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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF CROP AND SUMMERFALLOW ACREAGES, CANADA, 1957

The acreage estimates for 1957 are, with some exceptions, based on returns from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual June survey of seeded acreages and have been made in consultation with the officials responsible for agricultural statistics in each of the provinces. Data on sugar beets have been obtained from the processing companies and abandonment since seeding has been taken into account. Estimates for some crops grown in relatively small areas have been made with the assistance of provincial and trade officials. Comparative acreages for 1956, except for sugar beets, are rounded from the 1956 Census of Agriculture. As in former years, current estimates are subject to revision in the light of further information received during the season and when marketing and other check data become available after the end of the crop year.

The preliminary estimates of 1957 crop acreages indicate that Canadian farmers seeded 21.0 million acres to wheat, a decrease of 8 per cent from the 1956 level; 11.0 million acres to oats, down 6 per cent from last year; and 9.4 million acres to barley for an increase of 12 per cent above 1956 seedings. Flax seedings increased by 15 per cent to 3.5 million acres, an all-time high. Rapeseed at 629,000 acres and soybeans at 255,200 acres also reached new record levels. Rye seedings, at 550,000 acres are little changed from those of 1956 but mixed grains at 1,452,200 acres have declined 7 per cent from 1956 sowings. Other crops showing little change to moderate decreases in area from 1956 levels are potatoes, buckwheat, dry peas, dry beans, field roots and fodder corn. Somewhat larger acreages than in 1956 are reported for corn for grain, tame hay and sugar beets. The area in summerfallow, at 24.7 million acres is 3 per cent above that of 1956.

For Canada as a whole the area seeded to the 16 spring-planted crops covered in this report is estimated at 48.4 million acres compared with 49.3 million in 1956 and the ten-year (1946-55) average of 47.4 million. Total acreage in the 16 spring-planted crops, together with winter wheat, fall rye, tame hay and summerfallow amounted to 85.6 million acres, little changed from last year's 85.3 million.

WHEAT Total wheat acreage in Canada, estimated at 21.0 million acres, is down 8 per cent from last year's 22.8 million and is 16 per cent below the ten-year (1946-55) average of 25.0 million acres. In the Prairie Provinces where most of Canada's wheat is grown, acreage has declined from 22.1 million in 1956 to 20.4 million this year, a drop of about 8 per cent.

Preliminary estimates of durum wheat acreage in the Prairie Provinces indicate a 56 per cent increase in acreage from the previous year. Acreage seeded to this crop in each of the three provinces and the total, with last year's acreages in brackets, is as follows: Manitoba, 89,000 (31,000); Saskatchewan, 1,793,000 (1,043,000); Alberta, 492,000 (447,000); Prairie Provinces, 2,374,000 (1,521,000).

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

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Although the acreage seeded to all wheat in the Prairie Provinces declined by 8 per cent, if durum wheat is excluded the decrease in ordinary spring wheat is considerably greater. In 1957, 18.0 million acres were seeded to ordinary spring wheat (including a small acreage of winter wheat seeded in the fall of 1956) compared with 20.5 million acres in 1956, a decline of some 12 per cent.

In Manitoba, total wheat acreage, including durum, decreased some 4 per cent from 2.2 million acres to 2.1 million in 1957. For Saskatchewan the decrease was about 8 per cent from 14.6 million acres last year to 13.4 million this season. A similar percentage decline occurred in Alberta with the 1957 acreage being placed at 4.9 million compared with last year's 5.3 million. Ontario's winter wheat area at 590,000 acres is 6 per cent below the 1956 acreage of 625,000 and about 11 per cent below the ten-year average of 662,000 acres.

OATS The area seeded to oats in Canada in 1957 is estimated at 11.0 million acres, 6 per cent below the 1956 figure of 11.7 million and almost the same as the ten-year average. In the Prairie Provinces the oats acreage, at 7.8 million acres, is down 10 per cent from last year. All three provinces shared in the decline, with Manitoba and Saskatchewan both down 12 per cent at 1.8 and 3.2 million acres respectively. Alberta's oat acreage at 2.8 million is 5 per cent below the 1956 level. Oat seedings in British Columbia and the Maritimes are also smaller than in 1956. Ontario is the only province where an increase is indicated, the 1957 estimate of 1.6 million acres exceeding that of 1956 by 13 per cent. Quebec's acreage of 1.3 million is the same as in the previous year.

