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# 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. 2.

### INTENDED ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS IN CANADA(1) - 1970

The intended acreage of principal field crops is based on conditions reported as of March 1, each year. The questionnaires were mailed to crop correspondents on February 20 in order to place them in the hands of the farmers concerned by or slightly before the first of March. On February 27 the Federal Government's Wheat Inventory Reduction Programme was announced. This is of course a very important determinant in Prairie farmers' plans for the 1970 season. Some questionnaires had been returned prior to the announcement of the plan while the bulk were received the following week. No attempt has been made to separate the questionnaires completed prior to the announcement as it is very difficult to know whether those received after the programme had been made public, were in fact completed before or after the respondent knew of this development.

Accordingly, actual plantings this season may be significantly different from intentions as of March 1. In addition to the situation outlined above factors such as availability of good quality seed, weather conditions at seeding time and the possible effect of this report itself on farmers' plans may contribute to changes in acreages currently indicated. An estimate of the area actually sown to field crops in 1970 based on the DBS annual June survey is scheduled for release on July 15 for the Prairie Provinces and July 31 for all Canada.

Canadian farmers intend to plant 18.5 million acres to all classes of wheat in 1970 according to plans as of March 1. This area is 26 per cent less than the 25.0 million acres seeded in 1969, and 37 per cent less than the 29.4 million acres seeded in 1968. It is anticipated that the oats acreage will total 9.4 million an increase of 6 per cent. The area seeded to barley is expected to increase by 5 per cent to total 10.0 million acres compared with 9.5 million in 1969. Mixed grain acreage may total 2.0 million 14 per cent more than the previous year and the corn for grain acreage forecast at 1.0 million acres is 7 per cent larger than in 1969. The combined fall and spring rye area of 1,000,600 acres indicates an 8 per cent increase over last year's all rye acreage of 927,300.

(1) Includes acreages intended for summerfallow in 1970 in the Prairie Provinces.  
Note: Data for Newfoundland not available.

Agriculture Division  
Crops Section

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The area intended for rapeseed in 1970 at 3,785,000 acres is 88 per cent above the 2,012,000 acres seeded in 1969. Flaxseed acreage is expected to increase by 55 per cent to 3.8 million acres compared with the 2.4 million acres sown last year and may result in the largest acreage in recent years. Acreage planned for soybeans at 335,000 acres is 4 per cent higher than the 322,000 acres seeded in 1969.

Potato acreage forecast at 307,200 acres is slightly higher than the 306,300 grown in 1969.

Summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces is expected to increase by 5 per cent to 30.3 million acres, compared with 28.8 million in 1969.

In the Prairie Provinces information pertaining to farmers' intentions to use commercial fertilizers has been collected with the survey. The 1970 survey results indicate that farmers in these provinces intend to use an estimated 30 per cent less fertilizer than was used in 1969. The 1970 percent change by province is as follows: Manitoba down 17 per cent; Saskatchewan down 47 per cent and Alberta down 28 per cent.

Wheat. — On the basis of farmers' intentions at March 1 the acreage seeded to all classes of wheat will be 18.5 million acres, a decrease of 26 per cent from the 1969 seedings and 10.9 million acres or 37 per cent below the 1964-1968 average. In Manitoba the decrease in acreage may be 26 per cent, in Saskatchewan down 25 per cent and in Alberta down 31 per cent.

Prospective plantings of spring wheat including durum, of 18.2 million acres are down 26 per cent from the 1969 acreage and 38 per cent below 1964-68 average. Durum wheat acreage is expected to increase by 37 per cent and if the acreage intentions are carried out, Prairie farmers will plant 4,309,000 acres to this crop compared with 3,154,000 grown in 1969 and the 1964-68 average of 1,461,600 acres. Spring wheat acreage excluding durum may total 13.8 million in 1970 compared with 21.5 million planted in 1969 and the 1964-68 average of 27.6 million. The 372,000 acres seeded to winter wheat in Ontario last fall was 9 per cent smaller than the 410,000 acres seeded in the fall of the previous year. The area harvested in 1969 was estimated at 360,000 acres.

