

22-002

no. 14

1971

c. 3

No.

ase

1971

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce

Price: \$4.00 for series of 20 Crop Reports

Field Crop Reporting Series - No. 8

PROGRESS OF SEEDING AT MAY 31, 1971

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

The seeding of the five spring sown grains in Canada was 90 per cent completed by May 31. At May 15 seeding of the five spring grown grains was 39 per cent completed in contrast to 16 per cent last year and the five-year average of 32 per cent. The per cent of seeding completed by May 31, 1971 was above the five-year (1965-69) average of 86 per cent and well above the 64 per cent completed by the same date in 1970.

In the Prairie Provinces where the bulk of the spring grains are grown, seeding was 91 per cent completed at May 31 compared with 63 per cent a year ago and the five-year average of 87 per cent. Weather conditions this year were very much more favourable for seeding operations than in 1970 when excessive moisture seriously delayed activity in Manitoba and Eastern Saskatchewan. In 1971 practically no abnormal delays occurred due to excessively wet conditions. Progress was comparatively more rapid during the last two weeks of May this year. The percentage of wheat sown by May 31 in the Prairie Provinces was 97 per cent in contrast to 70 per cent a year earlier and the five-year average of 94 per cent. Some 87 per cent of the oats and 87 per cent of the barley acreage had been seeded compared with 56 per cent and 64 per cent last year and the five-year averages of 77 per cent and 73 per cent respectively. The seeding of flax by May 31 was 81 per cent completed compared with 45 per cent at the same date last year and the five-year average of 63 per cent.

In Ontario progress with seeding was somewhat further advanced by May 15 this year than last and still slightly ahead by the end of the month, in spite of variable weather conditions and some delays especially in Eastern Ontario. Seeding of the five spring grains by May 31 was 93 per cent completed compared with 92 per cent the previous year and the 1965-69 average of 91 per cent. In Quebec, 64 per cent of the five major grains was sown by May 31 this year, close to the five-year average of 66 per cent but better than last year's 55 per cent. In the Maritimes seeding this year was 54 per cent completed by the end of May. Some 53 per cent of the five spring cereals had been sown in Prince Edward Island along with 38 per cent in Nova Scotia and 63 per cent in New Brunswick. The comparable percentages for last year with the five-year averages in brackets, were as follows 56 (64, 75 (60) and 39 (69) respectively.

In British Columbia at May 31 seeding was 92 per cent completed compared with 87 per cent at the same date in 1970 and the five-year average of 87 per cent.

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which annual data are not available.

Agriculture Division

Crops Section

5502-508

Estimated Progress of Seeding with Comparisons at May 31 and 15, 1971

	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada
	percentage completed									
	May 31, 1971									
<u>Spring wheat</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	64	60	69	55	85	84	97	93	97	94
1970	56	75	39	58	80	19	69	97	96	70
1971	64	43	67	72	90	90	98	97	99	97
<u>Oats</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	62	63	66	67	91	69	83	78	88	78
1970	48	53	34	55	87	11	56	83	88	59
1971	52	39	64	64	91	83	90	86	94	84
<u>Barley</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	61	59	65	58	88	71	84	70	78	75
1970	55	58	36	53	94	14	63	77	80	65
1971	58	34	61	64	95	83	93	82	86	87
<u>Flaxseed</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	—	—	—	40	79	51	76	81	80	64
1970	—	—	—	62	80	9	49	89	66	45
1971	—	—	—	62	88	65	87	86	94	81
<u>Mixed grains</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	63	64	65	62	90	66	76	70	89	79
1970	51	56	31	51	95	4	40	74	84	69
1971	52	35	57	64	95	82	88	80	92	86
<u>Total — Five grains</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	62	62	66	66	91	74	94	82	87	86
1970	50	56	34	55	92	13	65	85	87	64
1971	53	38	63	64	93	84	95	87	92	90
<u>May 15, 1971</u>										
<u>Spring wheat</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	11	21	17	19	47	18	34	35	47	32
1970	11	31	2	15	57	1	12	39	68	16
1971	23	27	22	23	71	22	43	37	61	39
<u>Oats</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	12	20	18	20	52	11	18	17	35	21
1970	7	20	4	12	57	1	8	20	42	15
1971	16	19	16	17	64	19	23	20	42	25
<u>Barley</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	13	19	21	15	49	13	22	15	18	18
1970	10	20	5	12	69	1	11	18	27	15
1971	20	17	14	15	71	18	35	20	24	27
<u>Flaxseed</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	—	—	—	13	31	6	7	16	25	8
1970	—	—	—	14	60	1	2	20	31	6
1971	—	—	—	17	81	7	10	20	44	11
<u>Mixed grains</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	12	21	16	18	49	9	16	12	49	30
1970	8	22	6	10	69	1	8	12	46	36
1971	22	17	14	16	70	17	17	13	46	40
<u>Total — Five grains</u>										
Average 1965-69 .	12	20	18	19	51	14	30	24	32	27
1970	8	21	4	12	64	1	10	24	43	16
1971	19	19	16	17	68	18	37	24	39	32

