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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF CROP AND SUMMERFALLOW ACREAGES,* 1953

Preliminary estimates of the 1953 acreages of Canadian field crops and summerfallow indicate that with the single exception of barley, reduced areas were seeded this spring to the principal grains—wheat, oats, rye, flaxseed and mixed grains. Acreages seeded last fall, however, to winter wheat and fall rye showed substantial increases over the areas seeded in the fall of 1951 and, in the case of rye, were more than sufficient to offset the decline in spring seedings of that crop. Practically all late-seeded crops show acreage increases over 1952 and in the Prairie Provinces a substantial increase in summerfallow acreage is indicated.

As in past years, the 1953 acreage estimates are based, with some exceptions, on returns from the Bureau's annual June 1 survey of acreages of field crops. This year, due to abnormal weather conditions in the Prairie Provinces delaying seeding and causing changes in acreage plans after June 1, the Bureau conducted a special acreage survey of the principal grain crops and summerfallow in these provinces at the end of June. Preliminary results from this special supplementary survey have been incorporated in the current estimates. Any changes indicated by additional returns from the special acreage survey will be included in future crop reports. Acreage estimates for 1953, particularly in the Prairie Provinces, must be considered as preliminary only, subject not only to changes already mentioned but in these as well as in other provinces to revisions in the light of marketing and other check data which may become available later. Data on sugar beet acreage have been supplied through the courtesy of the processing companies and in most cases make allowance for acreage abandoned to date. Estimates for certain late crops have been obtained from crop correspondents and provincial officials.

Estimates of crop acreages for which the indicated area in an individual province in 1953 was below 1,000 acres have been omitted from both the 1952 and 1953 provincial and all-Canada figures. Acreage estimates thus affected are buckwheat in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, fodder corn in the three Maritime Provinces and Alberta, and field roots in British Columbia.

The acreage seeded to spring wheat this year is currently estimated at 24.8 million acres, a decrease of about two per cent from the 1952 area of 25.3 million acres. Most of the decrease from last year occurred in the Prairie Provinces, although all other provinces with the exception of Quebec and Nova Scotia, where the crop is relatively unimportant, also registered declines. The area of winter wheat in Ontario, where most of this crop is grown, is placed at 732,000 acres, an increase of 13 per cent over the 1952 total of 650,000 acres.

*Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

As a result of the continuation of the downward trend in oat acreage and upward trend in barley acreage, the difference between the areas seeded to these two major coarse grains is now estimated at less than one million acres for the first time. The barley area, estimated at 8.9 million acres, represents a new peak for the second consecutive year. Although barley acreage is down from the 1952 levels in all eastern provinces except Prince Edward Island, increases in the four western provinces, ranging from 4 per cent in Saskatchewan to 34 per cent in British Columbia, more than offset decreases elsewhere. The area seeded to oats, estimated at 9.8 million acres, is 11 per cent below last year's 11.1 million, with all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Quebec contributing to the decrease.

Decreases are also indicated for flaxseed, spring rye, mixed grains, field roots and sugar beets. The flaxseed area, estimated at slightly over 1.0 million acres, is down 14 per cent from the 1952 level of 1.2 million acres, with all flax-growing provinces sharing in the decrease. The drop in flaxseed acreage is particularly sharp in Ontario where the area is placed at 41,000 acres, only 55 per cent as great as in 1952. Manitoba, accounting for almost half of this year's flax acreage, shows a decrease of 16 per cent to an estimated area of 500,000 acres.

The area seeded to spring rye, estimated at 462,000 acres, is down 7 per cent from last year's 500,000 acres, with the decrease in Saskatchewan more than offsetting increases in Manitoba and Alberta. Sharply increased acreages seeded to fall rye last year, however, raised this crop to an estimated 1.0 million acres and resulted in an increase in the all rye acreage to 1.5 million acres this year from 1.3 million in 1952. The acreage seeded to mixed grains, placed at 1.4 million acres, is down 8 per cent from 1952, with a decrease occurring in all provinces except Alberta and British Columbia. The area in field roots and sugar beets, at 43,200 acres and some 85,000 acres, respectively, are also somewhat below the 1952 levels.

Acreages seeded to most late crops and cash crops in Eastern Canada, however, show an increase, with potatoes, corn for husking, dry peas, dry beans, soybeans, and buckwheat all above the 1952 areas. The area planted to potatoes, estimated at 320,800 acres, is 8 per cent above the revised 1952 area of 296,800 acres, all provinces except Saskatchewan and Alberta sharing in the increase. The area planted to corn for husking increased from 339,000 acres in 1952 to 362,000 this year, all of which except 15,000 acres is in Ontario. The dry pea acreage increased from 42,800 to 44,700; dry beans from 59,500 to 62,500; soybeans, grown entirely in Ontario, from 172,000 to 216,000; and buckwheat from 122,800 to 138,900. The area in tame hay, estimated at 10.7 million acres is unchanged from last year as is the area of fodder corn at some 365,000 acres. Acreages for all crops in each province and for Canada as a whole are included in Table 1.