Feed grains. — The intended acreage of oats at 9.4 million acres, is 6 per cent above that of last year and 5 per cent above the 1964-68 average. It should be noted that the estimates for the Prairie Provinces include acreage to be seeded to oats for all purposes, not just oats for grain. The acreage which will be harvested for grain in the Prairie Provinces cannot be determined at this time as it depends on such factors as growing conditions and alternate supplies of fodder and pasture. In Manitoba during the 1960-69 period the percentage of oats harvested for grain has varied from 70 per cent in 1961 to 95 per cent in 1967 with an average of 89 per cent. In Saskatchewan only 48 per cent of the oats was harvested as grain in the drought season of 1961 compared with a high of 85 per cent in 1963 and an average of 78 per cent. In Alberta, the range was between 71 per cent in 1964 and 83 per cent in 1965 with an average of 78 per cent harvested for grain. Prospective barley acreage is placed at 10.0 million acres, up 5 per cent from a year earlier and 39 per cent larger than the 1964-68 average. This year's expected barley acreage represents the sixth consecutive increase. Mixed grains acreage intentions of 2.0 million acres is 14 per cent above last year and 20 per cent above the 1964-68 average. Corn for grain, grown mainly in Ontario but including increased commercial acreages in Quebec and Manitoba, may be sown on 1,046,600 acres, some 7 per cent above last year's 978,000 acres.



Rye. — The area intended for spring rye in 1970, placed at 135,600 acres, is 28 per cent above last year's level. With the acreage seeded to fall rye last autumn being 865,000 acres up 5 per cent from the previous year, the combined acreage of fall and spring rye is placed at 1,000,600 acres, up 8 per cent from last season and 40 per cent above the 1964-68 average.

Oil Seeds. — Prospective flaxseed acreage at 3.8 million acres this year is 55 per cent above that of 1969 and 115 per cent larger than the 1964-68 average of 1.8 million acres. The bulk of the flaxseed is planted in the Prairie Provinces. In Manitoba the intended increase is 14 per cent, in Saskatchewan 112 per cent and in Alberta 59 per cent. The acreage sown to rapeseed, grown in the Prairie Provinces, will show an increase if intentions are confirmed. Indicated planting of 3,785,000 acres in 1970 is 88 per cent above 1969 and 195 per cent higher than the 1964-68 average of 1,284,600 acres. Increases in rapeseed acreage compared with last year of 99, 88, and 86 per cent are indicated for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta respectively. Intended soybean acreage of 335,000 acres all of which is grown in Ontario is 4 per cent above the 1969 acreage of 322,000.

Potatoes. — The potato acreage in Canada is expected to total 307,200 acres slightly above the 1969 total and 3 per cent above the 1964-68 average of 299,700 acres. By provinces the anticipated changes are as follows: Prince Edward Island — 4 per cent; Nova Scotia unchanged; New Brunswick — 2 per cent; Quebec — 6 per cent; Ontario — 3 per cent; Manitoba + 21 per cent; Saskatchewan — 3 per cent; Alberta + 11 per cent and British Columbia + 6 per cent.

Summerfallow. — The acreage intended for summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces in 1970 is 30.3 million, 5 per cent more than the 28.8 million summerfallowed in 1969 and 15 per cent above the 1964-68 average of 26.2 million acres.

Summary of acreages intended for principal crops and summerfallow. - The intended acreages for 1970 as reported at March 1, with 1969 acreages in brackets, are as follows:

All Canada. - Spring wheat, 18,155,300 (24,607,700) oats for grain, 9,391,000 (8,825,000) barley, 10,046,200 (9,535,100) spring rye(1) 135,600 (106,000) flaxseed, 3,774,200 (2,440,700) mixed grains, 1,985,500 (1,740,300) corn for grain, 1,046,600 (978,000) soybeans, 335,000 (322,000) potatoes, 307,200 (306,300) rapeseed(1), 3,785,000 (2,012,000) summerfallow(1), 30,260,000 (28,800,000).

