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INTENDED ACREAGES* OF PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS IN CANADA, 1952

Canadian farmers' plans for the 1952 crop season, based on their intentions at April 30, show relatively small changes from the 1951 acreages of the major grain crops, potatoes, and summerfallow. Indicated increases for spring wheat, barley and potatoes are almost exactly offset by reductions in acreages seeded to winter wheat and fall rye in the fall of 1951 together with anticipated decreases in the area to be seeded this spring to oats, spring rye and flaxseed. Acreages intended for summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces and for mixed grains are practically the same as last year.

The combined acreage of spring and winter wheat in Canada for harvest in 1952 is placed at 25.6 million acres, an increase of 1.5 per cent over last year's 25.3 million. The acreage intended for barley, the only other major grain crop for which an increase is indicated, is estimated at 7.9 million acres, second only to the record 8.4 million planted in 1943. The intended acreage for oats, at 11.4 million acres, is down 3.8 per cent from last year's 11.9 million while the indicated area for all rye, at 1.0 million acres, is down by 12 per cent and flaxseed, at 1.1 million acres, is 4.3 per cent lower than in 1951.

Basic data for the estimates in this report were obtained from the Bureau's annual April 30 survey of crop correspondents conducted in cooperation with provincial departments. These intended acreages are merely indicative of farmers' plans at the end of April, and acreages actually seeded, therefore, may vary considerably from the intentions figures, depending upon conditions affecting seeding subsequent to April 30.

Data on field crop acreages for 1951 as recorded by the Census of Agriculture were released on May 12. The 1951 census provides the first total count of crop acreages since 1941, except in the Prairie Provinces where the regular quinquennial census was taken in 1946. For the purposes of this report the census acreages have been accepted as official and accordingly replace the earlier 1951 estimates published by the Agriculture Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Intercensal revisions of annual acreage estimates, where necessitated by adoption of the new census benchmark, are being carried on in the Agriculture Division and will be released in due course. It is anticipated that these revisions will be satisfactorily completed with a minimum of disturbance of existing acreage series, particularly in the case of major grain crops in the more important producing provinces.

Wheat The acreage in Canada intended for all wheat (spring and winter) for harvest in 1952 is placed at 25.6 million acres, 1.5 per cent above last year's level of 25.3 million. Intended wheat seedings in the Prairie Provinces are placed at 24.8 million acres, up 1.8 per cent over the 1951 area.

*Excluding Newfoundland, Yukon, and Northwest Territories for which annual estimates are not available.

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Saskatchewan's prospective wheat acreage, at 16.1 million acres, is up by 3 per cent while Alberta's, at 6.4 million is unchanged and Manitoba's, at 2.3 million, is down by one per cent from last year. Ontario's wheat acreage is placed at 682,100 acres (all but 42,100 of which is winter wheat), a decrease of 9 per cent from 1951. Wheat is of much less importance in the remaining provinces and the relatively small changes indicated have little effect on the all-Canada total.

Oats for Grain, Barley and Mixed Grains

A slight net decrease is indicated in the total area to be seeded to the three major feed grains in Canada this year. The area intended for oats for grain, at 11.4 million acres, is down 3.8 per cent from last year, with decreases in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario more than offsetting slight increases in the remaining provinces. The prospective barley acreage, at 7.9 million acres, is 1.1 per cent above the 1951 level and will, if realized, be second only to the 1943 record of 8.4 million. Indicated increases of 182,000 acres in Alberta and 61,000 acres in Manitoba are largely responsible for the over-all increase in barley acreage this year. The 1.5 million acres intended for mixed grains, seeded principally in Ontario and Quebec, is unchanged from 1951.

Rye and Flaxseed

The area intended for spring rye in 1952 is placed at 390,300 acres, 6 per cent below the 1951 level of 415,200. The fall rye acreage, estimated at 600,600 acres, is some 16 per cent below last year's, largely due to unfavourable seeding conditions in the fall of 1951. Acreage of all rye is slightly less than one million acres, about 12 per cent below last year's total of 1.1 million. Current indications are for a decrease of about 4.3 per cent in the all-Canada flaxseed acreage, with only Alberta indicating an increase. This year's intended acreage in Ontario and the four Western provinces, the major flax-growing areas, is placed at 1.1 million acres, a decrease of 50,000 from 1951.

