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AUGUST FORECAST OF PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS, CANADA, 1958

On the basis of yields indicated at August 15, production of all wheat, all rye, rapeseed and tame hay will be below last year's level. Production of oats, barley, mixed grains, flaxseed and mustard seed will be larger than a year ago. Present prospects point to a 339 million bushel wheat crop, 9 per cent below last year's estimate of 371 million and 31 per cent below the ten-year (1948-57) average. The oats and barley crops are placed at 384 and 229 million bushels, respectively, with flax being estimated at 22 million bushels. Fall and spring rye together account for some 8 million bushels. Average yields per acre of the principal field crops this year are close to those of a year ago and the long-term average but generally below the recent ten-year average.

Realization of the 1958 yield and production forecasts contained in this report will depend on the existence of favourable weather conditions throughout the remainder of the growing and harvesting season. However, harvesting started early in many parts of the country this year, particularly in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario. Good progress has been made in these areas to date and except for some northern regions most crops should not be vulnerable to early frost damage.

For the second consecutive year the weather was extremely dry during the growing season over wide areas of the Prairie Provinces, and considering growing conditions, average yields are remarkably good. Hail losses in the West were not excessive this year, although local areas suffered heavy damage. Outbreaks of insects such as cutworms, grasshoppers and beet webworms were numerous and required extensive control measures. June frosts set back crop development in local areas. Losses from rust have been negligible. Although spring weather over much of Ontario tended to be dry, timely rains and cool weather during the summer, coupled with new high-yielding varieties pushed yields of winter wheat, oats, barley and rye to high record levels. Growing conditions have not been quite as favourable in other eastern provinces. Much of British Columbia was dry this season and as a consequence yields of most crops are below average.

Forecasts of average yields per seeded acre in this report are based on returns from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' corps of crop correspondents, reporting on conditions on or about August 15, and on information supplied by officials responsible for agricultural statistics in the provinces. Estimates of acreages seeded to the various crops are those published in the Bureau's August 12 crop report. Production forecasts for rapeseed and mustard seed are also included in this report.

Note: Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

WHEAT

Canada's 1958 wheat crop, currently forecast at 338.7 million bushels will, if realized, be 9 per cent smaller than last year's estimate of 370.5 million and 31 per cent below the ten-year (1948-1957) average of 489.8 million. Apart from the rust year of 1954 it will, at present forecast level, be the smallest crop since 1947 when only 338.5 million bushels were harvested. The decrease from 1957 is attributable jointly to the decline of 1 per cent in acreage and a reduction of average yield from 17.6 bushels in 1957 to 16.2 bushels per acre this year.

The 1958 crop of spring wheat, forecast at 314.9 million bushels is being harvested from a seeded area of 20.3 million acres yielding an indicated 15.5 bushels per acre. The 1957 spring wheat crop was produced on 20.4 million acres yielding an average of 17.2 bushels per acre. The 1958 yield for Ontario's winter wheat crop is placed at a record 41.0 bushels per acre as compared with 33.2 in 1957. A 2 per cent reduction in acreage was more than offset by the increased yield, and production at 23.8 million bushels is up 21 per cent from last year's outturn of 19.6 million.

In the Prairie Provinces the 1958 wheat crop is forecast at 313.0 million bushels, 36 million bushels or 10 per cent below last year's crop of 349.0 million and 152.0 million or 33 per cent below the ten-year average of 465.0 million. The indicated average yield per seeded acre in the Prairie Provinces, on the basis of conditions at August 15, is 15.5 bushels per acre with Manitoba averaging 19.9, Saskatchewan 13.1 and Alberta 19.8 bushels per acre. Production in each of these provinces in millions of bushels, with last year's estimate in brackets, is as follows: Manitoba, 47.0 (45.0); Saskatchewan, 173.0 (211.0); and Alberta, 93.0 (93.0). Relatively small amounts of winter wheat are included in these forecasts for the Prairie Provinces.

Durum Wheat The indicated production of durum wheat, which is included in the above forecast of spring wheat is 15.3 million bushels compared with last year's estimate of 44.1 million. Forecasts of 1958 production in the Prairie Provinces in millions of bushels, with last year's estimates in brackets are Manitoba, 1.7 (1.4); Saskatchewan, 12.0 (32.0); Alberta, 1.6 (10.7); and the Prairie Provinces, 15.3 (44.1).