Corresponding figures for those crops produced in the Priarie Provinces are as follows:

*all crops*  
Prairie Provinces. - All spring wheat (including durum) 18,000,000 (24,400,000) durum wheat, 4,309,000 (3,154,000) oats, 7,370,000 (6,800,000) barley 9,490,000 (9,000,000) spring rye, 135,600 (106,000) flaxseed, 3,755,000 (2,420,000) mixed grains 913,000 (705,000) rapeseed, 3,785,000 (2,012,000) corn for grain(2) 3,000 (3,000) potatoes, 72,000 (63,200) summerfallow, 30,260,000 (28,800,000).

*all crops*  
Manitoba. - All spring wheat (including durum) 1,860,000 (2,500,000) durum wheat, 224,000 (170,000) oats, 1,610,000 (1,700,000) barley, 1,270,000 (1,200,000) spring rye, 3,600 (3,000) flaxseed, 1,250,000 (1,100,000) mixed grains, 248,000 (190,000) rapeseed, 390,000 (196,000) corn for grain, 3,000 (3,000) potatoes, 35,000 (29,000) summerfallow, 3,330,000 (3,200,000).

*all crops*  
Saskatchewan. - All spring wheat (including durum), 12,500,000 (16,600,000) durum wheat, 3,600,000 (2,600,000) oats, 2,960,000 (2,500,000) barley, 3,250,000 (2,700,000) spring rye, 72,000 (56,000) flaxseed, 1,630,000 (770,000) mixed grains, 239,000 (135,000) rapeseed, 1,875,000 (1,000,000) potatoes, 7,000 (7,200) summer-fallow 19,100,000 (18,200,000).

*all crops*  
Alberta. - All spring wheat (including durum) 3,640,000 (5,300,000) durum wheat, 485,000 (384,000) oats, 2,800,000 (2,600,000) barley, 4,970,000 (5,100,000) spring rye, 60,000 (47,000) flaxseed, 875,000 (550,000) mixed grains, 426,000 (380,000) rapeseed, 1,520,000 (816,000) potatoes, 30,000 (27,000) summerfallow, 7,830,000 (7,400,000).

(1) Prairie Provinces only.

(2) Manitoba only.

Intended Acreages of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow, Canada,  
as at March 1, 1970 Compared with Estimated Acreages, 1967-69

