



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Prairie farmers report that crop production will decline from last year's record levels, the result of persistent dry conditions. In the East, generally favourable conditions could result in crop production well above the 10-year average.

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Releases

Estimate of production of principal field crops

July 31, 2006

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Data from the annual July Farm Survey of 17,600 farmers, conducted from July 28th to August 6th, indicated that there is a concern about the effects of recent drought-like growing conditions in the Prairie provinces.

After an optimistic spring that allowed timely seeding with average rainfall in most areas, continuous hot and dry weather in July stressed crops and accelerated development. Farmers have since pared back high yield expectations to a more normal range.

In north-east Saskatchewan, many farmers were unable to complete seeding because of too much rain during planting that flooded their fields for weeks. Production estimates in Manitoba are anticipated to rebound strongly in 2006 after the excessive wet conditions that devastated crops in 2005.

In Quebec and Ontario, continuous high temperatures have accelerated crop maturity and, despite too much rain in some areas, producers expected there will be above-average yields this year for most major crops.

Production estimates, July 31

Crop	2005		2006		2005 to 2006 % change
	thousands of tonnes		thousands of tonnes		
Total wheat	26,775	25,925			-3.2
Spring wheat	18,788	19,032			1.3
Barley	12,481	10,287			-17.6
Grain corn	9,461	8,960			-5.3
Canola	9,660	7,977			-17.4
Oats	3,432	3,776			10.0
Winter wheat	2,072	3,475			67.7
Durum wheat	5,915	3,418			-42.2
Soybeans	3,161	3,163			0.1
Dry field peas	3,100	2,784			-10.2
Flaxseed	1,082	978			-9.6

Prairie canola production expected to fall

Prairie farmers reported that they expect to harvest 7.9 million tonnes of canola, down 1.6 million tonnes from the 9.5 million tonnes in 2005. Production

would remain well above the 10-year average of 6.8 million tonnes. The decline would be due to a drop in yield from an estimated 32.6 bushels per acre to 27.2 bushels per acre. Harvested area is expected to remain the same.

Farmers in Saskatchewan and Alberta reported similar expectations with respect to this year's crop. Saskatchewan production could fall 22.9% to 3.6 million tonnes, while Alberta farmers expect a 22.5% decline to 2.8 million tonnes. In Manitoba, increases in harvested area and yield could propel anticipated production to 1.5 million tonnes, on par with the recent 10-year average.

Flaxseed production declines

On the Prairies, flaxseed production could fall 9.6% to 977,200 tonnes. This is the result of an anticipated drop in yield from 21.5 acres per bushel in 2005 to 18.7 bushels per acre in 2006, a return to the 10-year average.

Producers in Saskatchewan and Alberta reported lower flaxseed production, while Manitoba farmers reported a slight increase.

Spring wheat production up slightly

Prairie farmers expect to harvest 18.6 million tonnes of spring wheat, up just 1.2% from 18.3 million tonnes in 2005. The 10-year average is 17.6 million tonnes. Harvested area could rise by 2.6 million acres but yield is anticipated to fall from 39.7 bushels per acre to 34.8 bushels per acre.

The spring wheat harvest in Alberta could fall 7.0% to 6.8 million tonnes. Saskatchewan farmers reported an unchanged estimated production of 8.7 million tonnes, the result of a lower yield but similar increase in harvested area. Manitoba farmers reported a 30.1% increase in production to 3.0 million tonnes, owing to a rebound in yield and harvested area from 2005.

Durum production tumbles

Durum wheat production in the Prairies is expected to fall 42.2% to 3.4 million tonnes, off 2.5 million tonnes from 2005. The 10-year average production is 4.7 million tonnes. The decline is the result of an average drop of 8.5 bushels per acre and 1.5 million fewer harvested acres.

Production in both Saskatchewan and Alberta should drop. In Saskatchewan, where over

three-quarters of Canadian durum is grown, production could decline 2.1 million tonnes to an estimated 2.8 million tonnes.