The decrease in production is attributable to a 52 per cent decrease in acreage and a reduction in average yields from 18.7 bushels in 1957 to 13.6 bushels this season. Yields per acre in 1958, with 1957 figures in brackets are: Manitoba, 18.1 (19.1); Saskatchewan, 12.5 (17.8); Alberta, 22.2 (21.7); and the Prairie Provinces, 13.6 (18.7).

OATS

Production of oats in 1958 is forecast at 384.1 million bushels, representing an increase of 1 per cent from last year's total of 380.6 million but a decline of 5 per cent from the ten-year average of 403.3 million. The increase is entirely due to larger yields as the acreage is the same as the year previous. The average yield for the 1958 all Canada oat crop is estimated at 34.8 bushels per acre as against 34.5 bushels in 1957. It is interesting to note that in 1958 average yields of oats in Ontario set new records. The increased yields in this province coupled with a larger acreage is largely responsible for the greater Canadian production. In all other provinces, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, oat yields this year are below a year earlier.

Production in the Prairie Provinces is currently forecast at 221.0 million bushels compared with 234.0 last year and the ten-year average of 275.0 million. This year's crop in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta is forecast at 54.0 million, 73.0 million and 94.0 million bushels, respectively. Indicated average yields for the Prairie Provinces and for Canada as a whole are 29.1 bushels and 34.8 bushels per acre respectively, as against 30.0 and 34.5 bushels in 1957.

BARLEY The 1958 barley crop is forecast at 228.9 million bushels, some 6 per cent higher than last year's 216.0 million and 6.5 per cent above the ten-year average of 214.9 million bushels. The increase in production this year is due to a 2 per cent increase in acreage coupled with a 4 per cent increase in yield per acre compared with one year earlier.

Production in the Prairie Provinces is placed at 222.0 million bushels compared with last year's 209.0 million and the ten-year average of 205.6 million bushels. The barley crop in each of the Prairie Provinces, in millions of bushels, with last year's figures in brackets, is as follows: Manitoba, 39.0 (33.0); Saskatchewan, 80.0 (80.0); and Alberta, 103.0 (96.0). It is noted that average yields per acre in Ontario at 46.0 bushels per acre are at record levels for that province.

RYE Production of rye, forecast at 8.0 million bushels is 6 per cent below last year's outturn of 8.5 million. The crop is less than half the ten-year average of 16.8 and the smallest since 1945. Some 6.9 million bushels of this year's crop is fall rye which averaged 16.8 bushels per acre, while the spring rye crop is forecast at 1.1 million bushels, averaging 10.2 bushels per acre. Production of all rye in the Prairie Provinces is placed at 5.2 million bushels of which 1.1 million is in Manitoba, 2.3 million in Saskatchewan and 1.8 million in Alberta.

OIL SEEDS This year's flaxseed crop, currently forecast at 22.0 million bushels will, if realized, be some 14 per cent higher than last year's outturn of 19.2 million despite a drop in acreage of 24 per cent. Average yields at 8.2 bushels per acre are 49 per cent greater than in 1957 when the average yield was reduced to 5.5 bushels due to a combination of drought and the disease 'aster yellows'. This year's production in the Prairie Provinces is placed at 21.7 million bushels compared with 18.9 million in 1957 and the ten-year average of 13.7 million. Saskatchewan accounts for 10.5 million bushels of the 1958 crop, while Manitoba and Alberta outturns are forecast at 4.6 and 6.6 million bushels, respectively.

Production of rapeseed is placed at 401 million pounds compared with 433 million pounds the year previous. Although acreage seeded to this crop this year increased 10 per cent over 1957, average yields at 590 pounds per acre are some 16 per cent below last year's average of 701 pounds. Production of mustard seed is currently forecast at 74 million pounds, about 4 per cent larger than last year's outturn of 71 million pounds. Average yields of 849 pounds per acre are some 10 per cent greater than the 1957 average of 772 pounds. This more than offset the decrease in acreage of 5 per cent.

MIXED GRAINS Canada's 1958 crop of mixed grains, grown mainly in eastern Canada, is forecast at 63.7 million bushels compared with last year's 63.3 million and the ten-year average of 61.6 million bushels. The increased average yield from 43.6 bushels in 1957 to 44.8 bushels per acre in 1958 slightly more than offset the decrease in acreage of 2 per cent. Yields per acre were lower in all provinces with the exception of Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Manitoba. Some 42.6 million bushels of this year's total were grown in Ontario where the average yield of 56.0 bushels per acre established a new provincial record for the second consecutive year.

