



The Daily

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- **Grain stocks, July 31, 2002** 2
Total stocks of cereals, oilseeds and special crops on farms were down sharply from 2001 and were well below the 10-year average.
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NEW PRODUCTS



MAJOR RELEASES

Grain stocks

July 31, 2002

Total stocks of cereals, oilseeds and special crops on farms were down sharply from 2001 and were well below the 10-year average. The low stocks were a direct result of the poor production in 2001 that also reduced exports and decreased domestic usage. For 2002, the tight stock situation coupled with another disastrous crop will result in one of the most difficult years for the agriculture community in western Canada.

Total stocks of grain at July 31

	2001	2002	2001 to 2002 % change
	'000 tonnes		
All wheat	9 658	6 488	-33
Wheat excluding durum	6 786	4 859	-28
Durum wheat	2 872	1 629	-43
Barley	2 516	1 993	-21
Canola	1 088	1 215	12
Oats	854	365	-57
Flax	259	189	-27
Lentils	256	131	-49
Dry field peas	195	275	41
Mustard seed	105	33	-69
Rye	77	49	-36
Canary seed	70	30	-57
Sunflower seed	46	22	-52

Wheat farm stocks down

Farm stocks of wheat were estimated at 1.4 million metric tonnes, down 48% from 2.7 million tonnes in 2001. This is below the 10-year average of 2.1 million tonnes. Western Canada accounts for nearly all of the farm stocks of wheat.

Commercial stocks of wheat were down 27% from 2001 to 5.1 million tonnes. This is under the 10-year average of 6.4 million tonnes but above the low of 4.2 million set in 1989.

Wheat exports have been declining as a result of lower supplies, but domestic milling and feed usage continued to increase. The use of wheat in animal rations has risen in the past two years, as traditional feed supplies such as barley were tight.

Durum wheat stocks had the sharpest decline, with farm stocks dropping 56% from 2001 to 520,000 tonnes. Exports remained stable despite the reduced stocks carried in from the poor crop of 2001. Commercial stocks fell 34% to 1.1 million tonnes.

Farm stocks of barley drop

Farm stocks of barley decreased 27% from 2001 to 1.3 million tonnes. Commercial barley stocks fell slightly to 688,000 tonnes. Saskatchewan farms recorded the sharpest drop, with barley stocks down 45% to 300,000 tonnes. Tight barley stocks, coupled with the poor crop in 2002, will result in continued high feed prices throughout the year. Low feed supplies will cause corn imports to rise sharply from the record 3.7 million tonnes estimated for the 2001/02 crop year.

Record low stocks reported in special crops

Special crop farm inventories were sharply lower because of poor growing conditions in 2001. Strong prices for canary seed and mustard also encouraged producer marketings and reduced farm stocks. Canary seed stocks dropped 70% from 2001 to hit a record low of 15,000 tonnes. Mustard seed stocks were down 80% to 10,000 tonnes, matching the record low set in 1999. Lentil inventories were down 55% to 96,000 tonnes. Sunflower seeds stocks fell 63% to 15,000 tonnes, setting a new record low and encouraging imports.

Dry field peas were the only special crop to rise in farm stocks from 2001. Pea stocks increased 52% to 190,000 tonnes from 2001's abnormally low level.

Oat stocks match record low set in 1996

Farm stocks of oats fell 59% from 2001 to 305,000 tonnes — the same level as in 1996. Commercial stocks dropped 42% to 60,000 tonnes, just under the low set in 1992.

Canola stocks up

Total stocks of canola were up 12% from 2001 to 1.2 million tonnes. Farm stocks of canola were unchanged from 2001 at 590,000 tonnes. However, commercial stocks were 28% higher at 625,000 tonnes. Although the 2001 production was down 2.2 million tonnes from 2000, the decrease was more than offset by a smaller export program and a reduction in domestic processing.

Soybean stocks drop

The poor soybean crop in eastern Canada in 2001 translated into smaller farm stocks at the

end of July. Farm stocks fell 68% to 45,000 tonnes. The largest change was in Ontario where farm stocks fell 70% to 30,000 tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0003.

Information on methods and data quality: survey numbers 3401, 3403, 3443, 3464 and 3476 in the Integrated Meta Data Base.

Field crop reporting series: Stocks of Canadian grain at July 31, 2002, Vol. 81, no. 6 (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. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Steel pipe and tubing

July 2002

Steel pipe and tubing production for July totalled 157 851 metric tonnes, down 9.5% from 174 327 tonnes (revised) in July 2001.

Year-to-date production at the end of July totalled 1 301 255 tonnes, down 9.6% from 1 438 751 tonnes (revised) in the same period of 2001.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0003.

The July 2002 issue of *Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing*, Vol. 26, no. 7 (41-011-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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 the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Air charter statistics

First quarter 2002

Almost 1.3 million passengers travelled on international air charter flights in the first quarter, down 17.7% from the first quarter of 2001. The events of September 11 severely disrupted people's travelling plans and air carriers' operations.

More detailed information will appear in the *Aviation: Service bulletin* (51-004-XIB, \$8/\$82). A print-on-demand service is also available at a different price. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; aviationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Field crop reporting series: Stocks of Canadian grain at July 31, 2002, Vol. 81, no. 6
Catalogue number 22-002-XIB (\$11/\$66).

Field crop reporting series: Stocks of Canadian grain at July 31, 2002, Vol. 81, no. 6
Catalogue number 22-002-XPB (\$15/\$88).

Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing, July 2002, Vol. 26, no. 7
Catalogue number 41-011-XIB (\$5/\$47).

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