Potatoes

An increase of about 3.4 per cent over 1951 is indicated in the all-Canada potato acreage this year, with most of the increase taking place in the Maritime Provinces. The prospective potato acreage in Prince Edward Island is placed at 34,000 as against 29,600 last year while in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia this year's acreages are expected to be 41,900 and 13,400 respectively, compared with 38,100 and 11,300 in 1951. Indicated changes in the remaining provinces are relatively small, ranging from a 5 per cent decrease in Alberta to an 8 per cent increase in British Columbia.

Summary of Acreages Intended for Principal Crops and Summerfallow

For all Canada, the intended acreages for 1952 as reported at April 30, are as follows, with the 1951 acreages within brackets: Spring wheat 24,996,000 (24,551,400); oats for grain 11,447,200 (11,896,600); barley 7,928,600 (7,839,800); spring rye 390,300 (415,200); Mixed grains 1,526,700 (1,524,300); flaxseed 1,108,200 (1,158,500); potatoes 294,600 (284,900).

Corresponding figures for the Prairie Provinces are as follows:

Three Provinces - Spring wheat 24,831,000 (24,385,000); oats for grain 7,891,000 (8,312,000); barley 7,626,000 (7,530,000); spring rye 918,300 (1,046,800); flaxseed 1,041,000 (1,086,000); summerfallow 20,395,000 (20,312,000). Manitoba - Spring wheat 2,303,000 (2,326,000); oats for grain 1,594,000 (1,643,000); barley 2,101,000 (2,040,000); spring rye 49,000 (52,800); flaxseed 603,000 (655,000); Summerfallow 2,207,000 (2,063,000). Saskatchewan - Spring wheat 16,104,000 (15,635,000); oats for grain 3,586,000 (3,815,000); barley 2,302,000 (2,449,000); spring rye 604,000 (710,000); flaxseed 290,000 (296,000); summerfallow 12,198,000 (12,198,000). Alberta - Spring wheat 6,424,000 (6,424,000); oats for grain 2,711,000 (2,854,000); barley 3,233,000 (3,041,000); spring rye 265,300 (284,000); flaxseed 148,000 (135,000); summerfallow 5,990,000 (6,051,000).

Condition of Winter
Wheat, Fall Rye and
Cultivated Hay

This year correspondents were asked to report the condition of winter wheat, fall rye and cultivated hay in their neighbourhood at the end of April as below average, average or above average for that time of year. Previously, correspondents have been asked to report condition on a percentage basis but in many localities it was found that the end of April was too early to permit such an evaluation. Due to this change in reporting procedure, therefore, comparable figures for earlier years are not available.

In Ontario, the major winter wheat producing area, 14 per cent of the correspondents reporting on the condition of winter wheat at the end of April indicated that the condition was below average while 63 per cent reported average and 23 per cent above-average conditions. Percentages of correspondents reporting on the condition of cultivated hay and fall rye are set out in the accompanying table. Average or above-average conditions were reported for cultivated hay by the majority of correspondents in all provinces. In only one province, Manitoba, did the proportion of correspondents reporting below-average conditions exceed 10 per cent. Condition of fall-sown rye, on the other hand, was not as favourable, with below-average condition reports ranging from 7 per cent in Saskatchewan to 31 per cent in Quebec.

