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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF CROP AND SUMMERFALLOW ACREAGES, CANADA,* 1954

Preliminary estimates of the 1954 acreages of Canadian field crops and summerfallow indicate that, for the major grains, acreages seeded to wheat, barley and rye were reduced from 1953 levels while increased areas were sown to oats, flaxseed and mixed grains. Increased acreages are also indicated for tame hay, corn for grain, soybeans, sugar beets and dry beans while decreases from 1953 occurred for potatoes, buckwheat, fodder corn, dry peas and field roots. In the Prairie Provinces, where unusually adverse seeding conditions prevailed over large areas, the acreage in summerfallow is the highest on record.

Acreage estimates for 1954 are based initially, with some exceptions, on returns from the Bureau's annual June survey of acreages of field crops but have been accepted only after consultation with the officials responsible for agricultural statistics in each of the provinces. Data on sugar beets have been supplied by the processing companies and in most cases make allowance for acreage abandoned to date. Estimates for certain late-seeded crops grown in relatively small areas have been obtained from provincial officials.

Since seeding in many areas of the Prairie Provinces was unusually prolonged this year due to excessive rainfall and flooding, special supplementary surveys were conducted in the most seriously affected districts in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and throughout the entire province of Alberta. Results of these late returns, reporting acreages seeded up to the early part of July, are incorporated in the current estimates. It is emphasized, however, that although the effect of late returns from the areas most seriously affected has been taken into consideration in arriving at current estimates, they must be considered as preliminary only, particularly in the Prairie Provinces. As in former years, current estimates are subject to revision in the light of results of further surveys of this year's seeded acreages and when marketing and other check data become available.

In view of the substantial amount of flooding in certain parts of the Prairie Provinces, the extent of acreage abandonment due to this cause will be considerably larger than usual. No attempt, however, has been made in this report to estimate the extent of such abandonment. An indication of its effect as well as of other conditions affecting the outturn of this year's crops will be given in the first official forecast of the 1954 production of principal field crops, scheduled for release on August 13.

*Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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The area seeded to spring wheat in Canada this year is currently estimated at 23.6 million acres, a decrease of about five per cent from the 1953 area of 24.8 million. Most of the decrease from last year occurred in the Prairie Provinces although acreages seeded in British Columbia and Ontario were also lower than in 1953. In the Prairie Provinces the decreases from 1953 ranged in size from 3.5 per cent in Saskatchewan to about 8 per cent in both Manitoba and Alberta. The Saskatchewan wheat acreage is estimated at 15.5 million acres as against 16.1 million in 1953 while in Alberta and Manitoba the acreages are placed at 5.9 million and 2.0 million, respectively, compared with 6.3 million and 2.2 million in 1953. The area of winter wheat in Ontario, the principal producing area for that crop, is estimated at 710,000 acres, down slightly from last year's 732,000 acres.

The acreage seeded to oats, historically next largest to wheat in area, is placed at 10.2 million acres. Although this represents an increase of 3 per cent over last year's unusually low level of 9.8 million acres, it is still the second smallest area seeded to oats in forty years. The greatest increases over 1953 were registered in Saskatchewan, Ontario and Manitoba where the current year's acreages are placed at 2.9 million, 1.7 million and 1.5 million, respectively. Acreages were practically the same as in 1953 in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Alberta but decreases in Prince Edward Island and British Columbia amounted to 8 and 14 per cent, respectively.

Breaking the continuous upward trend in barley acreage since 1949, this year's seeded area is estimated at 7.9 million acres, down 12 per cent from the 1953 total of 8.9 million, and back to approximately the same level as 1951. All provinces except New Brunswick and British Columbia shared in the decrease, with the Prairie Provinces accounting for the major share. In Alberta the barley acreage declined from 3.5 million in 1953 to 3.1 million in 1954; in Saskatchewan, from 2.7 million to 2.3 million; and in Manitoba, from 2.4 to 2.2 million acres.

Much more pronounced than the drop in barley acreage is the proportional decline in area seeded to both fall and spring rye. The area seeded to fall rye is now estimated at 672,500 acres, a decline of 35 per cent from last year's level while the area seeded to spring rye is placed at 178,000 acres, 43 per cent below the 1953 area. With the exception of increases in fall rye in Ontario and Quebec where the crop is of minor importance, all provinces show substantial decreases in the areas seeded to both fall and spring rye.

