

22-002  
no. 19  
1949  
c. 2



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
Agriculture Division  
OTTAWA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

C.R. No. 26

1949

Price: \$2.00 for series of 26 reports

DECEMBER ESTIMATE OF VALUE OF FIELD CROPS

Ottawa, December 15, 1949, 3 p.m.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today its first estimate of the farm value of field crop production for 1949 as compared with the values for 1948 and 1947. It must be emphasized that the values per unit assigned to each crop in 1949 represent average prices received by farmers from the beginning of the crop year, August 1, up to the end of November only. No attempt has been made to forecast prices for the remainder of the crop year, but a further estimate based on average prices during the first six months of the crop year will be issued in February next. A revised statement based on prices during the entire crop year will be released next December with the first estimate of the value of 1950 crops. For wheat, oats and barley of the 1949 crop in western Canada, only the initial prices are considered in this release. The effect of participation payments will be taken into account in later revisions when the extent of these payments becomes known.

Data on monthly marketings are available for a number of crops and in these cases the monthly average farm prices have been weighted by marketings to give weighted average unit values for the period. The average prices assigned to all crops have been determined after consultation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and after due consideration has been given to factors such as quality and grade.

The values of 1948 field crops have been revised, wherever possible on the basis of weighted average prices for the twelve months of the crop year 1948-49. It should be observed that the estimates given in this report do not represent cash income received from sales but are gross values of farm production. Several crops such as mixed grains and fodder corn are utilized almost wholly on farms where grown--average unit prices being determined from the relatively small quantities sold commercially and then applied to the entire production of each crop to give its estimated value.

SUMMARY

The gross value of principal field crops produced on Canadian farms in 1949 is estimated at 1,427 million dollars, down 16 per cent from last year's record of 1,696 million. The gross value of Canada's 1949 field crops is the fifth highest in history being exceeded only in the years 1919, 1920, 1947 and 1948. It should be noted, too, that anticipated participation payments on western wheat, oats and barley will place this year's crop at a higher level than is currently indicated.

Lower prices and reduced production of most crops are joint causes of the reduction in value of field crops from the 1948 level. Only for fodder crops and field roots (turnips, mangels, etc.) are average farm prices for all Canada for the first four months of this crop year above the 1948-49 average--although in some provinces prices for certain other crops are higher than last year. Declines in prices and production of wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax were alone responsible for a total drop in value from 1948 of 237 million dollars. By individual grains the decreases are roughly: wheat 56 million; oats 53 million; barley 47 million; rye 21 million; and flaxseed 60 million dollars. As indicated above, however, participation payments on the first three grains may be expected to reduce these differences. Despite the lowered value of 1949 field crops it is observed that the current level is still 230 per cent above the low point of 432 million dollars reached in 1931. It is also interesting to note that the farm value of this year's crops is just slightly above that recorded in 1946, the first full post war year.

The following table shows a comparison of the gross value of field crop production from 1930 to date. Values up to 1948 included the effects of participation payments for wheat and equalization and adjustment payments for oats, barley and flax. Upward revisions will be made in the 1949 figures when the extent of such payments relative to this year's crop become known.

Gross Value of Canadian Field Crop Production, 1930-1949

	Thousand Dollars		Thousand Dollars
1930 .....	662,041	1940 .....	704,299
1931 .....	432,199	1941 .....	704,761
1932 .....	452,527	1942 .....	1,221,942
1933 .....	453,598	1943 .....	1,189,229
1934 .....	549,080	1944 .....	1,386,892
1935 .....	511,873	1945 .....	1,270,947
1936 .....	612,300	1946 .....	1,424,417
1937 .....	556,222	1947 .....	1,531,046
1938 .....	550,069	1948 .....	1,696,018
1939 .....	685,839	1949 .....	1,426,918

The 1949 wheat crop is valued at 566.6 million dollars, down 9 per cent from last year. While the average price of 1949 wheat is 4 cents per bushel less than in 1948 (due largely to lower grades in the west and cheaper wheat in Ontario) most of the decreased value is attributable to the decrease in production of 25.9 million bushels. The values of the oats, barley, rye and flaxseed crops are down considerably reflecting both production and price declines, the former being the more important factor. The percentage reductions in rye and flaxseed production were particularly marked. Production of dry peas was down sharply with a corresponding drop in value. A slight increase in production of dry beans occurred but prices are lower and the farm value of the crop is down over half a million dollars. The price of soy beans has held up well and with increased production this year the value of this crop advanced nearly two million dollars. A larger 1949 crop of corn for husking was sufficient to offset a decline in price and total value of this crop increased slightly. With the 1949 potato crop a little smaller than in 1948 and farm prices averaging somewhat lower this season, the gross farm value of Canada's 1949 potato production is placed nearly 5 million dollars below that of 1948.