Percentages of Correspondents Reporting Condition of Cultivated Hay and Fall Rye as Below Average, Average and Above Average at April 30, 1952

Province	Cultivated Hay			Fall Rye		
	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Prince Edward Island	1	59	40	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	9	59	32	-	-	-
New Brunswick	3	64	33	-	-	-
Quebec	9	75	16	31	66	3
Ontario	7	60	33	13	71	16
Manitoba	14	56	30	14	55	31
Saskatchewan	4	49	47	7	55	38
Alberta	7	66	27	18	61	21
British Columbia ...	0	80	20	20	80	0

Winterkilling of Winter
Wheat, Fall Rye and
Cultivated Hay

In Ontario, where most of Canada's winter wheat is grown, it is estimated that 8 per cent of the area seeded in the fall of 1951 was winterkilled, compared with an estimated 7 per cent of the area seeded in the fall of 1950. Winterkilling of fall-sown rye by provinces, with the previous year's figures in brackets, is estimated as follows: Quebec, 1 (not available); Ontario, 4 (4); Manitoba, 4 (6); Saskatchewan, 5 (7); Alberta, 7 (3); and British Columbia, 3 (not available).

During the winter of 1951-52 the following percentages of cultivated hay acreages are estimated to have been winterkilled, with the corresponding figures for the previous winter in brackets: Canada, 6 (4); Prince Edward Island, 5 (10); Nova Scotia, 3 (4); New Brunswick, 4 (7); Quebec, 7 (2); Ontario, 6 (6); Manitoba, 5 (3); Saskatchewan, 3 (1); Alberta, 3 (2); and British Columbia, 4 (4).

Intended Acreages* of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow at April 30, 1952
as Compared with Acreages in 1951

Province	Area	Intentions		Province	Area	Intentions	
and Crop	1951 1/	% of	Area	and Crop	1951 1/	% of	Area
	acres	1951	1952		acres	1951	1952
CANADA				ONTARIO			
Winter wheat 2/	703,000	91.0	640,000	Winter wheat	703,000	91	640,000
Spring wheat 3/	24,551,400	101.8	24,996,000	Spring wheat	43,900	96	42,100
All wheat	25,254,400	101.5	25,636,000	All wheat	746,900	91	682,100
Oats for grain	11,896,600	96.2	11,447,200	Oats for grain	1,749,000	97	1,697,000
Barley	7,839,800	101.1	7,928,600	Barley	194,000	95	184,000
Fall rye 4/5/	711,600	84.4	600,600	Fall rye 8/	72,400	90	65,200
Spring rye 5/	415,200	94.0	390,300	Mixed grains	1,081,000	100	1,081,000
All rye 5/	1,126,800	87.9	990,900	Flaxseed	65,800	92	60,500
Mixed grains	1,524,300	100.2	1,526,700	Potatoes	54,900	99	54,400
Flaxseed	1,158,500	95.7	1,108,200				
Potatoes	284,900	103.4	294,600				
Summerfallow 6/	20,312,000	100.4	20,395,000				
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND				MANITOBA			
Spring wheat 7/	4,700	98	4,600	Spring wheat 7/	2,326,000	99	2,303,000
Oats for grain	100,000	102	102,000	Oats for grain	1,643,000	97	1,594,000
Barley	4,100	98	4,000	Barley	2,040,000	103	2,101,000
Mixed grains	71,700	102	73,100	Fall rye	41,800	91	38,000
Potatoes	29,600	115	34,000	Spring rye	11,000	100	11,000
				All rye	52,800	93	49,000
NOVA SCOTIA				Mixed grains	33,000	88	29,000
Spring wheat 7/	1,200	100	1,200	Flaxseed	655,000	92	603,000
Oats for grain	61,600	101	62,200	Potatoes	15,800	99	15,600
Barley	4,400	100	4,400	Summerfallow 9/	2,063,000	107	2,207,000
Mixed grains	8,800	101	8,900				
Potatoes	11,300	119	13,400				
NEW BRUNSWICK				SASKATCHEWAN			
Spring wheat 7/	3,400	103	3,500	Spring wheat 7/	15,635,000	103	16,104,000
Oats for grain	175,000	103	180,000	Oats for grain	3,815,000	94	3,586,000
Barley	13,600	105	14,300	Barley	2,449,000	94	2,302,000
Mixed grains	6,700	98	6,600	Fall rye	404,000	79	319,000
Potatoes	38,100	110	41,900	Spring rye	306,000	93	285,000
				All rye	710,000	85	604,000
QUEBEC				Mixed grains	27,800	96	26,700
Spring wheat 7/	12,200	95	11,600	Flaxseed	296,000	98	290,000
Oats for grain	1,396,000	101	1,410,000	Potatoes	15,700	101	15,900
Barley	61,600	104	64,100	Summerfallow 2/	12,198,000	100	12,198,000
Fall rye 8/	5,000	99	5,000				
Mixed grains	212,000	105	223,000				
Potatoes	92,000	100	92,000				