In contrast to barley and rye, acreages seeded to both flaxseed and mixed grains show increases over 1953. The 1954 area seeded to flaxseed, currently estimated at 1.2 million acres, is 24 per cent above last year's level, with each of the four Western provinces showing increases. The acreage in Ontario, however, dropped sharply for the second consecutive year and is estimated at only 19,000 acres for 1954. The area seeded to mixed grains in Canada in 1954 is placed at 1.6 million acres, of which 1.1 million is in Ontario. All provinces except British Columbia shared in the 13 per cent increase over last year's total area of 1.4 million acres.

Increased acreages were also seeded to corn for grain, soybeans, sugar beets, and dry beans. The area planted to corn for grain continued the upward trend of recent years, with the 1954 total placed at an estimated 418,000 acres, of which 400,000 is in Ontario and the remainder in Manitoba. Soybean acreage in Ontario is placed at 254,000 acres, an increase of 18 per cent over last year's total. The area in sugar beets in the four producing provinces,

currently placed at 90,000 acres, is some 10 per cent higher than last year's harvested acreage. The area seeded to dry beans, at 72,500 acres, is up 6 per cent from the 1953 level of 68,500. Tame hay, at 10.8 million acres, is practically unchanged from last year's 10.7 million.

Potato acreage, estimated at 296,200 acres, is down 8 per cent from last year's level and is practically the same as in 1952. All provinces except Alberta shared in the decline, ranging in size from 5 per cent in Prince Edward Island to 13 per cent in Saskatchewan. The area seeded to buckwheat declined from 138,900 acres in 1953 to 116,500 in 1954; fodder corn, from 364,700 to 355,500; dry peas, from 60,400 to 51,200; and field roots, from 43,200 to 42,800 acres.

Acreages for those crops for which 1954 estimates are currently available are shown in Table 1 for Canada as a whole and by provinces, together with acreages for 1951 to 1953. The 1951 acreages are those of the Census of Agriculture; those for other years are the annual estimates made by the Agriculture Division and include all revisions made to date.

Table 2 sets out by crop districts for the Prairie Provinces the 1954 seeded acreages of wheat, oats and barley and the area in summerfallow, together with revised estimates for 1953, while Table 3 summarizes acreages in the main field crops and summerfallow for the same region for the period 1951-1954. The marked shifts in acreages among the five major grain crops and summerfallow in 1954 have been accentuated by the necessity of changing seeding plans because of abnormally wet weather. The largest single shift in use of crop land in the Prairie Provinces this year is the increase of almost 2.5 million acres in summerfallow. This year's area in summerfallow, estimated at a record 25.3 million acres, includes substantial areas which farmers were unable to seed. The increase in summerfallow acreage, together with increases of 225,000 acres in oats and 251,000 in flaxseed, practically balances the decreases of 1.2 million acres in wheat, 1.0 million in barley and 0.7 million in rye.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1954
Compared with 1951 - 1953

Province and Crop	1951	1952	1953	1954	1954 as Per Cent of 1953
	acres	acres	acres	acres	per cent
<u>CANADA 1/</u>					
Winter wheat	703,000	650,000	732,000	710,000	97
Spring wheat 2/.....	24,551,400	25,345,000	24,780,600	23,556,800	95
All wheat	25,254,400	25,995,000	25,512,600	24,266,800	95
Oats for grain	11,896,600	11,062,400	9,830,000	10,160,600	103
Barley	7,839,800	8,477,400	8,911,100	7,855,900	88
Fall rye 3/.....	711,600	772,400	1,031,200	672,500	65
Spring rye	415,000	501,200	463,000	178,000	38
All rye	1,126,600	1,273,600	1,494,200	850,500	57
Mixed grains	1,524,300	1,570,100	1,445,400	1,632,600	113
Corn for grain	314,000	339,200	362,000	418,000	115
Buckwheat	123,400	122,800	138,900	116,500	84
Peas, dry	37,300	42,820	60,400	51,200	85
Beans, dry	58,300	59,500	68,500	72,500	106
Potatoes	284,900	296,800	321,100	296,200	92
Flaxseed	1,158,500	1,129,500	972,000	1,206,200	124
Soybeans	155,000	172,000	216,000	254,000	118
Field roots 4/	45,100	44,600	43,200	42,800	99
Tame hay	10,538,000	10,679,400	10,702,000	10,802,000	101
Fodder corn	383,500	365,400	364,700	355,500	97
Sugar beets 5/	93,140	92,588	81,952	90,152	110
Summerfallow 6/	21,569,000	21,245,000	22,764,000	25,253,000	111
<u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u>					
Spring wheat	4,700	3,700	2,900	3,300	114
Oats for grain	100,000	96,000	106,200	97,600	92
Barley	4,100	4,200	4,800	3,800	79
Mixed grains	71,700	71,200	70,200	78,700	112
Potatoes	29,600	36,000	39,000	37,000	95
Field roots	7,600	7,000	6,600	6,500	98
Tame hay	204,000	199,000	191,000	204,000	107
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>					
Spring wheat	1,200	900	1,000	1,000	100
Oats for grain	61,600	56,100	55,800	54,600	98
Barley	4,400	3,700	3,000	2,500	83
Mixed grains	8,800	9,800	9,400	10,100	107
Potatoes	11,300	12,000	12,400	11,300	91
Field roots	4,300	4,300	4,600	4,300	93
Tame hay	345,000	353,000	345,000	353,000	102

