

22-002  
no. 14  
1966  
c. 3

SUE No.  
12  
ease  
1966

3 p.m.

# DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Trade and Commerce

Price: \$4.00 for series of 20 Crop Reports

Field Crop Reporting Series - No. 8

## PROGRESS OF SEEDING AT MAY 31, 1966

### Winterkilling and Condition of Over-wintered Crops and Rates of Seeding

Seeding of the five spring-sown grains in Canada was 90 per cent completed by May 31. Although operations were delayed in some provinces and regions within provinces due to cool weather in late April and early May, rapid progress was recorded in most areas from mid-May through to the end of the month. The per cent completed by May 31, 1966 was slightly ahead of the five-year average of 88 and was considerably ahead of the 81 per cent completed by the same date in 1965. Seeding in the Prairie Provinces where the bulk of the spring-sown grain is grown was 90 per cent completed by May 31, 1966 compared with 80 per cent a year earlier and the five year average of 89 per cent.

In the Prairie Provinces a late season snowfall followed by wet, cold weather in early May delayed field operations in nearly all sections, but by mid-month seeding operations were some 27 per cent completed compared with 25 per cent a year earlier and the five-year average of 32 per cent. Operations progressed normally in Alberta, during this period but lagged behind the recent five-year average in Saskatchewan, particularly in the eastern sections. Cool wet weather in Manitoba, coupled with flooding in the Red River Valley seriously hampered progress in that province until the middle of May. However, with the combination of more favourable weather and modern machinery, farmers were able to make up for lost time in the last half of the month. Although high winds during the last half of May caused

- 
- (1) Excluding Newfoundland for which annual data are not available. Only 121 acres were reported by the 1961 Census to have been seeded to the specified crops in that province.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

5502-508.8

soil drifting in local areas and dried top soils, good rains in early June over most areas replenished moisture reserves and aided germination.

The percentage of wheat seeded by May 31 in the Prairie Provinces was 96 per cent, the same when compared to the five-year average but slightly higher than the 90 per cent last year. Some 81 per cent of the oats and 80 per cent of the barley acreage in the Prairie Provinces had been seeded compared with 66 per cent and 63 per cent respectively a year earlier and the five-year average of 82 per cent and 78 per cent. Some 64 per cent of the flax was seeded by May 31 compared with only 54 per cent by the same date in 1965 and the five-year average of 72 per cent.

Despite unseasonably cool and wet weather, spring seeding of the five grains in Ontario proceeded only slightly less rapidly than a year earlier with some 94 per cent in the ground by May 31 compared with 96 per cent a year earlier and well ahead of the recent five-year average of 86 per cent. In Quebec drier conditions permitted 80 per cent of the spring seeding to be completed at May 31, well ahead of last season's 63 per cent and the 1960-64 average of 70 per cent. Seeding progress in the Maritime Provinces, while normally behind other parts of Canada, was some 80 per cent completed compared with last season's 75 per cent and the recent five-year average of 61 per cent. In British Columbia 93 per cent of the seeding had been done by the end of May and this rate of progress compared with 81 per cent in 1965 and the five-year average of 91 per cent.

Estimates of progress of seeding, as well as those of winter-killing, spring conditions and rates of seeding are based on May 31 surveys of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' crop correspondents conducted in co-operation with Provincial departments.

Estimated Progress of Seeding with Comparisons at May 31 and 15, 1966

	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada
- percentage completed -										
<u>Spring wheat</u>	<u>MAY 31, 1966</u>									
Average 1960-64	65	74	70	55	81	81	98	98	98	96
1965	82	72	85	35	95	74	92	93	92	90
1966	82	96	83	77	92	82	98	98	99	96
<u>Oats</u>										
Average 1960-64	56	67	64	71	85	67	87	87	92	81
1965	74	77	75	65	96	55	72	68	81	71
1966	78	85	81	80	94	63	86	88	94	83
<u>Barley</u>										
Average 1960-64	54	64	65	62	84	60	86	77	82	78
1965	66	75	78	51	95	52	71	60	70	63
1966	71	84	85	76	95	66	87	79	89	80
<u>Flaxseed</u>										
Average 1960-64	-	-	-	-	76	51	83	82	91	72
1965	-	-	-	31	75	41	59	82	65	53
1966	-	-	-	74	85	44	80	88	93	64
<u>Mixed Grains</u>										
Average 1960-64	58	68	66	65	87	54	87	79	92	79
1965	76	77	78	57	97	54	58	61	82	78
1966	81	86	84	77	95	52	81	81	94	85
<u>Total - Five Grains</u>										
Average 1960-64	57	67	64	70	86	70	95	89	91	88
1965	74	77	76	63	96	61	87	78	81	81
1966	78	86	82	80	94	69	96	90	93	90
<u>May 15, 1966</u>										
<u>Spring Wheat</u>										
Average 1960-64	10	21	15	19	55	22	44	45	55	42
1965	10	20	25	16	65	22	32	33	41	31
1966	11	42	19	29	50	9	35	44	60	34
<u>Oats</u>										
Average 1960-64	9	21	13	23	56	13	23	23	42	26
1965	11	22	18	22	66	14	16	14	29	24
1966	11	34	19	24	55	5	17	20	43	23
<u>Barley</u>										
Average 1960-64	5	16	11	17	57	11	25	17	25	19
1965	6	21	16	14	54	12	19	12	12	15
1966	7	32	24	19	56	6	21	15	23	17
<u>Flaxseed</u>										
Average 1960-64	-	-	-	-	41	7	10	16	45	10
1965	-	-	-	13	40	9	5	13	13	9
1966	-	-	-	20	27	3	7	16	39	7
<u>Mixed Grains</u>										
Average 1960-64	9	21	12	19	59	9	18	17	38	37
1965	10	23	16	18	55	14	13	10	44	33
1966	12	34	20	21	55	4	15	16	51	34
<u>Total - Five Grains</u>										
Average 1960-64	9	21	13	23	57	16	38	31	41	33
1965	10	22	18	21	62	17	28	22	28	26
1966	11	34	19	24	55	7	31	29	40	28