Higher prices for hay and clover this year have been insufficient to compensate for sharply decreased production and value of these crops is down nearly 25 million dollars. Gross values of buckwheat, mixed grains, field roots, and grain hay are also lower. Reflecting higher prices the farm value of the 1949 alfalfa crop is slightly in excess of that of 1948 while the value of fodder corn is up 6 million dollars--due to increases in both price and production. The sugar beet prices shown for 1949 indicate initial payments only (except for Ontario where an estimate of total price and value has been made) and significant upward revisions in the value of this crop will be required as soon as the extent of the final payments becomes known.

Over-all increases in gross value of 1949 field crop production relative to 1948 have been recorded in only two provinces, Prince Edward Island (up 7 per cent) and British Columbia (up 2 per cent). Declines were registered in all other provinces ranging from 3 per cent in Quebec to 30 per cent in Alberta.



# Values of Field Crop Production, By Provinces, 1949 and 1948

Province	Total Values		Increase (+) or Decrease (-)	
	1948	1949	in Value	
	Thousand Dollars	Thousand Dollars	Thousand Dollars	Per Cent
Prince Edward Island ...	23,484	25,153	+ 1,669	+ 7
Nova Scotia .....	25,260	21,653	- 3,607	- 14
New Brunswick .....	37,921	33,538	- 4,383	- 12
Quebec .....	195,723	189,598	- 6,125	- 3
Ontario .....	378,269	340,990	- 37,279	- 10
Manitoba .....	223,736	172,142	- 51,594	- 23
Saskatchewan .....	438,552	370,527	- 68,025	- 16
Alberta .....	339,712	239,200	- 100,512	- 30
British Columbia .....	33,361	34,117	+ 756	+ 2
CANADA .....	1,696,018	1,426,918	- 269,100	- 16

The total value of all field crops in Canada in 1949 is now estimated at \$1,426,918,000 as compared with \$1,696,018,000 in 1948. The 1949 total is made up of the following items, with the 1948 values within brackets:

Wheat \$566,620,000 (\$623,011,000); oats \$201,453,000 (\$254,525,000); barley \$103,282,000 (\$149,991,000); rye \$12,307,000 (\$33,261,000); peas \$2,605,000 (\$4,328,000); beans \$6,199,000 (\$6,836,000); soy beans \$5,887,000 (\$4,195,000); buckwheat \$4,263,000 (\$4,982,000); mixed grains \$53,075,000 (\$60,317,000); flaxseed \$7,735,000 (\$67,315,000); shelled corn \$16,766,000 (\$16,369,000); potatoes \$86,909,000 (\$91,837,000); turnips, mangels, etc. \$21,563,000 (\$22,257,000); hay and clover \$230,128,000 (\$254,769,000); alfalfa \$52,770,000 (\$51,412,000); fodder corn \$34,887,000 (\$28,639,000); grain hay \$11,301,000 (\$12,880,000); sugar beets \$9,168,000 initial payment except for Ontario (\$9,094,000).

By provinces in order of magnitude, the total values of 1949 crops are as follows, with the 1948 figures within brackets: Saskatchewan \$370,527,000 (\$438,552,000); Ontario \$340,990,000 (\$378,269,000); Alberta \$239,200,000 (\$339,712,000); Quebec \$189,598,000 (\$195,723,000); Manitoba \$172,142,000 (\$223,736,000); British Columbia \$34,117,000 (\$33,361,000); New Brunswick \$33,538,000 (\$37,921,000); Prince Edward Island \$25,153,000 (\$23,484,000); Nova Scotia \$21,653,000 (\$25,260,000).

