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INTENDED ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS IN CANADA,* 1954

On the basis of their intentions at April 30, Canadian farmers plan to reduce their 1954 seeded acreages of wheat, rye, and potatoes from the 1953 levels. Offsetting these intended decreases are increases in oats, mixed grains and flaxseed. Barley acreage is expected to remain virtually unchanged while an increase of nearly 3 per cent over 1953 is anticipated in the area to be summerfallowed in the Prairie Provinces.

The combined acreage of spring and winter wheat in Canada for harvest in 1954 is placed at 24.6 million acres, a reduction of over 900,000 acres or 3.5 per cent from 1953. Rye shows the greatest percentage decrease from last year, with the combined acreage of fall and spring seedings at 0.9 million acres being less than 60 per cent of the 1953 seeded acreage of 1.5 million. Anticipated plantings of potatoes of some 300,000 acres represent 93 per cent of last year's acreage. However, the indicated acreage of oats for grain, at 10.7 million acres, is some 9 per cent greater than last year's 9.8 million while intended seedings of flaxseed, at 1.5 million acres, exceed by nearly 53 per cent last year's acreage of less than a million. Mixed grain seedings are also expected to approximate 1.5 million acres, about 2 per cent greater than a year ago.

Basic data for the estimates of intended acreages in 1954, winterkilling and condition of fall-sown crops and tame hay, and progress of spring seeding as presented in this report were obtained from the annual April 30 survey of the Bureau's crop correspondents conducted in co-operation with provincial departments. It must be emphasized that intended acreages are merely indicative of farmers' plans at the end of April, and that acreages actually seeded, therefore, may vary considerably from the intentions figures, depending upon conditions affecting seeding subsequent to April 30. In view of the negligible proportion of seeding completed by April 30 this year and the adverse seeding conditions existing throughout most of the country during the early part of May, fairly substantial changes from original acreage intentions may occur. A preliminary estimate of the area sown to field crops in 1954, based on the Bureau's annual June 1 survey, is scheduled for release on July 28.

Wheat

The indicated acreage in Canada for all wheat (spring and winter) for harvest in 1954 is placed at 24.6 million acres, a decrease of 3.5 per cent from the 1953 area. Intended spring wheat acreages in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are down 7, 2 and 6 per cent, respectively, from last year and these provinces account for most of the decline in wheat acreage. Ontario's wheat acreage is placed at 711,500 acres (all but 30,500 of which is winter wheat), a decrease of 7 per cent from 1953. The relatively small amount of winter wheat grown in provinces other than Ontario is included with spring wheat for the purpose of these estimates.

*Excluding Newfoundland for which these estimates are not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

Oats for Grain, Barley and Mixed Grains Indicated increases in the 1954 acreages of oats and mixed grains, and practically no change in barley, will result in a net increase of nearly 900,000 acres in the total area seeded to the major feed grains in Canada this year. The area intended for oats for grain, at 10.7 million acres, is up nearly 9 per cent from last year, the major increases occurring in the Prairie Provinces. However, all other provinces with the exception of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and British Columbia also show some increase in expected oat seedings. The prospective barley acreage for all Canada, at 8.9 million acres, is almost unchanged from a year ago with anticipated increases in Manitoba, Quebec and British Columbia being offset by decreases in all other provinces with the exception of Saskatchewan where no change is expected.

Rye The area intended for spring rye in 1954 is placed at 201,100 acres, some 57 per cent below last year's level of 463,000 acres. The indicated seeded acreage of fall rye for harvest in 1954, at 674,800 acres, is nearly 35 per cent below the 1,031,200 acres for harvest in 1953. The indicated combined area of fall rye and spring rye, at 875,900, is some 41 per cent below the 1953 level of just under 1.5 million acres.

Flaxseed Substantial increases in the area seeded to flaxseed in 1954 are indicated for all flax-producing provinces except Ontario. Most of the gain is attributed to expected increases in the Prairie Provinces. This year's intended flaxseed acreage is placed at nearly 1.5 million acres, almost 53 per cent above last season's 972,000 acres.

Potatoes Decreases in potato plantings ranging from one per cent in Manitoba to 12 per cent in Prince Edward Island are indicated for all provinces except Alberta and British Columbia where small increases are expected. The all-Canada prospective potato acreage, at 300,200 acres, is some 6.5 per cent below the 1953 level of 321,100 acres.

