 2001 Census of Agriculture was a 26% jump in hogs since 1996. At the same time, the number of farms reporting hogs fell 27%.

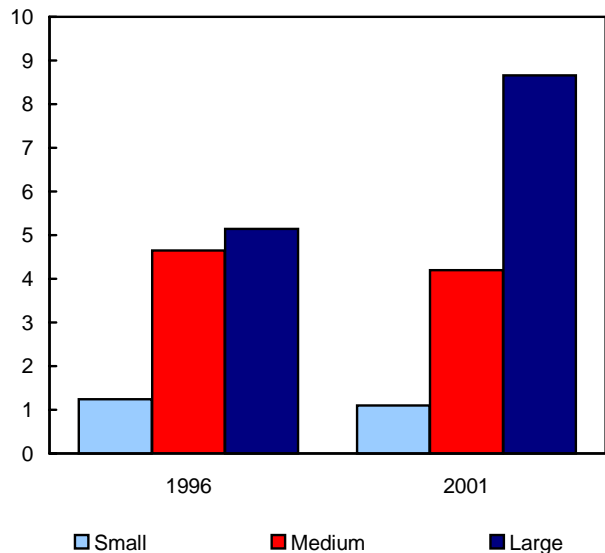
The 2001 Census of Agriculture enumerated 14.0 million hogs, up 41% from 1981. Expansion has been more rapid in the West. However, the two largest hog producing provinces were still Quebec, with 4.3 million head, and Ontario with 3.5 million.

About 15,500 farms reported hogs on the census. The average operation, excluding those with sales of less than \$25,000, had 1,195 hogs, up 70% from 1996.

Most hogs are now produced on large operations, especially in western Canada, where 75% of hogs were on operations with sales of over \$500,000. In the East, 52% of hogs were on such large operations.

Large hog operations are expanding

Hogs, millions



Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0004 and 003-0030 to 003-0032.

Livestock statistics (23-603-XIE, \$34/\$112) will be available in September. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call the Agriculture Division information line (1-800-465-1991), or contact Robert Plourde (613-951-8716, robert.plourde@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

July 2002

Manufacturers shipped 2 236 789 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in July, up 20.0% from 1 864 715 square metres in June and up 13.2% from 1 976 363 square metres in July 2001.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of July totalled 18 040 828 square metres, up 0.4% from the same period of 2001.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0004.

The July 2002 issue of *Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation*, Vol. 54, no. 7 (44-004-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Boucher (613-951-4070; boucnic@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Full-time university faculty

2001/02

Data on full-time university teaching staff for the 2001/02 academic year are available for a number of Canadian universities. Data for the remaining institutions will continue to be released as they become available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact N. Dev Uppal (613-951-1527; dev.uppal@statcan.ca) or Sharon-Anne Borde (613-951-1503; sharon-anne.borde@statcan.ca), Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Production and value of ranch-raised pelts

2000 (revised) and 2001 (preliminary)

Total production of fox and mink pelts increased to 1,147,060 in 2001 from 1,090,380 in 2000. Pelt value was close to \$50 million, up 8.2% from \$46 million in 2000. The number of fox farms decreased from 169 to 135, but mink farms were up slightly from 180 to 190.

Revised data for 2000 and preliminary data for 2001 on the production and value of fox and mink pelts are now available. Data are tabulated by province.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0014 and 003-0015.

Livestock Statistics (23-603-XIE, \$34/\$112) will be available in September. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and quality of this release, call the Agriculture Division information line (1-800-465-1991) or contact Bernadette Alain (902-893-7251; bernadette.alain@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Life tables, Canada, provinces and territories

1995–1997

Life tables comprising life expectancy and related estimates by age and sex for Canada, the provinces and the combined territories (Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories combined) for 1995–1997 are now available as a free electronic publication.

Detailed estimates by single year of age have been produced for Canada and all of the provinces, except Prince Edward Island. Abridged estimates by five-year age group have been produced for Prince Edward Island and the combined territories because of their small populations and low death counts.

The publication also contains an extensive description of the methodology underlying the production of the estimates, including formulas. The methodology followed in constructing the 1995–1997 life tables is the same as that employed previously in producing the set of life tables for the years 1990–1992, but with two major changes.

These changes in methodology apply to the production of estimates for the extreme ends of the age range in the complete life tables. First, a model was used to estimate mortality rates for the very advanced ages (88 years and older). Secondly, January 1 population counts of children up to the age of four were used instead of birth counts of the previous year to calculate mortality rates for these children.

Variance estimation for the probability of death has been included to produce coefficients of variation of life expectancies. Where data quality permitted, each complete life table was expanded up to age 109. The

abridged life tables extend to age "100 years plus" rather than to "90 years plus", as in the 1990–1992 life tables.

Life Tables, Canada, provinces and territories, 1995–1997 (84-537-XIE, free) is available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Population and demography*. Pre-formatted text and tables in PDF format can be downloaded and printed. The life tables are also available in

a tab-delimited text format, for input into database software (Excel, SAS, SPSS, and so on). An HTML version will be available shortly for direct viewing on screen.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Patricia Tully (613-951-1759; patricia.tully@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — a weekly review, August 23, 2002
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — a weekly review, August 23, 2002
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Field crop reporting series, Vol. 81, no. 5
Catalogue number 22-002-XIB (\$11/\$66).

Field crop reporting series, Vol. 81, no. 5
Catalogue number 22-002-XPB (\$15/\$88).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, June 2002,
Vol. 56, no. 6
Catalogue number 31-001-XIB (\$15/\$147).

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation,
July 2002, Vol. 54, no. 7
Catalogue number 44-004-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Retail trade, June 2002, Vol. 74, no. 6
Catalogue number 63-005-XIB (\$16/\$155).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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
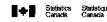

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MAJOR RELEASES	
• Urban transit, 1996 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 21 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was modestly weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	4
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RELEASE DATES: AUGUST 26 TO 30

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
26	Canada's international transactions in securities	June 2002
26	Farm cash receipts	Second quarter 2002
27	Employment Insurance	June 2002
27	Health of the off-reserve Aboriginal population	2000/01
28	Employment, earnings and hours	June 2002
28	Characteristics of international travellers	First quarter 2002
28	International travel account	Second quarter 2002
29	Industrial Product Price and Raw Materials Price Indexes	July 2002
29	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	Second quarter 2002
30	Canadian economic accounts	Second quarter 2002