For the three Prairie Provinces the total value of the five principal grain crops in 1949 is now estimated as follows, with the 1948 values within brackets: Wheat \$514,980,000 (\$562,060,000); oats \$100,930,000 (\$140,820,000); barley \$90,000,000 (\$135,150,000); rye \$8,996,000 (\$28,739,000); flaxseed \$7,028,000 (\$64,074,000). The total value of the five crops for the three provinces amounts to \$721,934,000 in 1949 as compared with \$930,843,000 in 1948.

The average prices received by farmers for the 1949 crops up to the end of November are estimated as follows, with the prices of 1948 crops within brackets: Cents per bushel - Wheat 154 (158); oats 64 (71); barley 86 (97); rye 123 (131); peas 279 (293); beans 348 (416); soy beans 226 (230); buckwheat 121 (124); mixed grains 95 (97); flaxseed 342 (381); corn, shelled 123 (132); Cents per hundredweight - Potatoes 160 (166); turnips, mangels, etc. 110 (98); Dollars per ton - Hay and clover 18.80 (15.85); alfalfa 20.25 (17.01); fodder corn 6.33 (5.67); grain hay 12.36 (10.70); sugar beets 10.72 initial payment except for Ontario (14.46).

FIRST ESTIMATE OF THE GROSS VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES,  
1949 AS COMPARED WITH 1947 AND 1948

NOTE: Average prices are per bushel for grain crops, per hundredweight for potatoes, turnips, mangels, etc., and per ton for hay, alfalfa, fodder corn and sugar beets.

C r o p	1 9 4 7		1 9 4 8		1 9 4 9	
	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average	Total
	Price	Value	Price	Value	Price	Value
	\$	000\$	\$	000\$	\$	000\$
<u>CANADA</u>						
Wheat	1.54	526,740	1.58	623,011	1.54	566,620
Oats	0.81	226,947	0.71	254,525	0.64	201,453
Barley	1.10	155,759	0.97	149,991	0.86	103,282
Rye	3.29	43,517	1.31	33,261	1.23	12,307
Peas, dry	2.87	5,138	2.93	4,328	2.79	2,605
Beans, dry	5.34	7,721	4.16	6,836	3.48	6,199
Soy beans	3.06	3,397	2.30	4,195	2.26	5,887
Buckwheat	1.17	6,075	1.24	4,982	1.21	4,263
Mixed Grains	0.93	32,635	0.97	60,317	0.95	53,075
Flaxseed	5.24	64,135	3.81	67,315	3.42	7,735
Corn, shelled	1.87	12,506	1.32	16,369	1.23	16,766
Potatoes	2.20	99,362	1.66	91,837	1.60	86,909
Turnips, mangels, etc.	0.92	19,392	0.98	22,257	1.10	21,563
Hay and Clover	15.51	251,154	15.85	254,769	18.80	230,128
Alfalfa	15.22	38,965	17.01	51,412	20.25	52,770
Fodder corn	5.08	19,654	5.67	28,639	6.33	34,887
Grain hay	6.86	9,264	10.70	12,880	12.36	11,301
Sugar beets	14.34	8,685	14.46	9,094	10.72*	9,162
TOTAL	-	1,531,046	-	1,696,018	-	1,426,918

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Wheat	1.31	146	1.79	231	1.78	267
Oats	0.91	3,886	0.82	3,774	0.82	3,614
Barley	1.04	334	1.18	343	1.18	398
Buckwheat	1.14	29	1.24	27	1.28	29
Mixed Grains	0.85	2,090	0.98	2,597	0.98	2,793
Potatoes	1.77	10,395	1.12	7,072	1.03	8,396
Turnips, mangels, etc.	0.75	2,475	0.72	2,768	0.95	3,411
Hay and Clover	21.19	3,835	13.10	6,576	13.70	6,165
Fodder corn	8.00	80	8.00	96	8.00	80
TOTAL	-	23,270	-	23,424	-	23,133

\* Initial payment except for Ontario.