Summary of Acreages For all Canada, the intended acreages for 1954 as reported at April 30, are as follows, with the 1953 acreages within brackets: Spring wheat 23,906,100 (24,780,600); oats for grain, 10,696,500 (9,830,000); barley, 8,900,000 (8,911,100); spring rye, 201,100 (463,000); mixed grains, 1,479,200 (1,445,400); flaxseed, 1,483,800 (972,000); potatoes, 300,200 (321,100).

Corresponding figures for the Prairie Provinces are as follows: Three Provinces - Spring wheat, 23,791,000 (24,648,000); oats for grain, 7,318,000 (6,490,000); barley, 8,577,000 (8,599,000); spring rye, 201,100 (463,000); flaxseed, 1,444,000 (926,000); summerfallow, 23,354,000 (22,764,000). Manitoba - Spring wheat, 2,053,000 (2,208,000); oats for grain, 1,553,000 (1,412,000); barley, 2,483,000 (2,365,000); spring rye, 6,900 (15,000); flaxseed, 601,000 (420,000); summerfallow, 2,674,000 (2,845,000). Saskatchewan - Spring wheat, 15,778,000 (16,100,000); oats for grain, 3,102,000 (2,721,000); barley, 2,745,000 (2,745,000); spring rye, 152,000 (316,000); flaxseed, 581,000 (342,000); summerfallow, 13,922,000 (13,544,000). Alberta - Spring wheat, 5,960,000 (6,340,000); oats for grain, 2,663,000 (2,357,000); barley, 3,349,000 (3,489,000); spring rye, 42,200 (132,000); flaxseed, 262,000 (164,000); summerfallow, 6,758,000 (6,375,000).

Intended Acreages of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow at April 30, 1954
as Compared with Acreages in 1953

| Province and Crop | Area 1953 | Intentions | |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | % of 1953 | Area 1954 |
| | acres | | acres |
| <u>CANADA</u> | | | |
| Winter wheat 1/ | 732,000 | 93.0 | 681,000 |
| Spring wheat 2/ | 24,780,600 | 96.5 | 23,906,100 |
| All wheat | 25,512,600 | 96.4 | 24,587,100 |
| Oats for grain | 9,830,000 | 108.8 | 10,696,500 |
| Barley | 8,911,100 | 99.9 | 8,900,000 |
| Fall rye 3/ | 1,031,200 | 65.4 | 674,800 |
| Spring rye | 463,000 | 43.4 | 201,100 |
| All rye | 1,494,200 | 58.6 | 875,900 |
| Mixed grains | 1,445,400 | 102.3 | 1,479,200 |
| Flaxseed | 972,000 | 152.7 | 1,483,800 |
| Potatoes | 321,100 | 93.5 | 300,200 |
| Summerfallow 4/ | 22,764,000 | 102.6 | 23,354,000 |
| <u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 2,900 | 97 | 2,800 |
| Oats for grain | 106,200 | 100 | 106,200 |
| Barley | 4,800 | 96 | 4,600 |
| Mixed grains | 70,200 | 101 | 70,900 |
| Potatoes | 39,000 | 88 | 34,300 |
| <u>NOVA SCOTIA</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 1,000 | 126 | 1,300 |
| Oats for grain | 55,800 | 99 | 55,200 |
| Barley | 3,000 | 93 | 2,800 |
| Mixed grains | 9,400 | 100 | 9,400 |
| Potatoes | 12,400 | 90 | 11,200 |
| <u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 2,700 | 101 | 2,700 |
| Oats for grain | 152,000 | 102 | 155,000 |
| Barley | 8,900 | 98 | 8,700 |
| Mixed grains | 7,200 | 101 | 7,300 |
| Potatoes | 48,400 | 90 | 43,600 |

1/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; Ontario only.

2/ Includes relatively small acreages of winter wheat in all provinces other than Ontario.

3/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; includes small acreages of spring rye in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

4/ Prairie Provinces only.

