

22-D-01A

Published by Authority of Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Chief, Agricultural Branch:	T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

The Wheat Situation in the Argentine

Ottawa, November 26, 1932.-- The correspondent of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in Buenos Aires has forwarded the following report, under date of November 1, 1932, dealing with the wheat situation in the Argentine:--

EXPORTS:

The quantity of Wheat exported from the Argentine during the month of October was 2,941,000 bushels a decrease of about 132,000 bushels from the figures of the preceding month.

The statistical situation is now as follows:--

Official estimate of the crop .....	225,922,000 bushels
carry over from last crop .....	16,305,000 "
Total .....	242,227,000 "
Needed for Seed and Domestic Consumption .....	95,532,000 "
Balance for export .....	146,695,000 "
Exported to October 31st .....	117,791,000 "
Balance still available .....	28,896,000 "

MARKETS:

Conditions in the grain markets here have been very unsatisfactory during the past month. The tendency of prices has been steadily downward and the month closes with quotations the equivalent of 8 cents per bushel below those of the end of September.

The export business has been practically nil. With a large Canadian crop of high grade grain and European buyers continuing their policy of only purchasing from hand to mouth, there has been little chance for the Argentine exporter to do business, and prospects for the future are far from bright.

Canadian pressure will probably continue until the close of navigation on the Great Lakes. The Argentine crop looks like being available early, and as some of it will have to be sold for the liquidation of the farmers' obligations, the price outlook is very dismal, and it is freely predicted that we shall see a return to the low point touched last year of 5 pesos per quintal, or say 39 cents (Canadian), laid down in the port of Buenos Aires, as soon as the new crop begins to move.

In the absence of export demand for Europe, the millers have the market practically to themselves, with the exception of some purchases for Brazil, which is once more taking Argentine wheat now that her bargain with the United States for the exchange of grain for coffee is nearing completion.

NEW CROP:

Since the issue of my last monthly report, the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Agriculture has published its second estimate of the area seeded to wheat this year, which shows a slight increase over the first figures, being 19,735,300 acres against 19,241,300 acres. The acreage in wheat last year was 17,287,530.

On October 20th the Department also made public a report on the condition of the crops in the various provinces and territories. Below I give a summary of this governmental report, and in order that a clearer picture of the situation may be obtained by those unfamiliar with Argentine conditions, I have given the acreage seeded to wheat in each province or territory named. Thus an idea is conveyed of the area affected by the reports quoted.



Local frosts have also done some damage here and there, but there has been no general frost of any severity. Some scalding of grain is also reported, due to the effect of a hot sun in the early morning upon grain which a very cool night has left covered with heavy dew.

There are also reports from widely scattered points of damage by a white worm, which causes the plants to bleach and die. These worms are occasionally quite prevalent, especially after a mild, dry winter.

Rust reports are occasionally sent in, but there is apparently no present damage of any consequence, and the weather has generally not been such as to favour the spread of this pest.

We are now in the most critical part of the crop season for these two areas, which together comprise more than half of the wheat acreage of the Republic.

#### NEW CROP CONDITIONS: CORN

The work of seeding the new crop is of course still proceeding. Generally speaking, the condition of the crop already above ground is very good, and in most cases is described as excellent.

But the greatest fears are entertained for the future. The young locusts are already active in the north, and in spite of strenuous efforts to combat them it is feared that they will prove very destructive to the young Maize plants.

In parts of northern Santa Fe some damage is already recorded. In the south the efforts to destroy the eggs of the locusts have been more successful, and there is less present danger. In western Cordoba, where there is a considerable Maize acreage, the condition is said to be excellent, with little present damage. In the south the condition is less satisfactory, especially with the late sowings.

It is expected that there will be a considerable sowing of Maize on the Wheat lands in Cordoba as soon as the Wheat is out of the way, during the current month (December).

In the other northern provinces, the reports are all satisfactory as to the present condition of the Maize crop, but pessimism is universally entertained as to its future, on account of the locust threat.

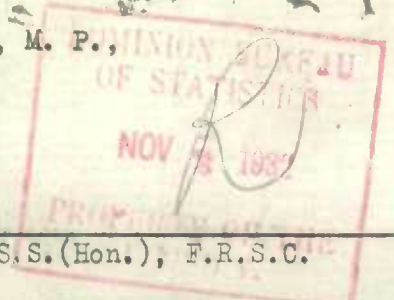
No figures are yet available, but it is felt that there will prove to be a larger acreage seeded this year than last almost throughout the northern territory.



22 D-01

Published by Authority of Hon. H. H. Stevens, M. P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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



Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.  
Chief, Agricultural Branch: T.W. Grindley, Ph.D.

The Wheat Situation in the Argentine

Ottawa, October 31, 1932.- The correspondent of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in Buenos Aires has forwarded the following report under date of October 1, 1932, dealing with the wheat situation in the Argentine:-

EXPORTS:

The quantity of wheat exported from the Republic during the month of September was 3,075,214 bushels, a decrease of nearly 624,633 bushels from the preceding month.