BARLEY Canadian barley acreage for 1957 at 9.4 million acres is the second highest on record, with increases recorded in the Prairies, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Barley acreage on the Prairies is placed at 9.2 million, up 13 per cent from the level indicated by the 1956 Census. In Manitoba the seeded area increased from 1.5 million in 1956 to 1.7 million in 1957; in Saskatchewan from 3.0 to 3.8 million, and in Alberta from 3.6 to 3.7 million. Ontario continues to decline in importance as a barley producer, the acreage in that province falling below 100,000 acres for the first time this century. It is worthy of note, too, that Saskatchewan, for the second time in recent years, has a larger acreage of barley than Alberta.

RYE Rye acreage at 550,000 acres is little changed from the 1956 level but 55 per cent below the ten-year average. Fall seedings of rye were up 19 per cent but spring seedings declined 38 per cent. The greater part of Canada's rye is grown in the Prairie Provinces where the 1957 acreage is estimated at 455,300 acres as against 452,000 acres in 1956.

OILSEEDS Canadian farmers are continuing to expand their acreages of oilseed crops. For the second year in succession flax seedings have reached a new record. This year, 3.5 million acres were sown to flax in Canada, an increase of 15 per cent from last year's 3.0 million and nearly three times as great as the ten-year average of 1.2 million acres. Increases were recorded in all three of the Prairie Provinces where most of Canada's flax is grown. Decreases were indicated for Ontario and British Columbia, the other two provinces which produce flax in commercial quantities.

Soybeans seedings at 255,200 acres also reached record proportions this year. This acreage exceeds that of 1956 by 5 per cent and is 74 per cent greater than the ten-year average of 147,000 acres. The province of Ontario accounts for 252,000 acres of this year's total with Manitoba, the only other commercial producer, having 3,200 acres in this crop.

Rapeseed is steadily increasing in popularity. Commercial production is carried on only in the Prairie Provinces where in 1957 an estimated 629,000 acres were seeded to this crop. An acreage of this size represents an increase of 79 per cent from last year's seedings of 351,900 acres. By provinces the 1957 acreages, with 1956 figures in brackets, are as follows: Manitoba, 23,900 (29,100); Saskatchewan, 535,000 (297,000); and Alberta, 70,100 (25,800). It will be noted that the estimates for rapeseed are not included in the tables forming part of this report — the data having been obtained too late to incorporate into the tabular material.

POTATOES The area seeded to potatoes is estimated at 311,000 acres, little changed from last season's 312,500 acres, but 12 per cent below the ten-year average of 353,000 acres. A 7 per cent increase in Prince Edward Island and a 2 per cent rise in Ontario acreage were offset by reductions recorded in the Prairie Provinces and Quebec. No change was indicated for Nova Scotia, while a drop of only 200 acres was noted in New Brunswick.

TAME HAY The area of tame hay, at 11.5 million acres this year is the largest on record. The 1957 acreage is 5 per cent above the 1956 level and 8 per cent greater than the ten-year average. Most of the expansion took place in the four western provinces, with Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia registering increases over the 1956 Census level of 14, 12, 17 and 8 per cent respectively.

OTHER CROPS The acreage of sugar beets remaining for harvest on or about July 31 amounted to 86,016 acres, 9 per cent above last year's harvested area of 78,878 acres and 6 per cent above the ten-year average of 81,100 acres. Increases were reported in Quebec, Ontario and Alberta, while Manitoba acreage was practically unchanged from that of last year. Ontario's acreage of corn for grain is placed at 503,000 acres, little changed from 1956 but Manitoba's seedings of 10,000 acres were up 41 per cent from last year's 7,100 acres. Other spring planted crops showing decreases in area, with 1956 acreages in brackets, are as follows: Mixed grains, 1,452,200 (1,560,500); buckwheat, 102,400 (168,000); dry peas, 84,900 (87,900); dry beans, 62,500 (65,600); field roots, 32,900 (39,700); and fodder corn, 370,700 (394,200). Summerfallow acreage in the Prairie Provinces in 1957 is estimated at 24.7 million acres, an increase of 3 per cent over last year's 24.1 million and 13 per cent greater than the ten-year average of 21.9 million acres.