C r o p	1 9 4 7		1 9 4 8		1 9 4 9	
	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average	Total
	Price	Value	Price	Value	Price	Value
	\$	000\$	\$	000\$	\$	000\$
<u>NOVA SCOTIA</u>						
Wheat	1.35	34	1.72	55	1.65	73
Oats	0.91	2,048	0.93	2,280	0.91	2,530
Barley	1.13	215	1.26	272	1.20	281
Buckwheat	1.26	34	1.47	40	1.43	40
Mixed Grains	1.08	148	1.02	202	1.04	248
Potatoes	2.29	4,186	1.96	5,433	1.53	4,443
Turnips, Mangels, Etc.	1.00	2,010	1.15	2,827	1.10	2,642
Hay and Clover	18.93	13,705	17.30	14,082	16.10	11,334
Fodder Corn	6.25	50	6.25	69	6.25	62
TOTAL	-	22,430	-	25,260	-	21,653
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK</u>						
Wheat	1.59	73	1.90	139	1.87	148
Oats	0.88	5,373	0.83	5,898	0.79	5,524
Barley	1.12	376	1.20	422	1.20	522
Beans, dry	4.17	63	4.25	81	4.75	119
Buckwheat	1.28	493	1.33	492	1.24	474
Mixed Grains	0.84	271	0.92	292	0.91	340
Potatoes	2.03	19,198	1.20	12,467	1.10	12,428
Turnips, Mangels, Etc.	0.85	1,638	1.00	2,225	1.15	2,149
Hay and Clover	18.55	16,565	15.60	15,803	14.40	11,750
Fodder Corn	8.00	128	6.00	102	6.00	84
TOTAL	-	44,178	-	37,921	-	33,538
<u>QUEBEC</u>						
Wheat	1.56	507	1.80	860	1.74	814
Oats	0.92	24,508	0.90	36,417	0.84	30,421
Barley	1.21	3,491	1.20	4,675	1.18	3,510
Rye	1.32	164	1.43	315	1.51	334
Peas, dry	3.96	836	4.00	1,088	3.82	840
Beans, dry	4.55	701	4.50	940	4.76	809
Buckwheat	1.26	1,919	1.30	2,256	1.25	1,945
Mixed Grains	0.98	5,457	1.13	10,406	1.15	9,078
Potatoes	2.47	26,078	1.62	24,282	1.57	21,352
Turnips, mangels, Etc.	1.10	3,798	1.25	5,208	1.25	5,006
Hay and Clover	15.93	94,545	17.60	99,352	21.00	101,283
Alfalfa	17.45	2,722	20.00	3,300	24.00	4,680
Fodder Corn	7.40	5,276	7.00	6,265	8.00	9,136
Sugar Beets	13.00	136	13.00	359	6.00*	390
TOTAL	-	170,138	-	195,723	-	189,598

\* Initial payment only.