| Province<br>and Crop        | Seeded Area(1) |            |            | Intended Area, 1970  |     |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|------------|----------------------|-----|
|                             | 1967           | 1968       | 1969       | Area as % of 1969    |     |
|                             |                | - acres -  |            | - acres - per cent   |     |
| <u>CANADA</u>               |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Winter wheat(2)             | 400,000        | 355,000    | 360,000    | 372,000 <sup>r</sup> | 103 |
| Spring wheat(3)             | 29,720,800     | 29,067,500 | 24,607,700 | 18,155,300           | 74  |
| All wheat                   | 30,120,800     | 29,422,500 | 24,967,700 | 18,527,300           | 74  |
| Oats for grain(4)           | 8,376,100      | 8,815,900  | 8,825,000  | 9,391,000            | 106 |
| Barley                      | 8,115,000      | 8,836,500  | 9,535,100  | 10,046,200           | 105 |
| Fall rye(5)                 | 601,000        | 590,600    | 821,300    | 865,000              | 105 |
| Spring rye                  | 84,300         | 88,000     | 106,000    | 135,600              | 128 |
| All rye                     | 685,300        | 678,600    | 927,300    | 1,000,600            | 108 |
| Flaxseed                    | 1,023,400      | 1,524,400  | 2,440,700  | 3,774,200            | 155 |
| Mixed grains                | 1,668,200      | 1,667,000  | 1,740,300  | 1,985,500            | 114 |
| Corn for grain(6)           | 875,500        | 957,500    | 978,000    | 1,046,600            | 107 |
| Soybeans(7)                 | 290,000        | 295,000    | 322,000    | 335,000              | 104 |
| Potatoes                    | 303,800        | 303,300    | 306,300    | 307,200              | 100 |
| Rapeseed(8)                 | 1,620,000      | 1,052,000  | 2,012,000  | 3,785,000            | 188 |
| Summerfallow(8)             | 25,950,000     | 26,660,000 | 28,800,000 | 30,260,000           | 105 |
| <u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u> |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Spring wheat                | 1,600          | 2,000      | 2,500      | 2,700                | 108 |
| Oats for grain              | 80,000         | 78,000     | 71,000     | 68,000               | 96  |
| Barley                      | 18,000         | 16,000     | 20,000     | 21,000               | 105 |
| Mixed grains                | 50,000         | 53,000     | 60,000     | 58,000               | 97  |
| Potatoes                    | 51,000         | 53,000     | 53,000     | 51,000               | 96  |
| <u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>          |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Spring wheat                | 2,000          | 2,000      | 3,200      | 3,200                | 100 |
| Oats for grain              | 24,000         | 25,000     | 24,000     | 23,000               | 96  |
| Barley                      | 6,000          | 5,000      | 6,500      | 7,000                | 108 |
| Mixed grains                | 13,000         | 12,700     | 12,500     | 12,100               | 97  |
| Potatoes                    | 5,000          | 5,100      | 4,400      | 4,400                | 100 |
| <u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>        |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Spring wheat                | 4,100          | 4,500      | 3,700      | 3,700                | 100 |
| Oats for grain              | 74,000         | 67,000     | 69,000     | 67,000               | 97  |
| Barley                      | 9,000          | 7,500      | 10,000     | 9,000                | 90  |
| Mixed grains                | 8,000          | 7,800      | 8,500      | 8,900                | 105 |
| Potatoes                    | 62,000         | 61,000     | 62,000     | 61,000               | 98  |
| <u>QUEBEC</u>               |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Spring wheat                | 29,100         | 30,000     | 29,000     | 28,700               | 99  |
| Oats for grain              | 1,018,000      | 984,000    | 975,000    | 956,000              | 98  |
| Barley                      | 17,000         | 18,000     | 23,600     | 22,200               | 94  |
| Fall rye                    | 4,900          | 4,200      | 4,500      | 3,800                | 84  |
| Flaxseed                    | 17,000         | 15,600     | 16,800     | 15,500               | 92  |
| Mixed grains                | 110,000        | 87,800     | 93,800     | 90,000               | 96  |
| Corn for grain              | 20,000         | 30,000     | 45,000     | 48,600               | 108 |
| Potatoes                    | 71,000         | 70,000     | 68,000     | 63,900               | 94  |

For footnotes see page 7.



Intended Acreages of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow, Canada,  
as at March 1, 1970 Compared with Estimated Acreages, 1967-69