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, 6 per cent of the correspondents reported the winter wheat condition as above average, while 63 per cent reported average and 31 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, 1971 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, 1971

	Tame hay			Pasture			Fall rye		
	Above average	Average	Below average	Above average	Average	Below average	Above average	Average	Below average
P.E.I.	62	36	2	66	33	1	—	—	—
N.S.	39	55	6	43	52	5	—	—	—
N.B.	40	55	5	43	52	5	—	—	—
Que.	15	73	12	13	74	13	17	66	17
Ont.	5	58	37	5	52	43	5	75	20
Man.	9	66	25	7	66	27	12	74	14
Sask.	4	52	44	4	54	42	9	64	27
Alta.	7	61	32	9	57	34	14	72	15
B.C.	17	58	25	16	60	24	10	77	13

Winterkilling of
Winter Wheat, Fall
Rye and Tame Hay

In Ontario it is estimated that over 9 per cent of the wheat area seeded in the fall of 1970 was winterkilled, compared with 5 per cent the previous year. Latest reports indicate that 376,000 acres were seeded to this crop in the fall of 1970 and 342,000 survived the winter. Winterkill damage to winter wheat in Alberta is estimated at 4 per cent. Winterkilling of fall-sown rye is estimated as follows, with the previous year's figures in brackets: Canada, 6 (4); Quebec, 5 (10); Ontario, 6 (6); Manitoba 6 (4); Saskatchewan, 7 (4); Alberta, 4 (3); and British Columbia, 3 (3).

During the winter of 1970-71 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, 6 (7); Prince Edward Island, 3 (12); Nova Scotia, 4 (6); New Brunswick, 3 (12); Quebec, 8 (12); Ontario, 8 (8); Manitoba, 5 (4); Saskatchewan, 4 (3); Alberta, 5 (4); and British Columbia, 4 (3).



1010524241

- 4 -

Seeding of Rapeseed The percentage of rapeseed sown in the Prairie Provinces by May 15 and May 31, 1971, respectively, with last year's percentages in brackets: 11 (5) and 80 (55). The percentages of the crop seeded by the end of May, by province, with last year's figures in brackets, are as follows: Manitoba, 75 (8); Saskatchewan, 85 (49) and Alberta, 76 (74).

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 per Acre Reported by Crop Correspondents

1971

Province	Spring wheat	Oats	Barley	Spring rye	Flaxseed	Rapeseed
			bushels			pounds
Prince Edward Island	2.0	3.3	2.1	—	—	—
Nova Scotia	2.2	2.9	2.1	—	—	—
New Brunswick	2.0	3.3	2.1	—	—	—
Quebec	1.7	2.9	1.9	1.7	0.7	—
Ontario	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.1	—
Manitoba	1.4	2.3	1.6	1.2	0.6	8
Saskatchewan	1.3	2.0	1.5	1.1	0.6	6
Alberta	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.0	0.6	7
British Columbia	1.5	2.8	1.9	1.7	0.2	—