N o t e

Acreages of those crops for which 1957 estimates are currently available (except for rapeseed) are shown in Table 1 for Canada as a whole and by provinces, together with the accepted figures for 1956 and ten-year averages for the 1946-55 period. It is emphasized that data for the intercensal years 1952-55 included in the ten-year averages are subject to revision as are all 1957 estimates. It should also be noted that, as a result of rounding, the sum of the provincial ten-year averages do not exactly equal the ten-year Canada averages for some crops.

Tables 2, 3 and 4 set out, by crop districts for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, respectively, estimates of the 1957 area seeded to wheat, oats and barley and the area in summerfallow, with comparable data for 1956. Table 5 summarizes acreages in the major field crops and summerfallow for the Prairie Provinces as a whole. An outline map showing the boundaries of the crop districts in the Prairie Provinces will be found on page 10 of this report.

Table 1: Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1957
with Comparisons

Province and Crop	Average 1946-1955 <u>1/</u> ac.	1956 Area ac.	Per Cent of 1956 %	1957 Area ac.
<u>CANADA 2/</u>				
Winter wheat	662,000	625,000	94	590,000
Spring wheat <u>3/</u>	24,298,000	22,156,000	92	20,440,700
All wheat	24,960,000	22,781,000	92	21,030,700
Oats for grain	10,967,000	11,706,800	94	11,017,000
Barley	7,543,000	8,390,400	112	9,403,200
Fall rye <u>4/</u>	855,000	368,000	119	438,900
Spring rye	358,000	178,900	62	111,100
All rye	1,213,000	546,900	101	550,000
Mixed grains	1,422,000	1,560,500	93	1,452,200
Corn for grain	323,000	509,100	101	513,000
Buckwheat	145,000	168,000	61	102,400
Peas, dry	60,700	37,900	97	84,900
Beans, dry	73,300	65,600	95	62,500
Potatoes	353,000	312,500	100	311,000
Flaxseed	1,184,000	3,040,800	115	3,485,600
Soybeans	147,000	243,200	105	255,200
Field roots <u>5/</u>	54,800	39,700	83	32,900
Tame hay	10,593,000	10,922,000	105	11,452,000
Fodder corn	392,000	394,200	94	370,700
Sugar beets <u>6/</u>	81,100	78,878	109	86,016
Summerfallow <u>7/</u>	21,901,000	24,113,000	103	24,723,000
<u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u>				
Spring wheat	3,200	3,100	94	2,900
Oats for grain	103,000	98,000	95	93,000
Barley	4,500	900	111	1,000
Mixed grains	63,000	57,400	91	52,000
Potatoes	41,600	42,500	107	45,500
Field roots	7,500	6,800	88	6,000
Tame hay	210,000	205,000	102	210,000
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>				
Spring wheat	1,100	800	70	600
Oats for grain	59,300	43,300	93	40,300
Barley	4,200	1,500	88	1,300
Mixed grains	7,200	9,700	102	9,900
Potatoes	13,500	10,200	100	10,200
Field roots	4,800	3,700	84	3,100
Tame hay	369,000	314,000	100	314,000

- 1/ The intercensal years 1952 to 1955, included in ten year-average, are subject to revision.
- 2/ 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.
- 3/ Includes relatively small acreages of winter wheat in all provinces other than Ontario.
- 4/ Includes small acreages of spring rye in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.
- 5/ Excludes Prairie Provinces and British Columbia for which current estimates are not available.
- 6/ Harvested area except for 1957. The estimates for 1957 represent the area currently remaining for harvest.
- 7/ Prairie Provinces only.

Table 1. Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1957
with Comparisons (continued)

