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STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT MARCH 31, 1955

Total stocks of the five major Canadian grains in all North American positions* as at March 31, 1955 were estimated at 1,030.0 million bushels, compared with 1,280.9 million in 1954 and the record 1,353.4 million on hand in 1943. This year's March 31 stocks, in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the ten-year (1945-1954) averages, respectively, in brackets, were estimated as follows: wheat, 621.5 (740.7, 384.8); oats, 200.9 (281.2, 217.8); barley, 175.7 (227.2, 120.4); rye, 25.4 (26.0, 11.3); and flaxseed, 6.5 (5.9, 6.5). Data for these estimates were obtained from the Bureau's annual March 31 survey of grain held on farms, from mill returns, and from information supplied by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada relative to grain in commercial positions at the close of business on March 30.

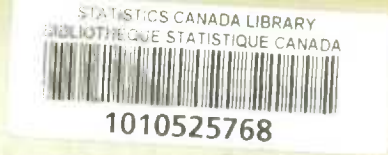
Wheat and Rye Total stocks of Canadian wheat at March 31, 1955 were estimated at 621.5 million bushels, compared with 740.7 million on the same date in 1954 and the record 762.4 million in 1943. An estimated 286.0 million bushels, representing about 46 per cent of the total, were held on farms. Of the 335.5 million bushels in off-farm positions, 199.6 million were in country elevators. Rye stocks, at 25.4 million bushels, were second only to last year's record March 31 stocks of 26.0 million.

Oats, Barley, and Flaxseed March-end stocks of oats, estimated at 200.9 million bushels, were well below last year's 281.2 million, somewhat below the ten-year average of 217.8 million and little more than half the record 393.5 million on hand in 1943. Barley stocks, at 175.7 million bushels, showed the first decrease at March 31 in five years. Although this year's stocks were 51.5 million below last year's record of 227.2 million they were well above the ten-year average of 120.4 million. Stocks of flaxseed, estimated at 6.5 million bushels, were somewhat higher than last year's 5.9 million but virtually the same as the ten-year average. The proportion of oats, barley and flaxseed stocks held on farms as at March 31 were estimated at 85, 68, and 45 per cent, respectively.

Farm Stocks Total farm-held stocks of the five major grains at March 31, 1955 were estimated at 593.0 million bushels, compared with 816.2 million in 1954 and the record 843.1 million in 1943. Farm stocks of each of the grains were lower than in 1954 but, with the exception of oats, were above the ten-year averages. This year's March 31 farm stocks of grains in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the ten-year averages, respectively, in brackets, were estimated as follows: wheat, 286.0 (382.7, 187.5); oats, 170.4 (241.4, 185.8); barley, 119.0 (169.8, 84.4); rye, 14.6 (19.5, 5.7); and flaxseed, 2.9 (3.0, 2.2).

*Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division



This year was the first time in five years that farm stocks of wheat, barley and rye at March 31 failed to show increases over those of the preceding year. March-end farm stocks of oats, however, have registered decreases for three successive years. Three-quarters of all farm-held stocks of oats and 95 per cent or more of farm stocks of each of the other four grains were located in the Prairie Provinces. Distribution of farm stocks, in millions of bushels, for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, respectively, was estimated as follows: wheat, 15.5, 172.0, and 90.0; oats, 18.0, 60.0, and 50.0; barley, 24.0, 42.0 and 48.0; rye, 0.9, 8.5, and 5.0; and flaxseed, 0.75, 1.6 and 0.5.

Stocks of Canadian Grain at March 31, 1955

The following data on stocks of Canadian grain in Canada and the United States as of March 31, 1955 have been compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada. Stocks of grain on farms are estimated from reports of the Bureau's crop correspondents while those in mill bins are estimated from monthly returns made by mill operators to the Bureau. Stocks in all other positions are those reported by the Board of Grain Commissioners as visible stocks at the close of business on March 30, 1955. It should be noted that the statistics on total stocks as presented in this report differ from the weekly visible stocks figures at March 30 by the inclusion of stocks on farms and in mill bins.

Position	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- thousand bushels -					
In Canada					
On farms	286,050	170,400	118,980	14,600	2,920
Country elevators	199,585	14,041	29,373	2,748	731
Interior private and mill elevators.	7,286	704	2,078	20	13
Interior terminal elevators	15,252	186	816	1/	19
Vancouver-New Westminster elevators.	8,243	732	1,127	-	106
Victoria elevator	622	-	1	-	-
Prince Rupert elevator	53	-	571	-	-
Churchill elevator	2,400	1/	-	-	-
Fort William-Port Arthur elevators..	41,582	9,094	18,236	5,877	1,846
Storage afloat	12,796	-	-	153	-
In transit - rail	11,569	1,033	1,540	170	462
Eastern elevators	32,632	3,453	2,216	658	389
Eastern mills (mill bins only)	3,195	291	144	5	-
Western mills (mill bins only)	229	66	55	16	-
Totals in Canada <u>2/</u>	621,496	200,000	175,136	24,247	6,485
In United States	36	911	605	1,122	-
Totals, Canadian Grain in Canada and United States, March 31, 1955 <u>2/</u> ...	621,531	200,912	175,742	25,369	6,485
<u>Comparative Stocks, March 31, 1954 <u>3/</u></u>					
In Canada	740,044	281,182	226,842	25,950	5,924
In United States	609	-	355	-	-
Totals in Canada and United States ..	740,653	281,182	227,197	25,950	5,924
1945-1954 average	384,840	217,842	120,386	11,335	6,528

1/ Less than 500 bushels. 2/ Subject to revision. 3/ Revised.