C r o p	1 9 4 7		1 9 4 8		1 9 4 9	
	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average	Total
	Price	Value	Price	Value	Price	Value
	\$	000\$	\$	000\$	\$	000\$
<u>ONTARIO</u>						
Wheat	1.42	25,985	2.05	55,707	1.71	44,077
Oats	0.90	37,341	0.82	62,917	0.77	55,414
Barley	1.13	6,930	1.11	8,634	1.17	8,082
Rye	2.56	3,697	1.52	4,182	1.33	2,960
Peas, dry	3.00	1,932	2.86	1,859	2.47	966
Beans, dry	5.47	6,903	4.11	5,762	3.32	5,239
Soy beans	3.06	3,397	2.30	4,195	2.26	5,887
Buckwheat	1.11	3,543	1.15	2,119	1.15	1,735
Mixed Grains	0.94	23,793	0.95	45,288	0.92	39,328
Flaxseed	5.42	3,653	3.80	3,150	3.32	651
Corn, shelled	1.89	12,153	1.32	15,998	1.24	16,244
Potatoes	2.38	21,658	1.97	24,077	1.95	21,902
Turnips, mangels, Etc.	0.89	8,845	0.88	8,586	1.04	7,715
Hay and Clover	14.29	87,941	14.40	82,800	19.59	72,268
Alfalfa	14.25	19,195	16.00	29,168	21.00	29,988
Fodder Corn	4.38	13,022	5.28	21,099	5.80	24,244
Sugar Beets	13.70	2,251	13.85	2,728	13.00	4,290
TOTAL	-	282,239	-	378,269	-	340,990
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
Wheat	1.58	66,360	1.58	90,060	1.57	89,490
Oats	0.78	30,420	0.65	39,000	0.57	30,210
Barley	1.11	37,740	0.98	44,100	0.87	34,800
Rye	3.54	2,124	1.29	2,516	1.21	908
Peas, dry	2.40	1,049	2.30	626	1.95	234
Buckwheat	1.64	57	1.42	48	1.25	40
Mixed Grains	0.80	246	0.84	313	0.78	349
Flaxseed	5.24	27,248	3.82	34,533	3.50	3,850
Corn, shelled	1.40	353	1.25	371	0.95	522
Potatoes	1.67	3,028	1.64	3,537	1.95	3,448
Hay and Clover	10.78	4,743	10.37	4,469	10.65	3,621
Alfalfa	13.05	2,584	14.00	2,520	14.70	2,764
Fodder Corn	7.00	623	7.00	490	8.00	768
Sugar Beets	12.55	813	14.32	1,153	9.10*	1,138
TOTAL	-	177,388	-	223,736	-	172,142
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
Wheat	1.55	268,150	1.55	296,050	1.53	279,990
Oats	0.79	63,200	0.63	56,070	0.52	44,200
Barley	1.11	49,950	0.95	39,900	0.80	26,400
Rye	3.32	22,510	1.30	13,650	1.20	5,280
Peas, dry	2.50	255	2.25	79	2.30	101
Mixed Grain	0.74	70	0.82	104	0.76	92
Flaxseed	5.23	21,966	3.80	18,012	3.32	2,158
Potatoes	2.01	4,798	2.06	4,452	2.50	3,865
Hay and Clover	14.22	5,674	13.60	6,025	13.60	4,502
Alfalfa	16.72	2,859	17.25	4,002	17.50	3,815
Fodder Corn	10.00	170	13.85	208	13.75	124
TOTAL	-	439,602	-	438,552	-	370,527

\* Initial Payment Only.

C r o p	1 9 4 7		1 9 4 8		1 9 4 9	
	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average	Total
	Price	Value	Price	Value	Price	Value
	\$	000\$	\$	000\$	\$	000\$
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
Wheat	1.53	160,650	1.53	175,950	1.50	145,500
Oats	0.76	57,000	0.61	45,750	0.51	26,520
Barley	1.08	56,160	0.93	51,150	0.80	28,800
Rye	3.52	14,960	1.27	12,573	1.17	2,808
Peas, dry	2.66	591	2.55	528	3.50	298
Mixed Grains	0.74	266	0.75	796	0.74	511
Flaxseed	5.20	11,180	3.78	11,529	3.40	1,020
Potatoes	2.08	4,077	2.11	4,281	2.90	4,272
Hay and Clover	13.90	13,553	14.20	14,441	15.30	10,174
Alfalfa	14.64	6,544	17.00	6,647	18.50	5,846
Fodder Corn	6.00	24	6.50	13	7.00	21
Grain Hay	6.50	8,288	10.00	11,200	12.00	10,080
Sugar Beets	14.98	5,485	14.98	4,854	10.00*	3,350
TOTAL	-	338,778	-	339,712	-	239,200

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Wheat	1.63	4,835	1.61	3,959	1.61	6,261
Oats	0.81	3,171	0.70	2,419	0.72	3,020
Barley	1.11	563	1.02	495	0.99	489
Rye	3.25	62	1.30	25	1.24	17
Peas, dry	2.76	475	3.60	148	2.25	166
Beans, dry	3.60	54	4.80	53	4.50	32
Mixed Grains	0.80	294	0.94	319	0.97	336
Flaxseed	5.22	88	3.80	91	3.50	56
Potatoes	2.78	5,944	2.80	6,236	2.90	6,803
Turnips, Mangels, Etc.	1.60	626	1.80	643	2.00	640
Hay and Clover	21.53	10,593	24.50	11,221	21.40	9,031
Alfalfa	21.00	5,061	25.00	5,775	21.75	5,677
Fodder Corn	7.50	281	9.00	297	8.00	368
Grain Hay	13.00	976	20.00	1,680	16.50	1,221
TOTAL	-	33,023	-	33,361	-	34,117

\* Initial Payment Only.

1010525711