Condition of Winter  
Wheat, Fall Rye, Tame  
Hay and Pasture

At May 31, correspondents were asked to report the condition of winter wheat, fall rye and tame hay in their neighbourhood as being above average, average or below average for that time of year. In Ontario, the major winter wheat producing area 20 per cent of the correspondents reported the winter wheat condition as above average, while 63 per cent reported average and 17 per cent reported below average conditions.

Percentages of Correspondents reporting the condition of tame hay, pasture and fall rye in each of the three condition categories as at May 31, 1966 are set out in the accompanying table.

Percentage of Correspondents reporting Condition of Tame Hay, Pasture and Fall Rye, as Above Average, Average and Below Average at May 31, 1966

	TAME HAY			PASTURE			FALL RYE		
	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Above Average	Average	Below Average
P.E.I.	18	70	12	28	66	6	9	82	9
N.S.	24	67	9	20	69	11	32	61	7
N.B.	14	68	18	10	75	15	33	45	22
Que.	10	67	23	11	67	22	25	68	7
Ont.	6	49	45	6	53	41	12	68	20
Man.	11	62	27	11	59	30	14	67	19
Sask.	12	68	20	11	67	22	12	71	17
Alta.	12	58	30	14	55	31	18	61	21
B.C.	19	58	23	19	55	26	11	77	12

Winterkilling of  
Winter Wheat, Fall  
Rye and Tame Hay

Considerably less damage to fall-sown crops and clovers by winterkilling was reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' correspondents in most provinces this year. In Ontario it is estimated that only 5 per cent of the wheat area seeded in the fall of 1965 was winterkilled compared with 26 per cent the previous year. Revised reports indicate that 391,000 acres were seeded to this crop in the fall of 1965 and 373,000 survived the winter. Light winterkill damage was also reported in winter wheat fields in Alberta. Winterkilling of fall-sown rye is estimated as follows, with the previous year's figures in brackets: Canada, 4 (9); Quebec, 3 (10); Ontario, 4 (6); Manitoba, 4 (8); Saskatchewan, 5 (8); Alberta, 4 (13); and British Columbia, 2 (5).

During the winter of 1965-66 the following percentages of tame hay acreages, including grasses and legumes, are estimated to have been winterkilled with the corresponding figures for the previous winter in brackets: Canada, 9 (11); Prince Edward Island, 8 (5); Nova Scotia, 4 (6); New Brunswick, 5 (6); Quebec, 16 (19); Ontario, 12 (15); Manitoba, 4 (5); Saskatchewan, 3 (5); Alberta, 5 (5); and British Columbia, 3 (7).

Average Rates  
of Seeding

Average rates of seeding as reported by crop correspondents for their own farms this year are set out in the table below. Seeding rates for the various grains show some variation between regions with rates generally heaviest in the Maritimes and lightest in the Prairie Provinces.

Average Rates of Seeding Reported by Crop Correspondents

1 9 6 6

Province	Spring Wheat	Oats	Barley	Spring Rye	Flaxseed
- bushels per acre -					
Prince Edward Island	2.0	3.4	2.2	-	-
Nova Scotia	1.9	3.0	2.1	-	-
New Brunswick	1.9	3.3	2.1	-	-
Quebec	1.7	3.0	1.8	1.0	0.8
Ontario	1.7	2.4	1.9	1.6	1.0
Manitoba	1.5	2.3	1.6	1.2	0.7
Saskatchewan	1.4	2.1	1.5	1.1	0.6
Alberta	1.4	2.3	1.7	1.0	0.6
British Columbia	1.6	2.9	2.0	1.3	0.5

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010524226