TAME HAY Production of tame hay is forecast at 16.8 million tons, 12 per cent below last year's outturn and 8 per cent below the ten-year average. All the provinces except Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia report lower yields per acre this year compared with 1957. With these two exceptions all provinces registered decreases in hay production this year.

POTATOES The 1958 potato crop, on the basis of conditions on August 15, is forecast at 37.7 million cwt., 14 per cent below the 1957 crop of 44.1 million cwt. and 4 per cent below the ten-year average of 39.3 million cwt. The decrease from last year is the result of lower yields, since the estimated acreage for 1958 at 311,000 acres is only slightly below last year's 312,100 acres. The expected average yield per acre is currently placed at 121.4 cwt. per acre as against 141.2 cwt. in 1957. The indicated average yield in all provinces for 1958 is below that of 1957. Estimated production is lower this year in all provinces with the exception of Alberta where production is unchanged.

Summary of August Forecast of Production

Based on conditions on or about August 15, the production of principal grain crops in Canada in 1958 is forecast, in millions of bushels, as follows, with 1957 totals and 1948-57 averages, respectively, within brackets: winter wheat, 23.8 (19.6, 21.7); spring wheat, 314.9 (350.9, 468.1); all wheat, 338.7 (370.5, 489.8); oats for grain, 384.1 (380.6, 403.3); barley, 228.9 (216.0, 214.9); fall rye, 6.9 (7.3, 12.1); spring rye, 1.1 (1.2, 4.7); all rye, 8.0 (8.5, 16.8); and flaxseed, 22.0 (19.2, 14.2). The average yields per acre, in bushels, are forecast as follows, with 1957 and 1948-57 averages, respectively, within brackets: winter wheat, 41.0 (33.2, 32.3); spring wheat, 15.5 (17.2, 19.4); all wheat, 16.2 (17.6, 19.8); oats for grain, 34.8 (34.5, 36.6); barley, 24.0 (23.0, 26.7); fall rye, 16.8 (16.6, 15.8); spring rye, 10.2 (11.2, 13.8); all rye, 15.4 (15.5, 15.3); and flaxseed, 8.2 (5.5, 9.2).

Production of Grain Crops in the Prairie Provinces

For the Prairie Provinces the first forecast of grain crops, in millions of bushels, is as follows, with 1957 totals and 1948-57 averages, respectively, within brackets: three provinces — wheat, 313.0 (349.0, 465.0); oats for grain, 221.0 (234.0, 275.0); barley, 222.0 (209.0, 205.6); rye, 5.2 (6.3, 14.8); flaxseed, 21.7 (18.9, 13.7). Manitoba — wheat, 47.0 (45.0, 48.2); oats for grain, 54.0 (58.0, 58.5); barley, 39.0 (33.0, 48.7); rye, 1.1 (1.2, 1.4); flaxseed, 4.6 (3.5, 4.7). Saskatchewan — wheat, 173.0 (211.0, 286.9); oats for grain, 73.0 (80.0, 116.3); barley, 80.0 (80.0, 70.4); rye, 2.3 (3.2, 8.4); flaxseed, 10.5 (10.5, 6.3). Alberta — wheat, 93.0 (93.0, 129.9); oats for grain, 94.0 (96.0, 100.2); barley, 103.0 (96.0, 86.5); rye, 1.8 (1.9, 4.9); flaxseed, 6.6 (4.9, 2.7).

August Forecast of the 1958 Production of Principal Field Crops in Canada,
Compared with Latest Estimates for 1957