Intended Acreages* of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow at April 30, 1952
as Compared with Acreages in 1951

Province and Crop	Area 1951 <u>1/</u>	Intentions		Province and Crop	Area 1951 <u>1/</u>	Intentions	
		% of 1951	Area 1952			% of 1951	Area 1952
	acres		acres		acres		acres
<u>ALBERTA</u>				<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>			
Spring wheat <u>7/</u>	6,424,000	100	6,424,000	Spring wheat <u>7/</u>	101,000	101	102,000
Oats for grain	2,854,000	95	2,711,000	Oats for grain	103,000	102	105,000
Barley	3,041,000	106	3,223,000	Barley	32,100	99	31,800
Fall rye	186,000	92	171,000	Fall rye <u>8/</u>	2,400	102	2,400
Spring rye	98,200	96	94,300	Mixed grains	2,300	98	2,300
All rye	284,200	93	265,300	Flaxseed	6,700	100	6,700
Mixed grains	81,000	94	76,100	Potatoes	9,800	108	10,600
Flaxseed	135,000	110	148,000				
Potatoes	17,700	95	16,800				
Summerfallow <u>9/</u>	6,051,000	99	5,990,000				

*Excluding Newfoundland, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

- 1/ Provincial acreages of individual crops have been rounded from the 1951 Census of Agriculture. All-Canada acreages, except where otherwise specified, are the totals of provincial rounded acreages.
- 2/ Ontario only; seeded in the fall of the preceding year.
- 3/ In provinces other than Ontario includes relatively small proportions of winter wheat for which annual estimates are not available separately.
- 4/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia includes relatively small proportions of spring rye for which annual estimates are not available separately.
- 5/ Excludes relatively small acreages in the Maritime Provinces.
- 6/ Prairie Provinces only; estimates for both years based on surveys by Agriculture Division, D.B.S. as Census data not yet available.
- 7/ Includes small acreages of winter wheat for which annual estimates are not available separately.
- 8/ Includes small acreages of spring rye for which annual estimates are not available separately.
- 9/ Estimates for both years based on surveys by Agriculture Division, D.B.S. as Census data not yet available.



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Indicated Acreage Changes from 1951 in the Prairie Provinces

	Prairie Provinces	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta
	- acres -			
Wheat	+ 446,000	- 23,000	+ 469,000	-
Oats for grain ...	- 421,000	- 49,000	- 229,000	- 143,000
Barley	+ 96,000	+ 61,000	- 147,000	+ 182,000
Rye	- 128,500	- 3,800	- 106,000	- 18,700
Flaxseed	- 45,000	- 52,000	- 6,000	+ 13,000
Summerfallow	+ 83,000	+ 144,000	-	- 61,000

Progress of Spring Seeding The percentages of intended acreages seeded to wheat, oats and barley in Ontario and Western Canada by April 30, 1952 were as follows, with comparative figures for the same date last year within brackets: Spring wheat - Ontario 30 (-); Manitoba 68 (3); Saskatchewan 27 (-); Alberta 16 (3); Prairie Provinces 28 (1); British Columbia 23 (21). Oats - Ontario 54 (3); Manitoba 26 (-); Saskatchewan 11 (-); Alberta 8 (2); Prairie Provinces 14 (1); British Columbia 19 (26). Barley - Ontario 46 (1); Manitoba 26 (1); Saskatchewan 10 (-); Alberta 6 (3); Prairie Provinces 13 (1); British Columbia 12 (12).