Province and Crop	Average 1946-1955 ac.	1956 Area ac.	Per Cent of 1956 %	1957 Area ac.
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>				
Spring wheat	2,600	2,100	118	2,500
Oats for grain	163,000	130,000	93	121,000
Barley	10,200	4,000	103	4,100
Mixed grains	5,200	5,400	116	6,300
Buckwheat	9,000	5,800	77	4,500
Potatoes	51,700	46,200	100	46,000
Field roots	4,800	2,900	90	2,600
Tame hay	476,000	399,000	98	392,000
<u>QUEBEC</u>				
Spring wheat	11,800	15,000	100	15,000
Oats for grain	1,360,000	1,258,000	100	1,258,000
Barley	68,500	31,600	80	25,300
Fall rye	3,900	8,200	101	8,300
Mixed grains	201,000	194,000	98	190,000
Buckwheat	48,300	47,400	80	37,900
Peas, dry	4,500	3,200	125	4,000
Beans, dry	1,300	1,500	98	1,500
Potatoes	104,000	99,300	99	97,900
Field roots	12,000	10,100	81	8,200
Tame hay	3,768,000	3,487,000	100	3,497,000
Fodder corn	74,300	78,900	87	68,300
Sugar beets	6,200	5,670	106	6,000
<u>ONTARIO</u>				
Winter wheat	662,000	625,000	94	590,000
Spring wheat	39,400	17,100	88	15,000
All wheat	701,400	642,100	94	605,000
Oats for grain	1,632,000	1,427,000	113	1,610,000
Barley	193,000	105,000	92	97,000
Fall rye	82,900	85,600	99	85,000
Mixed grains	1,017,000	984,000	85	840,000
Corn for grain	306,000	502,000	100	503,000
Buckwheat	75,700	53,000	57	30,000
Peas, dry	16,800	7,600	96	7,300
Beans, dry	72,000	64,100	95	61,000
Potatoes	72,800	53,700	102	55,000
Flaxseed	42,900	17,200	70	12,000
Soybeans	147,000	240,000	105	252,000
Field roots	25,000	16,200	80	13,000
Tame hay	3,372,000	3,290,000	102	3,350,000
Fodder corn	292,000	290,000	97	280,000
Sugar beets	25,200	14,158	140	19,816

Table 1: Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1957
with Comparisons (continued)

Province and Crop	Average 1946-1955	1956 Area	Per cent of 1956	1957 Area
	ac.	ac.	%	ac.
<u>MANITOBA</u>				
Spring wheat	2,335,000	2,199,000	96	2,114,000
Oats for grain	1,488,000	2,053,000	88	1,800,000
Barley	1,941,000	1,548,000	110	1,704,000
Fall rye	63,000	61,400	107	65,700
Spring rye	10,300	7,000	103	7,200
All rye	73,300	68,400	107	72,900
Mixed grains	30,000	66,900	108	72,300
Corn for grain	16,900	7,100	141	10,000
Buckwheat	12,000	61,800	49	30,000
Peas, dry	21,400	55,600	101	56,000
Potatoes	19,100	16,500	93	15,300
Flaxseed	492,000	789,000	110	865,000
Soybeans	-	3,200	100	3,200
Tame hay	396,000	634,000	114	722,000
Fodder corn	17,800	19,200	93	17,900
Sugar beets	16,300	22,900	100	22,800
Summerfallow	2,718,000	2,828,000	104	2,934,000
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>				
Spring wheat	15,210,000	14,569,000	92	13,365,000
Oats for grain	3,513,000	3,670,000	88	3,214,000
Barley	2,516,000	3,027,000	125	3,791,000
Fall rye	488,000	157,000	117	184,000
Spring rye	233,000	143,000	59	84,400
All rye	721,000	300,000	89	268,400
Mixed grains	25,100	49,400	127	62,700
Peas, dry	3,200	2,900	103	3,000
Potatoes	17,600	14,600	99	14,500
Flaxseed	482,000	1,710,000	118	2,025,000
Tame hay	543,000	647,000	112	723,000
Fodder corn	3,200	2,100	92	1,900
Summerfallow	12,906,000	14,194,000	104	14,696,000
<u>ALBERTA</u>				
Spring wheat	6,602,000	5,296,000	92	4,881,000
Oats for grain	2,553,000	2,935,000	95	2,791,000
Barley	2,764,000	3,606,000	103	3,714,000
Fall rye	214,000	54,700	173	94,500
Spring rye	115,000	28,900	67	19,500
All rye	329,000	83,600	136	114,000
Mixed grains	71,500	189,000	114	215,000
Peas, dry	10,600	12,000	71	8,500
Potatoes	19,400	19,500	85	16,600
Flaxseed	161,000	511,000	112	572,000
Tame hay	1,153,000	1,614,000	117	1,887,000
Sugar beets	33,400	36,150	103	37,400
Summerfallow	6,278,000	7,091,000	100	7,093,000

