

# The Daily

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## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, April 26, 2011**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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In 2011, Prairie farmers anticipate planting a record area of canola, and expect to plant more durum wheat, barley and oats compared with 2010. In the East, Quebec and Ontario farmers expect to seed the largest area of corn for grain since 2007.	
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## Releases

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### Production of principal field crops

March 2011 (intentions)

In 2011, Prairie farmers anticipate planting a record area of canola, and expect to plant more durum wheat, barley and oats compared with 2010. In the East, Quebec and Ontario farmers expect to seed the largest area of corn for grain since 2007.

Subsequent to survey data collection, farmers may modify their plans prior to planting time as a result of environmental conditions.

#### Canola acreage may hit a record

Early indications are that Canadian farmers may seed a record 19.2 million acres of canola in 2011, up 14.3% or 2.4 million acres from the previous record set in 2010 at 16.8 million acres. This would be the fifth consecutive annual increase in canola area at the national level.

In Saskatchewan, following three years of seeded area ranging from 7.7 to 7.9 million acres, canola area could rise by 25.6%, or 2.0 million acres, to a record 9.8 million acres. The provincial record was 7.9 million acres set in 2009.

Farmers in Alberta reported expecting to plant a record 5.9 million acres of canola, up 8.1% from the record seeded area of 5.5 million acres set in 2010.

#### Area for durum wheat expected to increase sharply

Prairie durum wheat area could rise by 60.3% or 1.9 million acres to 5.1 million acres in 2011. Over the past decade, durum area has fluctuated considerably, from 6.5 million acres to a low of 3.2 million acres in 2010.

In Saskatchewan, where the majority of Canadian durum is grown, farmers may seed 4.4 million acres, up 57.0% or 1.6 million acres. Alberta farmers expect to plant 670,000 acres, an increase of 86.1% over the 2010 seeded area.

#### Eastern farmers set to plant more corn for grain

Farmers in Ontario and Quebec may plant the greatest area of corn for grain since 2007.

Ontario corn for grain seeded area should rise by 125,000 acres to 2.0 million acres, an increase

#### Note to readers

*The March Farm Survey is about crop planting intentions in Canada. In 2011, the survey was conducted with approximately 12,600 farmers, from March 24 to March 31. Farmers were asked to report their intended plantings of grain, oilseeds and special crops. Farmers may modify their plans prior to planting time as a result of economic and environmental conditions. Some farmers indicated they were still undecided about their final strategies for 2011.*

*March intentions acreages will be replaced by estimated actual seeded acreages from subsequent surveys during the year. Final acreage numbers for 2011 will be released on December 6 and are subject to revision for two years.*

of 6.7% over 2010. The record area of corn for grain in Ontario was set in 2007 at 2.1 million acres.

The area seeded to corn for grain in Quebec is reported to rise 8.1% to 988,400 acres. The record area was set in 2002 and repeated in 2007 at 1.1 million acres.

#### Barley and oats acreage also on the rise

The area intended to be seeded to barley and oats are also expected to increase in 2011. At the national level, farmers anticipate seeding 7.8 million acres of barley, up 13.4% compared with the 6.9 million acres seeded in 2010. Similarly, acres seeded to oats could reach 4.1 million acres, an increase of 39.3% over 2010.

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

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3401.**

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series: "March intentions of principal field crop areas"*, Vol. 90, no. 2 (22-002-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* of our website under *Publications*.

The stocks of principal field crops at March 31 will be released on May 6.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yves Gilbert (613-951-2577; [yves.gilbert@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:yves.gilbert@statcan.gc.ca)), or Faye Price (204-983-2856; [faye.price@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:faye.price@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division.

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# March intentions of principal field crops areas

Crop	2009 (final)	2010 (final)	March 2011 (intentions)	2009 to March 2011	2010 to March 2011
	thousands of acres			% change	
Total wheat <sup>1</sup>	24,502	21,065	24,724	0.9	17.4
Spring wheat	16,975	16,475	17,984	5.9	9.2
Durum wheat	5,660	3,150	5,050	-10.8	60.3
Winter wheat <sup>2</sup>	1,867	1,439	1,690	-9.5	17.4
Canola	16,200	16,818	19,225	18.7	14.3
Barley	8,663	6,911	7,833	-9.6	13.4
Summerfallow	6,230	11,610	5,080	-18.5	-56.2
Oats	3,732	2,913	4,056	8.7	39.3
Soybeans	3,448	3,665	3,757	9.0	2.5
Corn for grain	2,974	3,000	3,211	8.0	7.0
Dry field peas	3,760	3,450	2,745	-27.0	-20.4
Flaxseed	1,710	925	1,210	-29.2	30.8

1. Total wheat is the sum of winter wheat after winterkill, spring wheat and durum wheat.
2. The area remaining after winterkill.



## Natural gas sales

February 2011 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 8 998 million cubic metres in February, up 9.8% compared with February 2010.

The volume of sales to the industrial (+10.9%) residential (+9.7%) and commercial (+7.4%) sectors were up in February compared with February 2010.