1/ In some provinces the area seeded to certain crops is too small to permit reliable annual estimates. Acreages in such crops have not been included in the totals for Canada.

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

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

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

5/ Harvested area for 1951-1953.

6/ Prairie Provinces only.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1954
Compared with 1951 - 1953 (continued)

Province and Crop	1951	1952	1953	1954	1954 as Per Cent of 1953
	acres	acres	acres	acres	per cent
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>					
Spring wheat	3,400	2,800	2,700	3,200	119
Oats for grain	175,000	155,000	152,000	153,000	101
Barley	13,600	10,300	8,900	9,100	102
Mixed grains	6,700	7,600	7,200	8,000	111
Buckwheat	7,900	9,000	6,700	6,800	101
Potatoes	38,100	42,700	48,400	45,600	94
Field roots	4,100	4,500	3,600	3,400	94
Tame hay	441,000	443,000	430,000	428,000	100
<u>QUEBEC</u>					
Spring wheat	12,200	11,100	11,100	11,300	102
Oats for grain	1,396,000	1,363,000	1,380,000	1,371,000	99
Barley	61,600	60,800	56,500	53,100	94
Fall rye	5,000	3,500	2,700	2,800	104
Mixed grains	212,000	218,000	202,000	209,000	103
Buckwheat	43,700	40,800	41,200	45,100	109
Peas, dry	3,300	3,400	3,300	3,700	112
Beans, dry	900	900	1,000	1,000	100
Potatoes	92,000	91,700	100,000	92,000	92
Field roots	11,500	10,600	11,100	10,600	95
Tame hay	3,654,000	3,673,000	3,637,000	3,644,000	100
Fodder corn	80,300	70,700	72,600	76,500	105
Sugar beets	10,000	7,892	7,025	6,500	93
<u>ONTARIO</u>					
Winter wheat	703,000	650,000	732,000	710,000	97
Spring wheat	43,900	36,700	33,500	31,000	93
All wheat	746,900	686,700	765,500	741,000	97
Oats for grain	1,749,000	1,732,300	1,548,000	1,685,000	109
Barley	194,000	202,700	171,000	144,000	84
Fall rye	72,400	74,700	75,000	90,000	120
Mixed grains	1,081,000	1,128,700	1,017,000	1,130,000	111
Corn for grain	289,000	319,500	347,000	400,000	115
Buckwheat	64,400	63,000	77,000	54,600	71
Peas, dry	7,900	9,300	10,000	9,600	96
Beans, dry	57,400	58,600	67,500	71,500	106
Potatoes	54,900	56,100	63,000	56,500	90
Flaxseed	65,800	75,100	41,000	19,000	46
Soybeans	155,000	172,000	216,000	254,000	118
Field roots	17,600	18,200	17,300	18,000	104
Tame hay	3,406,000	3,401,400	3,500,000	3,440,000	98
Fodder corn	282,000	268,400	264,000	255,000	97
Sugar beets	31,471	31,563	22,771	23,627 ^{1/}	104

^{1/} Area now in crop. Area seeded amounted to 27,930 acres.

