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FIELD CROP REPORTING SERIES - NO. 3

STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT MARCH 31, 1970

Total stocks of the five major Canadian grains included in this report in all North American positions at March 31, 1970 are estimated at a record 1,987.3 million bushels, compared with 1,548.5 million at the same date in 1969, which was the previous record and the ten-year (1960-69) average of 1,232.8 million bushels. This year's March 31 stocks, in millions of bushels, with last year's total and the ten-year (1960-69) averages, respectively, in brackets, are estimated as follows: wheat, 1,227.6 (1,024.5, 780.8); oats, 307.0 (198.5, 228.0); barley, 417.4 (301.0, 198.8); rye, 16.1 (12.6, 11.3); and flaxseed, 19.1 (11.9, 13.8). 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, 1970.

Wheat and Rye. - Total stocks of Canadian wheat at March 31, 1970 are estimated at a record 1,227.6 million bushels compared with the previous record of 1,024.5 million on the same date in 1969. It is estimated that 806.9 million bushels representing 66 per cent of the total were held on farms. Of the 420.7 million bushels in off-farm positions, 264.5 million were in country elevators. Rye stocks at 16.1 million bushels were 28 per cent more than last year's 12.6 million and 42 per cent above the ten-year average of 11.3 million. Some 67 per cent of the rye stocks this year was located on farms.

Oats, Barley and Flaxseed. - March-end stocks of oats in all positions, estimated at 307.0 million bushels, were higher than last year's 198.5 million and above the ten-year average of 228.0 million bushels. Barley stocks at a record 417.4 million bushels were above the 1969 level of 301.0 million. Average barley stocks at March 31 for the 1960-69 period were 198.8 million bushels. Stocks of flaxseed at 19.1 million bushels were larger than the 1969 level of 11.9 million bushels. Average flaxseed stocks at March 31 for the 1960-69 period were 13.8 million bushels. Farm-held stocks accounted for 92, 84 and 54 per cent of total stocks of oats, barley and flaxseed, respectively.

Farm Stocks. - Total farm-held stocks (includes marketable grain and quantities held for feed, seed and reserves) of the five major grains at March 31, 1970 are estimated at a record 1,463.7 million bushels compared with the previous record reached last year of 1,043.0 million bushels. Average farm stocks for the 1960-69 period were 771.0 million bushels. This year's March 31 farm stocks of grain in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the ten-year averages, respectively in brackets, are estimated as follows: wheat, 806.9 (618.0, 419.2); oats, 283.1 (170.0, 196.6); barley, 352.5 (239.8, 142.0); rye, 10.8 (10.0, 6.7); and flaxseed, 10.4 (5.2, 6.5).

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

Agriculture Division, Crops Section

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About 85 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, is estimated as follows: wheat, 79.0, 556.0, 165.0; oats, 65.0, 95.0, 80.0; barley, 38.0, 108.0, 185.0; rye, 2.0, 6.0, 2.5; and flaxseed, 3.0, 4.0, 3.4.

STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT MARCH 31, 1970

The following data on stocks of Canadian grain in Canada and United States as of March 31, 1970 have been compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Statistics Division 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, 1970. 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	Flax- seed
	thousand bushels				
<u>In Canada</u>					
On farms(1)	806,870	283,100	352,500	10,830	10,405
Country elevators	264,476	11,250	33,869	1,885	4,130
Interior private and mill elevators	4,301	333	73	29	82
Interior terminal elevators	12,556	8	2,212	1	85
Vancouver-New Westminster elevators	8,717	81	4,041	420	643
Victoria elevator	604	-	-	-	-
Prince Rupert elevator	1,258	1	1	-	-
Churchill elevator	4,659	35	-	-	-
Thunder Bay elevators	54,367	8,735	14,509	1,891	2,872
In transit rail	14,883	1,476	4,149	558	752
Eastern elevators	41,323	1,761	3,463	267	108
Storage afloat	10,382	75	2,625	-	-
Eastern mills (mill bins only)(2)	3,032	163	-	9	-
Western mills (mill bins only)(2)	175	5	2	11	-
Totals in Canada(3)	1,227,603	307,023	417,444	15,901	19,077
In United States	-	-	-	226	-
Totals, Canadian grain in Canada and United States, March 31, 1970(3)	1,227,603	307,023	417,444	16,127	19,077
<u>Comparative stocks, March 31, 1969^r</u>					
In Canada	1,024,467	198,547	300,993	12,429	11,935
In United States	-	-	-	125	-
Totals in Canada and United States	1,024,467	198,547	300,993	12,554	11,935
1960-69 average	780,837	228,012	198,842	11,338	13,756

(1) Due to technical difficulties it was impossible to obtain sufficient data to prepare an estimate of farm held stocks of rapeseed for this report. (2) Small quantities of grain going into ground feeds have been excluded. (3) Subject to revision. ^r Revised figures.