Intended Acreages of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow at April 30, 1954
as Compared with Acreages in 1953

| Province and Crop | Area 1953 | Intentions | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | % of 1953 | Area 1954 |
| | acres | | acres |
| <u>QUEBEC</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 11,100 | 100 | 11,100 |
| Oats for grain | 1,380,000 | 102 | 1,408,000 |
| Barley | 56,500 | 102 | 57,600 |
| Fall rye | 2,700 | 108 | 2,900 |
| Mixed grains | 202,000 | 104 | 210,000 |
| Potatoes | 100,000 | 93 | 93,000 |
| <u>ONTARIO</u> | | | |
| Winter wheat | 732,000 | 93 | 681,000 |
| Spring wheat | 33,500 | 91 | 30,500 |
| All wheat | 765,500 | 93 | 711,500 |
| Oats for grain | 1,548,000 | 101 | 1,563,000 |
| Barley | 171,000 | 94 | 161,000 |
| Fall rye | 75,000 | 90 | 67,500 |
| Mixed grains | 1,017,000 | 101 | 1,027,000 |
| Flaxseed | 41,000 | 83 | 34,000 |
| Potatoes | 63,000 | 95 | 59,800 |
| <u>MANITOBA</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 2,208,000 | 93 | 2,053,000 |
| Oats for grain | 1,412,000 | 110 | 1,553,000 |
| Barley | 2,365,000 | 105 | 2,483,000 |
| Fall rye | 120,000 | 75 | 90,000 |
| Spring rye | 15,000 | 46 | 6,900 |
| All rye | 135,000 | 72 | 96,900 |
| Mixed grains | 33,300 | 133 | 44,300 |
| Flaxseed | 420,000 | 143 | 601,000 |
| Potatoes | 18,800 | 99 | 18,600 |
| Summerfallow | 2,845,000 | 94 | 2,674,000 |
| <u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 16,100,000 | 98 | 15,778,000 |
| Oats for grain | 2,721,000 | 114 | 3,102,000 |
| Barley | 2,745,000 | 100 | 2,745,000 |
| Fall rye | 500,000 | 60 | 300,000 |
| Spring rye | 316,000 | 48 | 152,000 |
| All rye | 816,000 | 55 | 452,000 |
| Mixed grains | 22,800 | 110 | 25,100 |
| Flaxseed | 342,000 | 170 | 581,000 |
| Potatoes | 12,800 | 96 | 12,300 |
| Summerfallow | 13,544,000 | 103 | 13,922,000 |

Intended Acreages of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow at April 30, 1954
as Compared with Acreages in 1953

| Province and Crop | Area 1953 | Intentions | |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | | % of 1953 | Area 1954 |
| | acres | | acres |
| <u>ALBERTA</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 6,340,000 | 94 | 5,960,000 |
| Oats for grain | 2,357,000 | 113 | 2,663,000 |
| Barley | 3,489,000 | 96 | 3,349,000 |
| Fall rye | 328,000 | 64 | 210,000 |
| Spring rye | 132,000 | 32 | 42,200 |
| All rye | 460,000 | 55 | 252,200 |
| Mixed grains | 80,600 | 102 | 82,200 |
| Flaxseed | 164,000 | 160 | 262,000 |
| Potatoes | 15,400 | 101 | 15,600 |
| Summerfallow | 6,375,000 | 106 | 6,758,000 |
| <u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u> | | | |
| Spring wheat | 81,400 | 82 | 66,700 |
| Oats for grain | 98,000 | 93 | 91,100 |
| Barley | 67,900 | 130 | 88,300 |
| Fall rye | 5,500 | 80 | 4,400 |
| Mixed grains | 2,900 | 104 | 3,000 |
| Flaxseed | 5,000 | 115 | 5,800 |
| Potatoes | 11,300 | 104 | 11,800 |

Indicated Acreage Changes from 1953 in the Prairie Provinces

| Crop | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | Prairie Provinces |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|
| | | - acres - | | |
| Wheat | - 155,000 | - 322,000 | - 380,000 | - 857,000 |
| Oats for grain | + 141,000 | + 381,000 | + 306,000 | + 828,000 |
| Barley | + 118,000 | - | - 140,000 | - 22,000 |
| Rye | - 38,100 | - 364,000 | - 207,800 | - 609,900 |
| Flaxseed | + 181,000 | + 239,000 | + 98,000 | + 518,000 |
| Summerfallow | - 171,000 | + 378,000 | + 383,000 | + 590,000 |

Winterkilling of In Ontario, where most of Canada's winter wheat is grown, it
Winter Wheat, Fall is estimated that 4 per cent of the area seeded in the fall of
Rye and Tame Hay 1953 was winterkilled, compared with an estimated 6 per cent of
the area seeded in the fall of 1952. Winterkilling of fall-
sown rye by provinces, with the previous year's figures in brackets, is estimated as
follows: Quebec, 5 (3); Ontario, 2 (3); Manitoba, 6 (4); Saskatchewan 8 (4);
Alberta 7 (4); and British Columbia 6 (2).