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1954
Compared with 1951 - 1953 (continued)

Province and Crop	1951	1952	1953	1954	1954 as Per Cent of 1953
	acres	acres	acres	acres	per cent
MANITOBA					
Spring wheat	2,326,000	2,368,000	2,208,000	2,035,000	92
Oats for grain	1,643,000	1,611,000	1,412,000	1,510,000	107
Barley	2,040,000	2,165,000	2,365,000	2,202,000	93
Fall rye	41,800	58,800	120,000	78,700	66
Spring rye	11,000	12,200	15,000	5,700	38
All rye	52,800	71,000	135,000	84,400	63
Mixed grains	33,000	36,600	33,300	38,300	115
Corn for grain	25,000	19,700	15,000	18,000	120
Buckwheat	7,400	10,000	14,000	15,000 10,000	71 107
Peas, dry	14,900	18,420	37,000	25,000	68
Potatoes	15,800	17,300	18,800	17,100	91
Flaxseed	655,000	500,000	420,000	444,200	106
Tame hay	399,000	417,000	450,000	486,000	108
Fodder corn	15,700	21,300	24,000	20,600	86
Sugar beets	19,074	16,392	17,455	22,525	129
Summerfallow	2,519,000	2,669,000	2,845,000	3,100,000	109
SASKATCHEWAN					
Spring wheat	15,635,000	16,432,000	16,100,000	15,540,000	97
Oats for grain	3,815,000	3,362,000	2,721,000	2,851,000	105
Barley	2,449,000	2,644,000	2,745,000	2,313,000	84
Fall rye	404,000	379,000	500,000	315,000	63
Spring rye	306,000	363,000	316,000	138,000	44
All rye	710,000	742,000	816,000	453,000	56
Mixed grains	27,800	24,500	22,800	35,600	156
Peas, dry	1,400	1,500	1,000	1,000	100
Potatoes	15,700	14,100	12,800	11,100	87
Flaxseed	296,000	380,000	342,000	518,000	151
Tame hay	572,000	586,000	540,000	600,000	111
Fodder corn	1,800	1,300	1,000	1,000	100
Summerfallow	12,855,000	12,430,000	13,544,000	14,679,000	108
ALBERTA					
Spring wheat	6,424,000	6,404,000	6,340,000	5,862,000	92
Oats for grain	2,854,000	2,587,000	2,357,000	2,354,000	100
Barley	3,041,000	3,336,000	3,489,000	3,053,000	88
Fall rye	186,000	254,000	328,000	181,000	55
Spring rye	98,000	126,000	132,000	34,300	26
All rye	284,000	380,000	460,000	215,300	47
Mixed grains	81,000	71,300	80,600	120,000	149
Peas, dry	7,900	8,200	7,000	8,300 9,700	139 119
Potatoes	17,700	16,700	15,400	15,400	100
Flaxseed	135,000	167,000	164,000	215,000	131
Tame hay	1,206,000	1,292,000	1,300,000	1,343,000	103
Sugar beets	32,595	36,741	34,701	37,500 1/	108
Summerfallow	6,195,000	6,146,000	6,375,000	7,474,000	117

1/ Seeded acreage.
500 acres.

Spring loss has been relatively light and may amount to

Table 1 - Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1954
Compared with 1951 - 1953 (concluded)

Province and Crop	1951	1952	1953	1954	1954 as Per Cent of 1953
	acres	acres	acres	acres	per cent
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>					
Spring wheat	101,000	85,800	81,400	70,000	86
Oats for grain	103,000	100,000	98,000	84,400	86
Barley	32,100	50,700	67,900	75,400	111
Fall rye	2,400	2,400	5,500	5,000	91
Mixed grains	2,300	2,400	2,900	2,900	100
Peas, dry	1,900	2,000	2,100	2,200	105
Potatoes	9,800	10,200	11,300	10,200	90
Flaxseed	6,700	7,400	5,000	10,000	200
Tame hay	311,000	315,000	309,000	304,000	98
Fodder corn	3,700	3,700	3,100	2,400	77

Table 2 - Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Prairie Provinces, 1953 and 1954