| Province<br>and Crop | Seeded Area(1) |            |            | Intended Area, 1970  |     |
|----------------------|----------------|------------|------------|----------------------|-----|
|                      | 1967           | 1968       | 1969       | Area as % of 1969    |     |
|                      | - acres -      |            |            | - acres - per cent   |     |
| <u>ONTARIO</u>       |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Winter wheat(2)      | 400,000        | 355,000    | 360,000    | 372,000 <sup>r</sup> | 103 |
| Spring wheat         | 13,000         | 11,000     | 9,300      | 8,000                | 86  |
| All wheat            | 413,000        | 366,000    | 369,300    | 380,000              | 103 |
| Oats for grain       | 1,083,000      | 984,000    | 810,000    | 834,000              | 103 |
| Barley               | 285,000        | 300,000    | 315,000    | 337,000              | 107 |
| Fall rye             | 49,000         | 52,000     | 60,000     | 57,600               | 96  |
| Flaxseed             | 7,000          | 6,000      | 3,000      | 2,700                | 90  |
| Mixed grains         | 815,000        | 825,000    | 855,000    | 898,000              | 105 |
| Corn for grain       | 850,000        | 925,000    | 930,000    | 995,000              | 107 |
| Soybeans             | 290,000        | 295,000    | 322,000    | 335,000              | 104 |
| Potatoes             | 48,000         | 45,000     | 45,500     | 44,100               | 97  |
| <u>MANITOBA</u>      |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Spring wheat         | 3,520,000      | 3,400,000  | 2,500,000  | 1,860,000            | 74  |
| Oats(4)              | 1,690,000      | 1,750,000  | 1,700,000  | 1,610,000            | 95  |
| Barley               | 970,000        | 1,170,000  | 1,200,000  | 1,270,000            | 106 |
| Fall rye             | 140,000        | 119,000    | 180,000    | 189,000              | 105 |
| Spring rye           | 1,100          | 1,000      | 3,000      | 3,600                | 120 |
| All rye              | 141,100        | 120,000    | 183,000    | 192,600              | 105 |
| Flaxseed             | 660,000        | 820,000    | 1,100,000  | 1,250,000            | 114 |
| Mixed grains         | 178,000        | 178,000    | 190,000    | 248,000              | 131 |
| Corn for grain       | 5,500          | 2,500      | 3,000      | 3,000                | 100 |
| Potatoes             | 26,500         | 26,500     | 29,000     | 35,000               | 121 |
| Rapeseed             | 145,000        | 91,000     | 196,000    | 390,000              | 199 |
| Summerfallow         | 2,650,000      | 2,710,000  | 3,200,000  | 3,330,000            | 104 |
| <u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>  |                |            |            |                      |     |
| Spring wheat         | 19,670,000     | 19,000,000 | 16,600,000 | 12,500,000           | 75  |
| Oats(4)              | 1,940,000      | 2,200,000  | 2,500,000  | 2,960,000            | 118 |
| Barley               | 2,350,000      | 2,510,000  | 2,700,000  | 3,250,000            | 120 |
| Fall rye             | 269,000        | 328,000    | 440,000    | 462,000              | 105 |
| Spring rye           | 58,200         | 57,000     | 56,000     | 72,000               | 129 |
| All rye              | 327,200        | 385,000    | 496,000    | 534,000              | 108 |
| Flaxseed             | 193,000        | 397,000    | 770,000    | 1,630,000            | 212 |
| Mixed grains         | 128,000        | 138,000    | 135,000    | 239,000              | 177 |
| Potatoes             | 8,000          | 7,500      | 7,200      | 7,000                | 97  |
| Rapeseed             | 600,000        | 511,000    | 1,000,000  | 1,875,000            | 188 |
| Summerfallow         | 16,650,000     | 16,950,000 | 18,200,000 | 19,100,000           | 105 |

For footnotes see page 7.

Intended Acreages of Principal Field Crops and Summerfallow, Canada,  
as at March 1, 1970 Compared with Estimated Acreages, 1967-69