Table 2 sets out the 1953 seeded acreages of principal grain crops and summerfallow by crop districts in the Prairie Provinces, while Table 3 summarizes the acreages in the main field crops and summerfallow for the same region. The total wheat acreage for the Prairies, estimated at 24.6 million acres is down 2 per cent from the 1952 level of 25.2 million acres, the decreases in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta amounting to 7, 2 and 1 per cent, respectively. The area seeded to oats is down from 7.6 million acres to 6.5 million acres while the barley acreage increased from 8.1 million to 8.6 million. A decrease of 12 per cent in the area seeded to flaxseed brings this year's level to just under 1.0 million acres but sharply increased rye seedings, particularly in the fall of 1952, raised the all rye area from 1.2 million to an estimated 1.4 million acres. A fairly substantial increase in summerfallow acreage, ranging from 4 per cent in Alberta to 9 per cent in Saskatchewan, raises this year's total to an estimated 22.8 million acres, 1.5 million more than in 1952.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1953

Province and Crop	1952 Area acres	Per Cent of 1952 p.c.	1953 Area acres
<u>CANADA</u>			
Winter wheat	650,000	113	732,000
Spring wheat 1/	25,345,000	98	24,780,600
All wheat	25,995,000	98	25,512,600
Oats for grain	11,062,400	89	9,830,000
Barley	8,477,400	105	8,911,100
Fall rye 2/	757,700	132	1,001,200
Spring rye	499,600	93	462,200
All rye	1,257,300	116	1,463,400
Mixed grains	1,570,100	92	1,445,400
Corn for husking	339,200	107	362,000
Buckwheat	122,800	113	138,900
Peas, dry	42,800	104	44,700
Beans, dry	59,500	105	62,500
Potatoes	296,800 3/	108	320,800
Flaxseed	1,206,500	86	1,036,000
Soybeans	172,000	126	216,000
Field roots 4/	44,600	97	43,200
Tame hay	10,679,400 3/	100	10,702,000
Fodder corn	365,400	100	364,700
Sugar beets	92,677 5/	92	85,376
Summerfallow 6/	21,245,000	107	22,764,000
<u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u>			
Spring wheat	3,700	79	2,900
Oats for grain	96,000	111	106,200
Barley	4,200	115	4,800
Mixed grains	71,200	99	70,200
Potatoes	36,000 3/	108	39,000
Field roots	7,000	95	6,600
Tame hay	199,000	96	191,000
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>			
Spring wheat	900	106	1,000
Oats for grain	56,100	99	55,800
Barley	3,700	80	3,000
Mixed grains	9,800	96	9,400
Potatoes	12,000	103	12,400
Field roots	4,300	106	4,600
Tame hay	353,000	98	345,000

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

2/ Includes small acreages of spring rye in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

3/ Revised.

4/ Excludes Prairie Provinces for which current estimates are not available.

5/ Harvested area.

6/ Prairie Provinces only.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1953
(continued)

Province and Crop	1952 Area acres	Per Cent of 1952 p.c.	1953 Area acres
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>			
Spring wheat	2,800	95	2,700
Oats for grain	155,000	98	152,000
Barley	10,300	86	8,900
Mixed grains	7,600	95	7,200
Buckwheat	9,000	74	6,700
Potatoes	42,700	113	48,400
Field roots	4,500	80	3,600
Tame hay	443,000	97	430,000
<u>QUEBEC</u>			
Spring wheat	11,100	100	11,100
Oats for grain	1,363,000	101	1,380,000
Barley	60,800	93	56,500
Fall rye	3,500	78	2,700
Mixed grains	218,000	93	202,000
Buckwheat	40,800	101	41,200
Peas, dry	3,400	97	3,300
Beans, dry	900	106	1,000
Potatoes	91,700	109	100,000
Field roots	10,600	105	11,100
Tame hay	3,673,000	99	3,637,000
Fodder corn	70,700	103	72,600
Sugar beets	7,892	95	7,500
<u>ONTARIO</u>			
Winter wheat	650,000	113	732,000
Spring wheat	36,700	91	33,500
All wheat	686,700	111	765,500
Oats for grain	1,732,300	89	1,548,000
Barley	202,700	84	171,000
Fall rye	74,700	100	75,000
Mixed grains	1,128,700	90	1,017,000
Corn for husking	319,500	109	347,000
Buckwheat	63,000	122	77,000
Peas, dry	9,300	108	10,000
Beans, dry	58,600	105	61,500
Potatoes	56,100	112	62,700
Flaxseed	75,100	55	41,000
Soybeans	172,000	126	216,000
Field roots	18,200	95	17,300
Tame hay	3,401,400	103	3,500,000
Fodder corn	268,400	98	264,000
Sugar beets	31,633	73	23,000 ^{1/}

^{1/} Data incomplete. Final estimate likely to exceed this figure.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1953
(Continued)