During the winter of 1953-54 the following percentages of tame hay
acreages are estimated to have been winterkilled, with the corresponding figures for
the previous winter in brackets: Canada 5 (5); Prince Edward Island 9 (7); Nova
Scotia 6 (4); New Brunswick 7 (10); Quebec 5 (4); Ontario 4 (6); Manitoba 3 (3);
Saskatchewan 2 (2); Alberta 4 (2); and British Columbia 8 (3).

Condition of Winter This year, as in 1953, correspondents were asked to report the
Wheat, Fall Rye condition of winter wheat, fall rye and tame hay in their
and Tame Hay neighbourhood at the end of April as being below average,
average or above average for that time of year. In Ontario,
the major winter wheat producing area, 9 per cent of the correspondents reporting on



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the condition of winter wheat at the end of April this year indicated that the condition was below average, while 55 per cent reported average and 36 per cent above-average conditions. Comparable percentages for April 30, 1953 were 9, 63 and 28, respectively.

Percentages of correspondents reporting the condition of tame hay and fall rye in each of the three condition categories as at April 30, 1954 are set out in the accompanying table together with comparable figures for April 30, 1953. In six provinces, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, a larger proportion of correspondents reported below average conditions for tame hay at April 30, 1954 than a year earlier. Conditions were more favourable in Ontario and New Brunswick. A large proportion of correspondents relative to 1953 also reported below-average April 30 conditions for fall rye in the western provinces. It is noted, however, that in many areas the late, cold spring had delayed the usual development of hay and fall-seeded crops by April 30 and that, given favourable weather, these crops may well recover their normal seasonal condition.

Percentages of Correspondents Reporting Condition of Tame Hay and Fall Rye as Above Average, Average and Below Average at April 30, 1953 and 1954

| Province | Tame Hay | | | | | | Fall Rye | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------|---------|------|---------------|------|---------------|------|---------|------|---------------|------|
| | Above Average | | Average | | Below Average | | Above Average | | Average | | Below Average | |
| | 1953 | 1954 | 1953 | 1954 | 1953 | 1954 | 1953 | 1954 | 1953 | 1954 | 1953 | 1954 |
| P.E.I. ... | 21 | 10 | 71 | 75 | 8 | 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| N.S. | 45 | 14 | 53 | 58 | 2 | 28 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| N.B. | 9 | 13 | 61 | 74 | 30 | 13 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Que. | 21 | * | 64 | * | 15 | * | 28 | * | 60 | * | 12 | * |
| Ont. | 19 | 34 | 66 | 58 | 15 | 8 | 21 | 29 | 68 | 63 | 11 | 8 |
| Man. | 1 | 4 | 49 | 41 | 50 | 55 | 5 | 3 | 63 | 46 | 32 | 51 |
| Sask. | 4 | 4 | 68 | 43 | 28 | 53 | 8 | 4 | 72 | 48 | 20 | 48 |
| Alta. | 6 | 2 | 68 | 36 | 26 | 62 | 16 | 4 | 59 | 40 | 25 | 56 |
| B.C. | 30 | 4 | 59 | 22 | 11 | 74 | 18 | 0 | 73 | 30 | 9 | 70 |

*Data not available for Quebec.

Progress of Seeding Practically no progress had been made with seeding operations by April 30 this year. Minor exceptions were some southern districts where field work was just getting under way. Seeding was behind last year for all crops in all five provinces reported upon with the exception of wheat in British Columbia for which crop seeding was 9 per cent completed by April 30 as against 6 per cent for the same date last year.

Estimated Percentages of Total Intended Acreages of Spring Wheat, Oats and Barley, Ontario and Western Canada, Seeded by April 30, 1952 - 1954

| Province | Spring Wheat | | | Oats | | | Barley | | |
|---------------------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|------|------|
| | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 |
| Ontario | 30 | 11 | 2 | 54 | 29 | 6 | 46 | 27 | 3 |
| Manitoba | 68 | 21 | 4 | 26 | 5 | * | 26 | 6 | * |
| Saskatchewan | 27 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 1 | * | 10 | 2 | * |
| Alberta | 16 | * | * | 8 | * | * | 6 | * | * |
| British Columbia .. | 23 | 6 | 9 | 19 | 13 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 5 |

*Less than 1 per cent.