Feed grain production mixed

Prairie barley production should fall 18.2% to 9.5 million tonnes, the result of declines in both yield and harvested area. The 10-year average production is 11.4 million tonnes.

Saskatchewan output is likely to drop 34.8% to 3.5 million tonnes and Alberta production is expected to fall by 12.5% to 4.9 million tonnes. Manitoba production was reported to have surged 65.2% to 1.1 million tonnes.

Oat production on the Prairies could rise 10.3% to 3.3 million tonnes, and come in line with the 10-year average of 3.1 million tonnes.

Provincially, oat production could decline by 1.5% in Saskatchewan and by 19.9% in Alberta, but rebound 114.2% to 943,800 tonnes in Manitoba.

Field pea production down on the Prairies

Field pea production should decline, the result of a drop in yield. Prairie production should decline to 2.8 million tonnes, off from 3.1 million tonnes in 2005. The 10-year average is 2.2 million tonnes.

Provincially, Manitoba production should edge up 1.6% to 63,500 tonnes. In Alberta, farmers reported a 3.1% increase, the result of more harvested area. In Saskatchewan, production could be down 13.8%, the result of a 5.8 bushel per acre drop in yield. However, potential harvested acres rose 100,000 acres to a record 2.7 million acres. Dry pea harvested area has been rising in Saskatchewan since 2003.

Ontario, Quebec farmers should produce less grain corn and soybeans

Farmers in Ontario and Quebec reported lower production, mainly the result of reduced yield estimates.

Quebec farmers estimate corn production to fall 14.5% to 3.0 million tonnes, an estimate not seen

since 2001. This reduction would be the result of a smaller harvested area and a lower estimated yield. The 10-year average production is 2.9 million tonnes.

Soybean production in Quebec may also decline 1.0% from 2005 to an estimated 500,000 tonnes, the result of a drop of 1.3 bushels per acre in yield. The 10-year average production value is 384,700 tonnes.

In Ontario, production estimates for corn were down 1.8% to 5.7 million tonnes, the result of a 6.9 bushel per acre decline in yield. Production would remain well above the 10-year average of 5.4 million tonnes.

Soybean production may drop 6.8% from 2005 to an estimated 2.4 million tonnes, a value remaining well above the 10-year average of 2.1 million tonnes. This reduction would be the result of a decline of 165,000 acres of harvested area.

Ontario winter wheat a record

Winter wheat production in Ontario is expected to shatter all records in 2006. Production was estimated at 2.5 million tonnes, eclipsing the previous record of 2.1 million tonnes set in 2003. Harvested area and yield are both in record high territory. At the time of the survey, the majority of the harvest was complete.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3401.

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series*, Vol. 85, no. 5 (22-002-XIB, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. A paper version (22-002-XPB, \$17/\$95) is also now available. See *How to order products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; dave.burroughs@statcan.ca), or Dave Roeske (613-951-0572; dave.roeske@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending August 19, 2006 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending August 19 totalled 292 565 metric tonnes, up 0.6% from 290 928 tonnes a week earlier and up 1.6% from 288 026 tonnes in the same week of 2005.

The year-to-date total as of August 19 was 10 022 068 tonnes, up 1.8% from 9 847 223 tonnes in the same period of 2005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Asphalt roofing

July 2006

Data on asphalt roofing are now available for July.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0052.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2123.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division ■

New products

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 85, no. 5
Catalogue number 22-002-XIB
(free).

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

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 85, no. 5
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Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire, June 2006,
Vol. 2, no. 6
Catalogue number 41-019-XIE
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Ontario 1-206 (if using 11621/11628 697-645)



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 4.1 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

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The Daily, August 25, 2006

Release dates: August 28 to September 1, 2006

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
28	Film, video and audio-visual distribution	2004/2005
28	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	June 2006
29	International travel account	Second quarter 2006
29	Characteristics of international travellers	First quarter 2006
29	Employment Insurance	June 2006
30	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	July 2006
30	Balance of international payments	Second quarter 2006
31	National economic and financial accounts	Second quarter 2006
31	Gross domestic product by industry	June 2006
1	University tuition fees	2006/2007