Total sales in February were 7.6% lower compared with January.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, to order data, 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; [energ@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:energ@statcan.gc.ca)), Manufacturing and Energy Division.

## Natural gas sales

	February 2010	January 2011	February 2011 <sup>P</sup>	January to February 2011	February 2010 to February 2011
	thousands of cubic metres			% change	
<b>Total sales</b>	<b>8 197 158</b>	<b>9 734 405</b>	<b>8 998 498</b>	<b>-7.6</b>	<b>9.8</b>
Residential <sup>1</sup>	2 492 529	2 926 874	2 735 247	-6.5	9.7
Commercial <sup>2</sup>	1 793 986	2 081 230	1 926 049	-7.5	7.4
Industrial <sup>3</sup> and direct sales <sup>4</sup>	3 910 643	4 726 301	4 337 202	-8.2	10.9

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

1. Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.

2. Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.

3. Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.

4. Represents direct, non-utility, sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.

## Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing Services Price Index

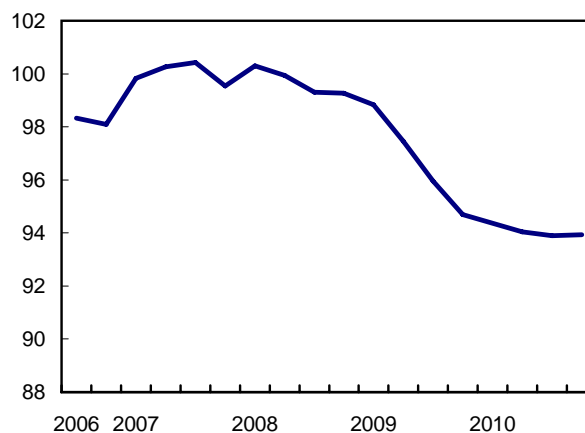
Fourth quarter 2010

The Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing Services Price Index remained unchanged in the fourth quarter, following a 0.1% decline in the third quarter.

Office and other commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing services declined by 0.5%, while heavy machinery and equipment rental and leasing services (construction, transportation, mining and forestry) increased 0.2%.

## Services Producer Price Index: Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing Services

index (2007=100)



On a year-over-year basis, the index declined 0.8% in the fourth quarter compared with the fourth quarter of 2009.

**Note:** The Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing Services Price Index is part of the Services Producer Price Index program at Statistics Canada. The purpose of this survey is to collect and compile data to measure movements in the price of rental and leasing activities for the commercial and industrial machinery and equipment industry. These data are combined to estimate a price index for the commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing services sector. The index can be joined with other business service indexes to provide better estimates of real output and productivity, and to monitor inflation in the services sector.

The data are not seasonally adjusted. This is a monthly index which is disseminated on a quarterly basis. Indexes are available at the Canada level only.

The office and other commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing Services Price Index combines the North American Industry Classification System 2007 codes 53242 and 53249.

**Available on CANSIM: table 332-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5137.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-888-951-4550; 613-951-4550; fax: 613-951-3117; [ppd-info-dpp@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:ppd-info-dpp@statcan.gc.ca)), Producer Prices Division.

### Services Producer Price Index: Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing services

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	Third quarter 2010	Fourth quarter 2010 <sup>P</sup>	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2010	Fourth quarter 2009 to fourth quarter 2010
	%	(2007=100)		% change	
<b>Services Producer Price Index: Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing services</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>93.9</b>	<b>93.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
Construction, transportation, mining, and forestry machinery and equipment rental and leasing	68.21	94.7	94.9	0.2	-0.3
Office machinery and equipment rental and leasing and other commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing <sup>2</sup>	31.79	92.1	91.6	-0.5	-2.1

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

1. The relative importance is based on the weight that each five-digit North American Industrial Classification System contributes to the overall Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing Services Price Index.

2. Data for office machinery and equipment rental and leasing services and other commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing services were collected separately, then the indexes were combined together at aggregation.

### Crushing statistics

March 2011

Oilseed processors crushed 581 086 tonnes of canola in March. Oil production in March totalled 257 356 tonnes while meal production amounted to 332 836 tonnes.

The March 2011 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007-X, free) will be available in May.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division.

**Available on CANSIM: table 001-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3404.**

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## **Deliveries of major grains**

March 2011

Data on March major grain deliveries are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: table 001-0001.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3403, 3404, 3443, 5046 and 5153.**

The March 2011 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007-X, free) will be available in May.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## **Cereals and oilseeds review**

February 2011

Data from the February issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* are now available. February's issue contains an overview of March's market conditions.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3403, 3404, 3443, 3464, 3476 and 5046.**

The February 2011 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review*, Vol. 34, no. 2 (22-007-X, free), is now available. From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## New products and studies

**Field Crop Reporting Series**, "March intentions of principal field crop areas," Vol. 90, no. 2  
**Catalogue number 22-002-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

**Cereals and Oilseeds Review**, February 2011, Vol. 34, no. 2  
**Catalogue number 22-007-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

**Retail Trade**, February 2011, Vol. 83, no. 2  
**Catalogue number 63-005-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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