The statistical situation is now as follows:-

Official estimate of the crop .....	225,922,000 bushels	
Carry-over of last crop .....	16,304,000	"
Total .....	242,226,000	"
Needed for Seed and Domestic consumption .....	95,532,000	"
Balance for export .....	146,694,000	"
Exported to September 30th .....	114,858,000	"
Balance still available .....	31,836,000	"

MARKETS:

There has been little activity on the grain markets during the past month. The rise in prices in foreign markets which occurred during the early days of the month led to a corresponding rise here and induced some temporary activity of a speculative nature; but with the gradual recession of prices abroad this activity petered out, and things have been very quiet since.

During the past week or so there has been absolutely no demand from Europe for Argentine wheats, and what business has been done has been with the local millers, who have been steady buyers of what little actual wheat has been on offer, especially strong wheats.

With practically no wheat coming forward there is no selling pressure whatever here, and our prices continue too high in comparison with those quoted by other exporting countries for there to be any hope of doing business with European buyers. Our influence in the international trade is nil, and will continue to be so until the new crop materializes, meanwhile leaving to Canada and the United States the leading roles in the determination of export wheat prices.

In the local option market, the absence of wheat has caused some firms to be caught short who had made commitments for October in the expectation of more grain coming forward, and a worth while premium is obtainable for actual wheat. If this continues it may draw some offers, but the tendency is to hold back what surplus of wheat remains in the country until the fate of the new crop is assured.

With the good crops reported from consuming countries in Europe, and the apparent probability of a world surplus of wheat, the feeling on the market is somewhat pessimistic at present.

Doubts are still being expressed as to whether there is as much wheat remaining in this country as is shown in the above estimate; but, as stated in my report for the month of August, the figure is supported by an independent check made through the railways in mid-July.



Buenos Aires	9,064,900 acres.	Condition good to excellent. Some fields headed. Majority in shot blade.
Santa Fe	2,074,800 "	Good but uneven. Mostly heading. Earliest fields ready to cut early in November.
Cordoba	6,002,100 "	Mostly headed and filled. Crop considered safe, barring accidents, except in centre, where rain came late.
Entre Rios	815,100 " 6,	Just heading, prematurely on short straw. Eaten down once or twice by locusts. Poor crop expected (See note below).
San Luis	187,720 "	N.E. good, South damaged by frost and drought.
Santiago del Estero	202,540 "	Early fields good, almost ready to cut. Rest damaged by locusts, but recovering nicely.
La Pampa	1,281,930 "	Excellent, best for years. Only exception small zone in N.W. Some striped rust, but not important for moment.
Other districts	106,210 "	No details given.
Total	<u>19,735,300</u> "	

In a separate report on the Locust situation, the Department announces that an area of 617,500 acres has been definitely lost out of the acreage planted to wheat, mostly in the province of Entre Rios.

Reports from other sources fully corroborate that of the Ministry of Agriculture, and the prospect is that if the crop comes safely through the present critical period there will be a better than average yield.

Leaving aside the locust menace, which has possibilities but is less likely to cause serious damage to the wheat than to the maize, the gravest sources of danger to the wheat crop during the month of November are rust and frost.

No reports of Black Rust have yet been received, but Yellow Striped Rust has been reported from parts of the Pampa and the province of Cordoba. The infection was apparently only slight, and it does not seem to have spread much, doubtless because the weather, the greatest factor in the development of rust, has been far from favourable for it. With the exception of four or five days of the hot, humid weather which is conducive to rust, the conditions have been comparatively dry and fresh, with occasional soaking rains, followed by days of bright sunshine, almost ideal weather for the growing grain crops.

No serious frost have yet been encountered. There have been some local frosts of greater or less severity, and here and there these have left lasting traces of their visits, but the damage caused is in the aggregate almost negligible. Nor does the nature of the present season cause any great uneasiness with regard to the prospect of frost. It has been altogether too mild for this. But the month upon which we have just entered is the most critical in this respect, and much may happen.

Meanwhile the wheat is steadily advancing towards maturity, and already the first carload of new crop wheat has been shipped down here from Santiago del Estero and sold on the sample market to a local mill at a nice premium over current rates. This does not indicate that harvest is commencing in earnest. The province named is the most northerly of the wheat growing districts, with a dry climate in which grain matures early or not at all. Normally harvest becomes general in the north in the latter part of the month of November, and gradually extends to the south, reaching the southerly limits early in the new year. The crop is fully a week or ten days ahead of its normal condition for the period, this year, but this slight advantage may easily be lost should adverse weather conditions be encountered.





1010722826

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible. It appears to be a multi-page document with several paragraphs of text, possibly a report or a book. The text is oriented vertically on the page.]*