Province	Crop District	Wheat		Oats		Barley		Summerfallow	
		1953*	1954	1953*	1954	1953*	1954	1953*	1954
- 000 acres -									
<u>MANITOBA</u>	1	170	170	79	87	75	79	188	203
	2	286	255	149	162	292	305	328	343
	3	546	546	353	399	650	559	595	631
	4	32	32	14	17	47	36	33	37
	5	109	94	62	73	159	154	122	131
	6	25	23	41	43	28	25	30	35
	7	294	262	160	165	205	210	367	385
	8	152	141	133	140	167	165	239	253
	9	138	128	94	100	156	147	192	204
	10	181	152	139	142	240	252	290	300
	11	113	106	61	60	87	70	271	287
	12	69	63	58	62	75	65	65	82
	13	58	41	36	36	144	110	80	127
	14	35	22	33	24	40	25	45	82
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Provincial Total		2,208	2,035	1,412	1,510	2,365	2,202	2,845	3,100

*Revised.

Table 2 - Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Prairie Provinces, 1953 and 1954
(continued)

Province	Crop District	Wheat		Oats		Barley		Summerfallow	
		1953*	1954	1953*	1954	1953*	1954	1953*	1954
- 000 acres -									
SASKATCHEWAN	1A	529	508	259	272	175	180	554	548
	1B	332	309	205	217	112	103	511	521
	2A	608	663	73	77	41	32	731	673
	2B	1,065	1,097	80	88	63	67	985	936
	3AS	1,071	1,082	84	74	127	100	804	812
	3AN	571	577	50	45	76	65	537	542
	3BS	734	727	34	37	129	97	656	695
	3BN	1,158	1,135	53	49	99	91	789	852
	4A	351	362	24	29	73	73	340	337
	4B	632	657	13	14	50	48	369	421
	5A	865	735	248	231	164	148	838	1,000
	5B	799	655	316	316	436	327	814	1,062
	6A	1,605	1,493	141	152	95	87	1,178	1,288
	6B	1,232	1,183	168	180	96	106	806	856
	7A	1,058	1,037	54	48	79	48	852	937
	7B	785	785	238	245	73	47	637	682
	8A	462	379	136	132	263	200	405	557
	8B	826	818	118	138	189	131	571	634
	9A	855	821	271	317	253	220	706	819
	9B	562	517	156	190	152	143	461	507
Provincial Total		16,100	15,540	2,721	2,851	2,745	2,313	13,544	14,679

*Revised.

Table 2 - Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Prairie Provinces, 1953 and 1954
(concluded)

Province	Crop District	Wheat		Oats		Barley		Summerfallow	
		1953*	1954	1953*	1954	1953*	1954	1953*	1954
- 000 acres -									
<u>ALBERTA</u>	1	806	790	19	24	100	106	658	671
	2	481	476	61	72	70	69	472	467
	3A	170	155	10	13	8	9	81	89
	3B	136	118	28	40	47	52	135	139
	4	736	714	48	59	112	108	688	716
	5	551	518	81	83	57	43	489	543
	6	842	817	204	233	328	351	906	923
	7	666	626	235	254	144	120	582	649
	8	438	381	298	298	548	455	531	685
	9	36	14	83	79	269	229	158	218
	10	602	530	359	373	421	366	529	670
	11	138	108	256	225	389	280	298	480
	12	27	14	40	25	57	32	41	85
	13	152	129	76	81	165	142	154	196
	14	170	139	188	169	455	323	305	500
	15	113	94	75	63	82	89	72	96
	16	242	208	289	257	229	270	254	315
	17	34	31	7	6	8	9	22	32
Provincial Total		6,340	5,862	2,357	2,354	3,489	3,053	6,375	7,474

*Revised.

Table 3 - Preliminary Estimates of Acreages in Principal Crops and Summerfallow,
Prairie Provinces, 1954, Compared with 1951 - 1953

Crops	1951	1952	1953	1954	1954 as Per Cent of 1953
	acres	acres	acres	acres	per cent
Wheat	24,385,000	25,204,000	24,648,000	23,437,000	95
Oats	8,312,000	7,560,000	6,490,000	6,715,000	103
Barley	7,530,000	8,145,000	8,599,000	7,568,000	88
Rye	1,046,800	1,193,000	1,411,000	752,700	53
Flaxseed	1,086,000	1,047,000	926,000	1,177,200	127
Tame hay	2,177,000	2,295,000	2,290,000	2,429,000	106
Summerfallow ..	21,569,000	21,245,000	22,764,000	25,253,000	111

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