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MINISTRY OF TRADE and Commerce  
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AGRICULTURE BRANCH

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CHIEF,

AGRICULTURAL BRANCH:

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FIELD CROPS, 1938.

Ottawa, October 7, 1938, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today a bulletin giving a first estimate of the area and yield of the potato root and fodder crops of Canada for 1938. The estimate is based upon the returns of crop correspondents at September 30.

The first estimate of the 1938 potato crop in Canada shows a total production of 36,643,000 cwt., which is 14 per cent below the production of 42,547,000 cwt. in 1937. A small reduction in the potato area of 531,200 acres in 1937 to 521,900 acres in 1938, and a larger reduction in the average yield per acre from 80 cwt. in 1937 to 70 cwt., in 1938 account for the appreciably lower production this year. Reduced yields occurred this year in seven of the nine provinces, the exceptions being Prince Edward Island where a crop of about average size is being harvested, and in Saskatchewan where, with the improved weather conditions this year, better yields were to be expected. Potato blight and root rot affected the yields of potatoes in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. Digging of potatoes in Ontario, particularly in the central and western parts of the province, showed disappointing yields, with few tubers to the hill, and of only fair size. Manitoba and Alberta showed reductions from last year, due to dry weather in the late growing season. British Columbia's potato crop is smaller than that of last year, but the average yield is comparatively good, considering the dry weather earlier this season.

The total production of fodder corn in Canada is slightly larger than in 1937, while alfalfa production is almost unchanged. Increases in fodder corn are shown in each of the provinces except Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia. Quebec and the three Prairie Provinces show increases in alfalfa production, which are offset by reductions in Ontario and British Columbia. Sugar beet production is appreciably higher in Ontario this year due to better weather conditions. The sugar beet crop in Alberta is also slightly higher.

The first estimate places the production of potatoes in Canada in 1938 at 36,643,000 cwt. from 521,900 acres, as compared with 42,547,000 cwt. from 531,200 acres in 1937, yields per acre of 70 cwt. and 80 cwt. respectively. By provinces the total production in cwt. is estimated as follows, with the figures for 1937 within brackets: Prince Edward Island 3,499,000 (3,471,000); Nova Scotia 1,590,000 (1,885,000); New Brunswick 4,988,000 (5,773,000); Quebec 10,213,000 (12,458,000); Ontario 7,018,000 (10,090,000); Manitoba 2,074,000 (2,481,000); Saskatchewan 3,087,000 (1,312,000); Alberta 2,397,000 (2,790,000); British Columbia 1,777,000 (2,287,000).

The production of turnips, mangolds, etc. in Canada in 1938 is estimated at 38,020,000 cwt. from 189,500 acres or 201 cwt. per acre, as compared with 36,300,000 cwt. from 185,700 acres or 195 cwt. per acre in 1937.

Fodder corn is estimated to have yielded 4,257,800 tons from 460,200 acres or 9.25 tons per acre, as compared with 3,927,500 tons from 447,300 acres or 8.78 tons per acre in 1937.

All cuttings of alfalfa amounted to 2,065,000 tons from 851,100 acres, as compared with 2,107,000 tons from 848,200 acres in 1937, yields per acre of 2.43 tons and 2.48 tons respectively.

The commercial production of sugar beets is now estimated at 535,300 tons from 47,900 acres, as compared with 418,000 tons from 46,500 acres in 1937, representing yields per acre of 11.18 tons and 8.99 tons.

ESTIMATE OF THE YIELD OF ROOT AND FODDER CROPS  
CANADA, 1938 AS COMPARED WITH 1937.

	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938
	acres	acres	per acre cwt.	per acre cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
POTATOES	531,200	521,900	80.0	70.0	42,547,000	36,643,000
TURNIPS	185,700	189,500	195.0	201.0	36,300,000	38,020,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	447,300	460,200	8.78	9.25	3,927,500	4,257,800
Alfalfa	848,900	851,100	2.48	2.43	2,107,000	2,065,000
Sugar beets	46,500	47,900	8.99	11.18	418,000	535,300
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	35,800	34,300	97.0	102.0	3,471,000	3,499,000
Turnips, etc.	11,600	11,400	180.0	250.0	2,088,000	2,850,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	400	400	6.75	7.10	2,700	2,800
NOVA SCOTIA			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	22,000	21,200	86.0	75.0	1,885,000	1,590,000
Turnips, etc.	11,700	11,900	249.0	250.0	2,912,000	2,975,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	800	700	8.00	8.17	6,400	5,700
NEW BRUNSWICK			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	50,200	50,900	115.0	98.0	5,773,000	4,988,000
Turnips, etc.	11,500	12,200	240.0	210.0	2,760,000	2,562,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	800	900	9.21	9.23	7,400	8,300
QUEBEC			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	143,200	139,900	87.0	73.0	12,458,000	10,213,000
Turnips, etc.	37,600	37,600	166.0	178.0	6,226,000	6,693,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	47,300	53,800	9.87	10.10	467,000	543,000
Alfalfa	15,300	16,400	2.20	2.56	34,000	42,000
ONTARIO			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	150,600	146,200	67.0	48.0	10,090,000	7,018,000
Turnips, etc.	97,200	99,000	205.0	210.0	19,926,000	20,790,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	317,300	321,800	9.71	10.30	3,081,000	3,315,000
Alfalfa	646,700	633,000	2.57	2.40	1,662,000	1,519,000
Sugar beets	26,500	28,200	6.98	10.40	185,000	293,300
MANITOBA			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	30,900	31,900	80.0	65.0	2,481,000	2,074,000
Turnips, etc.	5,500	6,200	131.0	95.0	723,000	589,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	64,500	59,900	4.26	4.20	275,000	252,000
Alfalfa	30,000	45,000	2.37	2.20	71,000	99,000
SASKATCHEWAN			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	48,600	50,600	27.0	61.0	1,312,000	3,087,000
Turnips, etc.	2,400	2,500	18.0	50.0	43,000	125,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	7,800	13,400	0.62	3.56	5,000	48,000
Alfalfa	23,000	20,400	1.03	1.75	24,000	36,000
ALBERTA			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	31,000	28,200	90.0	85.0	2,790,000	2,397,000
Turnips, etc.	2,700	2,700	116.0	92.0	313,000	248,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	2,700	3,100	5.55	5.75	15,000	18,000
Alfalfa	83,000	85,600	1.88	2.54	156,000	217,000
Sugar beets	20,000	19,700	11.65	12.30	233,000	242,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	18,900	18,700	121.0	95.0	2,287,000	1,777,000
Turnips, etc.	5,500	6,000	238.0	198.0	1,309,000	1,188,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	5,700	6,200	11.96	10.55	68,000	65,000
Alfalfa	50,900	50,700	3.14	3.00	160,000	152,000

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