Province and Crop	Area		Yield per Acre		Production	
	1957	1958	1957	1958 <u>1/</u>	1957	1958 <u>1/</u>
<u>CANADA</u>	- acres -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
Winter wheat	590,000	580,000	33.2	41.0	19,588,000	23,780,000
Spring wheat	20,440,800	20,319,100	17.2	15.5	350,920,000	314,948,000
All wheat	21,030,800	20,899,100	17.6	16.2	370,508,000	338,728,000
Oats for grain	11,017,000	11,039,200	34.5	34.8	380,599,000 <u>2/</u>	384,082,000
Barley	9,403,200	9,548,000	23.0	24.0	215,993,000 <u>2/</u>	228,859,000
Fall rye	439,500	409,900	16.6	16.8	7,299,000	6,891,000
Spring rye	111,100	111,500	11.2	10.2	1,240,000	1,135,000
All rye	550,600	521,400	15.5	15.4	8,539,000	8,026,000
Mixed grains	1,452,200	1,421,800	43.6	44.8	63,292,000	63,681,000
Flaxseed	3,485,600	2,664,700	5.5	8.2	19,179,000 <u>2/</u>	21,950,000
			- pounds -		- pounds -	
Mustard seed	92,150	87,300	772	849	71,112,000	74,150,000
Rapeseed	617,500	679,200	701	590	433,058,000 <u>2/</u>	401,000,000
			- cwt. -		- cwt. -	
Potatoes	312,100	311,000	141.2	121.4	44,077,000 <u>2/</u>	37,741,000
			- tons -		- tons -	
Tame hay	11,452,000	11,477,000	1.68	1.47	19,188,000	16,821,000
<u>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</u>			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	2,900	3,300	27.0	28.0	78,000	92,000
Oats for grain	93,000	97,000	45.0	47.0	4,185,000	4,559,000
Barley	1,000	800	38.0	37.0	38,000	30,000
Mixed grains	52,000	50,000	47.0	48.0	2,444,000	2,400,000
			- cwt. -		- cwt. -	
Potatoes	46,300	46,400	195.0	166.8	9,028,000 <u>2/</u>	7,740,000
			- tons -		- tons -	
Tame hay	210,000	212,000	1.30	1.84	273,000	390,000
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	600	700	28.0	27.0	17,000	19,000
Oats for grain	40,300	42,000	49.0	44.0	1,975,000	1,848,000
Barley	1,300	1,500	38.0	36.0	49,000	54,000
Mixed grains	9,900	10,400	49.0	43.0	485,000	447,000
			- cwt. -		- cwt. -	
Potatoes	10,200	10,300	172.0	131.4	1,754,000	1,353,000
			- tons -		- tons -	
Tame hay	314,000	311,000	1.60	2.00	502,000	622,000
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	2,500	2,400	27.0	26.0	68,000	62,000
Oats for grain	121,000	122,000	48.0	45.0	5,808,000	5,490,000
Barley	4,100	4,300	38.0	37.0	156,000	159,000
Mixed grains	6,300	5,200	46.0	43.0	290,000	224,000
			- cwt. -		- cwt. -	
Potatoes	46,300	46,000	198.7	163.8	9,200,000 <u>2/</u>	7,535,000
			- tons -		- tons -	
Tame hay	392,000	378,000	1.80	1.77	706,000	669,000

August Forecast of the 1958 Production of Principal Field Crops in Canada,
Compared with Latest Estimates for 1957

Province and Crop	Area		Yield per Acre		Production	
	1957	1958	1957	1958 1/	1957	1958 1/
<u>QUEBEC</u>						
	- acres -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	15,100	12,700	26.0	26.0	393,000	330,000
Oats for grain	1,258,000	1,307,000	40.0	37.0	50,320,000	48,359,000
Barley	25,300	23,000	36.0	32.0	911,000	736,000
Fall rye	8,300	9,500	25.0	23.0	208,000	218,000
Mixed grains	190,000	181,000	41.0	38.0	7,790,000	6,878,000
Potatoes	97,900	90,600	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -
			- tons -	- tons -	- tons -	- tons -
Tame hay	3,497,000	3,464,000	1.65	1.63	5,770,000	5,646,000
<u>ONTARIO</u>						
			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Winter wheat	590,000	580,000	33.2	41.0	19,588,000	23,780,000
Spring wheat	15,000	15,000	22.2	28.0	333,000	420,000
All wheat	605,000	595,000	32.9	40.7	19,921,000	24,200,000
Oats for grain	1,610,000	1,799,000	49.5	55.0	79,695,000	98,945,000
Barley	97,000	91,000	39.0	46.0	3,783,000	4,186,000
Fall rye	85,000	92,000	23.3	28.0	1,980,000	2,576,000
Mixed grains	840,000	760,000	50.5	56.0	42,420,000	42,560,000
Flaxseed	12,000	11,000	13.6	13.0	163,000	143,000
Potatoes	55,000	56,500	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -
			- tons -	- tons -	- tons -	- tons -
Tame hay	3,350,000	3,185,000	1.97	1.57	6,600,000	5,000,000
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	2,114,000	2,358,000	21.3	19.9	45,000,000	47,000,000
Oats for grain	1,800,000	1,711,000	32.2	31.6	58,000,000	54,000,000
Barley	1,704,000	1,584,000	19.4	24.6	33,000,000	39,000,000
Fall rye	65,700	65,100	16.7	15.7	1,100,000	1,025,000
Spring rye	7,200	6,400	13.9	11.7	100,000	75,000
All rye	72,900	71,500	16.5	15.4	1,200,000	1,100,000
Mixed grains	72,300	111,000	27.7	27.9	2,000,000	3,100,000
Flaxseed	865,000	592,000	4.0	7.8	3,500,000	4,600,000
Mustard seed	150	300	- pounds -	- pounds -	- pounds -	- pounds -
Rapeseed	27,500	29,200	750	667	112,000	200,000
Potatoes	15,300	15,600	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -
			- tons -	- tons -	- tons -	- tons -
Tame hay	722,000	776,000	1.77	1.10	1,275,000	850,000
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	13,365,000	13,182,000	15.8	13.1	211,000,000	173,000,000
Oats for grain	3,214,000	3,064,000	24.9	23.8	80,000,000	73,000,000
Barley	3,791,000	3,939,000	21.1	20.3	80,000,000	80,000,000
Fall rye	184,000	161,000	12.5	9.3	2,300,000	1,500,000
Spring rye	84,400	86,600	10.7	9.2	900,000	800,000
All rye	268,400	247,600	11.9	9.3	3,200,000	2,300,000
Mixed grains	62,700	75,000	22.0	18.7	1,379,000	1,400,000
Flaxseed	2,025,000	1,496,000	5.2	7.0	10,500,000	10,500,000
Rapeseed	520,000	570,000	- pounds -	- pounds -	- pounds -	- pounds -
			- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -	- cwt. -
Potatoes	14,500	15,400	52.0	39.0	754,000	600,000
Tame hay	723,000	788,000	- tons -	- tons -	- tons -	- tons -
			1.11	0.86	800,000	680,000