Table 1: Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1957
with Comparisons (concluded)

Province and Crop	Average 1946-1955	1956 Area	Per cent of 1956	1957 Area
	ac.	ac.	%	ac.
BRITISH COLUMBIA				
Spring wheat	93,500	53,900	83	44,700
Oats for grain	94,800	92,500	97	89,700
Barley	41,600	66,400	99	65,500
Fall rye	2,700	1,100	130	1,400
Mixed grains	2,500	4,700	86	4,000
Peas, dry	4,100	6,600	92	6,100
Potatoes	12,600	10,000	100	10,000
Flaxseed	6,200	13,600	85	11,600
Tame hay	307,000	332,000	108	357,000
Fodder corn	3,400	4,000	64	2,600

Table 2: Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Manitoba, 1956 and 1957

Crop District	Wheat		Oats		Barley		Summerfallow	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
- thousand acres -								
1	152	154	83	70	60	68	224	226
2	305	314	186	167	209	213	361	361
3	568	500	538	415	332	422	477	539
4	34	34	33	25	23	25	28	31
5	137	110	129	107	79	92	114	137
6	25	21	57	54	12	11	31	36
7	263	281	199	190	145	146	407	407
8	168	181	168	160	85	79	232	227
9	143	143	158	149	69	76	199	197
10	125	134	157	137	251	276	322	309
11	129	120	133	132	86	84	176	181
12	71	48	78	72	53	59	76	91
13	48	48	82	68	111	118	109	118
14	31	26	52	54	33	35	72	74
Total	2,199	2,114	2,053	1,800	1,548	1,704	2,828	2,934

Table 3: Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow,
by Crop Districts, Saskatchewan, 1956 and 1957

Crop District	Wheat		Oats		Barley		Summerfallow	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
- thousand acres -								
1A	463	454	268	217	154	182	578	618
1B	342	325	254	231	93	103	464	492
2A	641	603	126	106	77	108	561	572
2B	973	924	147	126	118	153	861	878
3AS	982	943	114	108	120	152	816	865
3AN	570	519	70	60	85	107	524	540
3BS	824	766	47	46	70	92	696	731
3BN	1,071	1,007	81	77	83	127	912	939
4A	400	356	43	40	72	91	375	409
4B	648	564	25	23	34	53	492	517
5A	690	676	332	315	233	273	888	888
5B	659	626	400	352	426	486	878	869
6A	1,339	1,178	207	182	133	196	1,155	1,247
6B	1,078	970	224	206	152	207	869	904
7A	834	759	65	49	132	207	1,001	1,001
7B	717	645	257	195	106	179	716	723
8A	394	335	204	155	222	251	494	494
8B	738	635	159	148	196	223	602	626
9A	728	655	371	341	301	352	770	808
9B	478	425	276	237	220	249	542	575
Total	14,569	13,365	3,670	3,214	3,027	3,791	14,194	14,696

Table 4: Estimated Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow, by Crop Districts, Alberta, 1956 and 1957

Crop District	Wheat		Oats		Barley		Summerfallow	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	- thousand acres -							
1	978	841	149	137	118	143	985	995
2	1,625	1,495	246	216	389	463	1,960	1,960
3	576	530	312	303	421	442	941	950
4A	693	672	325	289	175	202	750	758
4B	634	609	591	579	509	513	780	803
5	187	159	564	547	921	901	580	586
6	269	274	385	393	639	586	560	549
7	334	301	363	327	434	464	535	492
Total	5,296	4,881	2,935	2,791	3,606	3,714	7,091	7,093

Table 5: Preliminary Estimates of Acreages in Principal Crops and Summerfallow, Prairie Provinces, 1957 with Comparisons

Crops	Average 1946-1955	1956 Area	Per Cent of 1956	1957 Area
	ac.	ac.	%	ac.
Wheat	24,147,000	22,064,000	92	20,360,000
Oats	7,554,000	8,658,000	90	7,805,000
Barley	7,221,000	8,181,000	113	9,209,000
Rye	1,124,000	452,000	101	455,300
Flaxseed	1,134,000	3,010,000	115	3,462,000
Tame hay	2,091,000	2,895,000	115	3,332,000
Summerfallow	21,901,000	24,113,000	103	24,723,000

OUTLINE MAP OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES
SHOWING
CROP DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



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