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STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT MARCH 31, 1959

Total stocks of the five major Canadian grains in all North American positions as at March 31, 1959 are estimated at 1,177.6 million bushels, compared with 1,372.9 million at the same date in 1958, the record 1,512.2 million set in 1957 and the ten-year (1949-58) average of 1,042.9 million bushels. This year's March 31 stocks, in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the ten-year (1949-58) averages respectively, in brackets, are estimated as follows: wheat, 706.8 (815.8, 589.7); oats, 244.4 (310.6, 255.4); barley, 201.3 (217.1, 170.4); rye, 11.8 (16.4, 18.5); and flaxseed, 13.3 (13.0, 8.8). Data for these estimates were obtained from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual March 31 survey of grain held on farms, from mill returns, and from information supplied by the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada relative to grain in commercial positions at the close of business on April 1.

Wheat and Rye Total stocks of Canadian wheat at March 31, 1959 are estimated at 706.8 million bushels compared with the record 904.4 million on the same date in 1957. An estimated 330.2 million bushels representing 47 per cent of the total were held on farms. Of the 376.6 million bushels in off-farm positions, 236.6 million were in country elevators. Rye stocks at 11.8 million bushels were substantially below last year's 16.4 million and the ten-year average of 18.5 million. Record stocks of rye, at 26.0 million bushels, were held in 1954. Some 66 per cent of the rye stocks was located on farms.

Oats, Barley and Flaxseed March-end stocks of oats in all positions, estimated at 244.4 million bushels, were considerably below last year's 310.6 million and the 1943 record of 393.5 million, but only slightly below the ten-year average of 255.4 million bushels. Barley stocks at 201.3 million bushels were also below the 1958 level of 217.1 million and the 1954 record stocks of 227.2 million bushels. Average barley stocks at March 31 for the 1949-58 period were 170.4 million bushels. Stocks of flaxseed, at 13.3 million bushels, were slightly above the 1958 level of 13.0 million bushels but well below the 1957 record 17.1 million. Average flaxseed stocks at March 31 for the 1949-58 period were 8.8 million bushels. Farm-held stocks accounted for 84, 71, and 62 per cent of total stocks of oats, barley and flaxseed, respectively.

Farm Stocks Total farm-held stocks (includes marketable grain plus quantities held for feed, seed and reserves) of the five major grains at March 31, 1959 are estimated at 694.2 million bushels compared with 883.4 million in 1958 and the record of 1,018.3 million in 1957. Average farm stocks for the 1949-58 period were 674.0 million bushels. 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, are estimated as follows: wheat, 330.2 (451.1, 316.6); oats, 205.4 (262.0, 221.2); barley, 142.5 (153.8, 121.9); rye, 7.8 (10.4, 10.6); and flaxseed, 8.3 (6.1, 3.8). The highest level of farm stocks at March 31, in millions of bushels, with the year of the record in brackets, was as follows: wheat, 533.0 (1957); oats, 362.1 (1943); barley, 169.8 (1954); rye, 19.5 (1954); and flaxseed, 10.0 (1957).

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

About 66 per cent of all farm-held stocks of oats and 94 per cent or more of farm stocks of each of the other four grains were located in the Prairie Provinces. Distribution of farm stocks at March 31, in millions of bushels, for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, respectively, are estimated as follows: wheat, 34.0, 210.0, 76.0; oats, 39.0, 50.0, 46.0; barley, 29.0, 58.0, 50.0; rye, 1.1, 4.2, 2.0; and flaxseed, 1.4, 4.6, 2.3.

Stocks of Canadian Grain at March 31, 1959

The following data on stocks of Canadian grain in Canada and the United States as of March 31, 1959 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 April 1, 1959. It should be noted that the statistics on total stocks as presented in this report differ from the weekly visible stocks figures at April 1 by the inclusion of stocks on farms and millable stocks in mill bins.

Position	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- thousand bushels -					
In Canada					
On farms	330,180	205,400	142,500	7,760	8,340
Country elevators	236,585	23,149	26,684	1,927	1,910
Interior private and mill elevators	8,340	677	1,891	27	77
Interior terminal elevators	13,339	56	1,228	-	<u>1/</u>
Vancouver-New Westminster elevators	9,792	1,049	4,685	25	731
Victoria elevator	432	-	18	-	85
Prince Rupert elevator	-	-	964	-	-
Churchill elevator	4,916	40	-	-	<u>1/</u>
Fort William-Port Arthur elevators.	50,099	10,574	18,598	1,727	1,526
Storage afloat	9,374	308	994	-	116
In transit - rail	12,705	535	1,605	161	469
Eastern elevators	28,602	2,463	2,109	175	4
Eastern mills (mill bins only) <u>2/</u> ..	2,344	172	4	-	-
Western mills (mill bins only) <u>2/</u> ..	131	6	1	3	-
Totals in Canada <u>3/</u>	706,840	244,429	201,282	11,805	13,257
In United States	-	-	-	-	-
Totals, Canadian Grain in Canada & United States, March 31/59 <u>3/</u>..	706,840	244,429	201,282	11,805	13,257
<u>Comparative Stocks, March 31, 1958 <u>4/</u></u>					
In Canada	815,817	310,584	216,539	16,419	12,973
In United States	-	-	587	18	-
Totals in Canada & United States .	815,817	310,584	217,125	16,437	12,973
1949-58 average	589,727	255,442	170,392	18,541	8,824

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

2/ Small quantities of grain going into ground feeds have been excluded.

3/ Subject to revision.

4/ Revised.