| Province<br>and Crop    | Seeded Area(1) |           |           | Intended Area, 1970 |          |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|----------|
|                         | 1967           | 1968      | 1969      | Area as % of 1969   |          |
|                         |                | - acres - |           | - acres -           | per cent |
| <u>ALBERTA</u>          |                |           |           |                     |          |
| Spring wheat            | 6,380,000      | 6,460,000 | 5,300,000 | 3,640,000           | 69       |
| Oats(4)                 | 2,400,000      | 2,650,000 | 2,600,000 | 2,800,000           | 108      |
| Barley                  | 4,280,000      | 4,650,000 | 5,100,000 | 4,970,000           | 97       |
| Fall rye                | 135,000        | 84,000    | 133,000   | 149,000             | 112      |
| Spring rye              | 25,000         | 30,000    | 47,000    | 60,000              | 128      |
| All rye                 | 160,000        | 114,000   | 180,000   | 209,000             | 116      |
| Flaxseed                | 145,000        | 285,000   | 550,000   | 875,000             | 159      |
| Mixed grains            | 361,000        | 360,000   | 380,000   | 426,000             | 112      |
| Potatoes                | 22,400         | 24,400    | 27,000    | 30,000              | 111      |
| Rapeseed                | 875,000        | 450,000   | 816,000   | 1,520,000           | 186      |
| Summerfallow            | 6,650,000      | 7,000,000 | 7,400,000 | 7,830,000           | 106      |
| <u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u> |                |           |           |                     |          |
| Spring wheat            | 101,000        | 158,000   | 160,000   | 109,000             | 68       |
| Oats for grain          | 67,100         | 77,900    | 76,000    | 73,000              | 96       |
| Barley                  | 180,000        | 160,000   | 160,000   | 160,000             | 100      |
| Fall rye                | 3,100          | 3,400     | 3,800     | 3,600               | 95       |
| Flaxseed                | 1,400          | 800       | 900       | 1,000               | 111      |
| Mixed grains            | 5,200          | 4,700     | 5,500     | 5,500               | 100      |
| Potatoes                | 9,900          | 10,800    | 10,200    | 10,800              | 106      |

(1) Except for summerfallow.

(2) Area seeded in the fall of 1969 and harvested area in prior years in Ontario only. Area seeded in 1968 was 410,000 acres.

(3) All spring wheat including durum, as well as relatively small acreages of winter wheat in all provinces other than Ontario. Durum wheat for the Prairie Provinces is shown separately on the next page.

(4) Includes oats for grain and for hay in the Prairie Provinces.

(5) Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; including small acreages of spring rye in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

(6) Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba only; small acreages are grown in other provinces.

(7) Ontario only; estimate for Manitoba not available.

(8) Prairie Provinces only.

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Intended Acreage of Durum Wheat(1) in the Prairie Provinces, as at March 1, 1970  
Compared with Estimated Acreage, 1967-69

| Province<br>and Crop | Seeded Area |           |           | Intended Area, 1970 |          |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|----------|
|                      | 1967        | 1968      | 1969      | Area as % of 1969   |          |
|                      |             | - acres - |           | - acres -           | per cent |
| Manitoba             | 62,000      | 130,000   | 170,000   | 224,000             | 132      |
| Saskatchewan         | 1,130,000   | 2,000,000 | 2,600,000 | 3,600,000           | 138      |
| Alberta              | 110,000     | 240,000   | 384,000   | 485,000             | 126      |
| Total                | 1,302,000   | 2,370,000 | 3,154,000 | 4,309,000           | 137      |

(1) Included with spring wheat in the Canada and Provincial totals.

Indicated Acreage Changes from 1969 in the Prairie Provinces

| Crop         | Manitoba  | Saskatchewan | Alberta     | Prairie<br>Provinces |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|
|              | - acres - | - acres -    | - acres -   | - acres -            |
| All wheat    | - 640,000 | - 4,100,000  | - 1,660,000 | - 6,400,000          |
| Durum wheat  | + 54,000  | + 1,000,000  | + 101,000   | + 1,155,000          |
| Oats(1)      | - 90,000  | + 460,000    | + 200,000   | + 570,000            |
| Barley       | + 70,000  | + 550,000    | - 130,000   | + 490,000            |
| All rye      | + 9,600   | + 38,000     | + 29,000    | + 76,600             |
| Flaxseed     | + 150,000 | + 860,000    | + 325,000   | + 1,335,000          |
| Mixed grains | + 58,000  | + 104,000    | + 46,000    | + 208,000            |
| Potatoes     | + 6,000   | - 200        | + 3,000     | + 8,800              |
| Rapeseed     | + 194,000 | + 875,000    | + 704,000   | + 1,773,000          |
| Summerfallow | + 130,000 | + 900,000    | + 430,000   | + 1,460,000          |

(1) Includes oats for grain and for hay.