August Forecast of the 1958 Production of Principal Field Crops in Canada,
Compared with Latest Estimates for 1957

Province and Crop	Area		Yield per Acre		Production	
	1957	1958	1957	1958 1/	1957	1958 1/
ALBERTA						
	- acres -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	4,881,000	4,704,000	19.1	19.8	93,000,000	93,000,000
Oats for grain	2,791,000	2,809,000	34.4	33.5	96,000,000 2/	94,000,000
Barley	3,714,000	3,846,000	25.8	26.8	96,000,000 2/	103,000,000
Fall rye	94,500	81,200	17.6	19.0	1,660,000	1,540,000
Spring rye	19,500	18,500	12.3	14.1	240,000	260,000
All rye	114,000	99,700	16.7	18.1	1,900,000	1,800,000
Mixed grains	215,000	225,000	29.3	28.9	6,300,000	6,500,000
Flaxseed	572,000	556,000	8.6	11.9	4,900,000 2/	6,600,000
			- pounds -		- pounds -	
Mustard seed	92,000	87,000	772	850	71,000,000	73,950,000
Rapeseed	70,000	80,000	741	600	51,870,000 2/	48,000,000
			- cwt. -		- cwt. -	
Potatoes	16,600	18,700	84.0	74.9	1,400,000	1,400,000
			- tons -		- tons -	
Tame hay	1,887,000	1,996,000	1.26	1.15	2,370,000	2,300,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA						
			- bushels -		- bushels -	
Spring wheat	44,700	41,000	23.1	25.0	1,031,000	1,025,000
Oats for grain	89,700	88,200	51.5	44.0	4,616,000	3,881,000
Barley	65,500	58,400	31.4	29.0	2,056,000	1,694,000
Fall rye	2,000	1,100	25.5	29.0	51,000	32,000
Mixed grains	4,000	4,200	46.0	41.0	184,000	172,000
Flaxseed	11,600	9,700	10.0	11.0	116,000	107,000
			- cwt. -		- cwt. -	
Potatoes	10,000	11,500	207.0	156.0	2,074,000	1,794,000
			- tons -		- tons -	
Tame hay	357,000	367,000	2.50	1.81	892,000	664,000

August Forecast of the 1958 Production of Principal Field Crops in the
Prairie Provinces, Compared with Latest Estimates for 1957

Crop	Area		Yield per Acre		Production	
	1957	1958	1957	1958 1/	1957	1958 1/
	- acres -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
Wheat	20,360,000	20,244,000	17.1	15.5	349,000,000	313,000,000
Oats	7,805,000	7,584,000	30.0	29.1	234,000,000 2/	221,000,000
Barley	9,209,000	9,369,000	22.7	23.7	209,000,000 2/	222,000,000
Rye	455,300	418,800	13.8	12.4	6,300,000	5,200,000
Flaxseed	3,462,000	2,644,000	5.5	8.2	18,900,000 2/	21,700,000

1/ As indicated on basis of conditions on or about August 15.

2/ Revised.

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