Province and Crop	1952 Area acres	Per Cent of 1952 p.c.	1953 Area acres
<u>MANITOBA</u>			
Spring wheat	2,368,000	93	2,208,000
Oats for grain	1,611,000	88	1,412,000
Barley	2,165,000	109	2,365,000
Fall rye	44,100	204	90,000
Spring rye	10,600	134	14,200
All rye	54,700	190	104,200
Mixed grains	36,600	91	33,300
Corn for husking	19,700	76	15,000
Buckwheat	10,000	140	14,000
Peas, dry	18,420	136	25,000
Potatoes	17,300	109	18,800
Flaxseed	593,000	84	500,000
Tame hay	417,000	108	450,000
Fodder corn	21,300	113	24,000
Sugar beets	16,411	107	17,500 ^{1/}
Summerfallow	2,669,000	107	2,845,000
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>			
Spring wheat	16,432,000	98	16,100,000
Oats for grain	3,362,000	81	2,721,000
Barley	2,644,000	104	2,745,000
Fall rye	379,000	132	500,000
Spring rye	363,000	87	316,000
All rye	742,000	110	816,000
Mixed grains	24,500	93	22,800
Peas, dry	1,500	67	1,000
Potatoes	14,100	91	12,800
Flaxseed	380,000	90	342,000
Tame hay	586,000	92	540,000
Fodder corn	1,300	77	1,000
Summerfallow	12,430,000	109	13,544,000
<u>ALBERTA</u>			
Spring wheat	6,404,000	99	6,340,000
Oats for grain	2,587,000	91	2,357,000
Barley	3,336,000	105	3,489,000
Fall rye	254,000	129	328,000
Spring rye	126,000	105	132,000
All rye	380,000	121	460,000
Mixed grains	71,300	113	80,600
Peas, dry	8,200	40	3,300
Potatoes	16,700	92	15,400
Flaxseed	151,000	98	148,000
Tame hay	1,292,000	101	1,300,000
Sugar beets	36,741	102	37,376
Summerfallow	6,146,000	104	6,375,000

^{1/} An estimated 20,100 acres were originally seeded but adverse weather has reduced acreage to date by some 2,600 acres.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1953
(Concluded)

Province and Crop	1952 Area acres	Per Cent of 1952 p.c.	1953 Area acres
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>			
Spring wheat	85,800	95	81,400
Oats for grain	100,000	98	98,000
Barley	50,700	134	67,900
Fall rye	2,400	229	5,500
Mixed grains	2,400	120	2,900
Peas, dry	2,000	105	2,100
Potatoes	10,200	111	11,300
Flaxseed	7,400	68	5,000
Tame hay	315,000	98	309,000
Fodder corn	3,700	84	3,100

Table 2 - Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Prairie Provinces, 1953

Province	Crop District	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Summer- fallow
- 000 acres -					
<u>MANITOBA</u>	1	162	79	74	186
	2	304	142	316	325
	3	550	356	638	612
	4	32	16	47	33
	5	108	70	155	117
	6	23	39	33	30
	7	300	161	205	361
	8	160	125	151	235
	9	138	90	163	191
	10	163	147	235	290
	11	108	56	87	277
	12	72	59	71	64
	13	51	37	150	80
	14	37	35	40	44
Provincial Total		2,208	1,412	2,365	2,845

Table 2 - Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Prairie Provinces, 1953
(continued)

Province	Crop District	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Summer-fallow
- 000 acres -					
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>	1A	508	258	198	562
	1B	339	198	108	522
	2A	600	73	42	741
	2B	1,033	84	61	1,030
	3AS	1,106	81	91	807
	3AN	565	47	81	544
	3BS	741	34	117	656
	3BN	1,171	52	113	755
	4A	352	29	76	335
	4B	627	14	52	361
	5A	882	256	160	816
	5B	800	306	417	833
	6A	1,607	144	97	1,181
	6B	1,233	175	114	816
	7A	1,069	56	80	830
	7B	764	228	81	646
	8A	454	136	250	415
	8B	819	123	193	571
	9A	873	276	265	657
	9B	557	151	149	466
Provincial Total		16,100	2,721	2,745	13,544

Table 2 - Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow, by Crop Districts, Prairie Provinces, 1953

Province	Crop District	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Summer-fallow
- 000 acres -					
<u>ALBERTA</u>	1	797	19	120	672
	2	465	61	76	488
	3A	162	8	9	86
	3B	142	26	47	125
	4	728	52	97	711
	5	578	70	66	486
	6	858	188	332	890
	7	685	245	121	579
	8	433	315	549	528
	9	38	82	266	156
	10	584	356	397	550
	11	123	256	398	295
	12	30	42	58	40
	13	152	65	176	129
	14	183	196	455	285
	15	112	82	83	67
	16	240	287	232	270
	17	30	7	7	18
Provincial Total		6,340	2,357	3,489	6,375

Table 3 - Preliminary Estimates of Acreages in Principal Crops and Summerfallow, Prairie Provinces, 1953

Crop	1952	Per cent of 1952	1953
	acres	p.c.	acres
Wheat	25,204,000	98	24,648,000
Oats	7,560,000	86	6,490,000
Barley	8,145,000	106	8,599,000
Rye	1,176,700	117	1,380,200
Flaxseed	1,124,000	88	990,000
Tame hay	2,295,000	100	2,290,000
Summerfallow	21,245,000	107	22,764,000