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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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### FIELD CROPS OF CANADA, 1929.

Ottawa, October 10, 1929, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued today under the authority of the Hon. James Malcolm, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce, a report giving (1) the quality of cereal crops at harvest time; (2) a forecast of the yields of root and fodder crops (potatoes, turnips, etc., sugar beets and fodder corm), as indicated by their condition on September 30, 1929; (3) condition of alfalfa and of pastures; and (4) description of general conditions at the end of September. The report is based upon returns from crop correspondents, comprising practical farmers throughout Canada, and bank managers, railway agents and grain elevator managers in the Prairie Provinces. The areas for these crops are as estimated, except for the provinces of Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia, from the returns obtained in June last through the rural schools and post offices, where the areas used are based upon the reports of crop correspondents at the end of June last.

## QUALITY OF CEREAL CROPS

The quality of cereal crops at harvest time, as compared with a standard of 100 representing the average quality for the ten years 1919-28, is reported for all Canada as follows, the corresponding percentages for 1928 being given within brackets: Fall wheat 100 (95); spring wheat 100 (95); all wheat 100 (95); oats 94 (94); barley 93 (96); rye 96 (95); peas 95 (89); beans 95 (95); buckwheat 93 (95); mixed grains 96 (96); flax-seed 94 (95); corn for husking 88 (92).

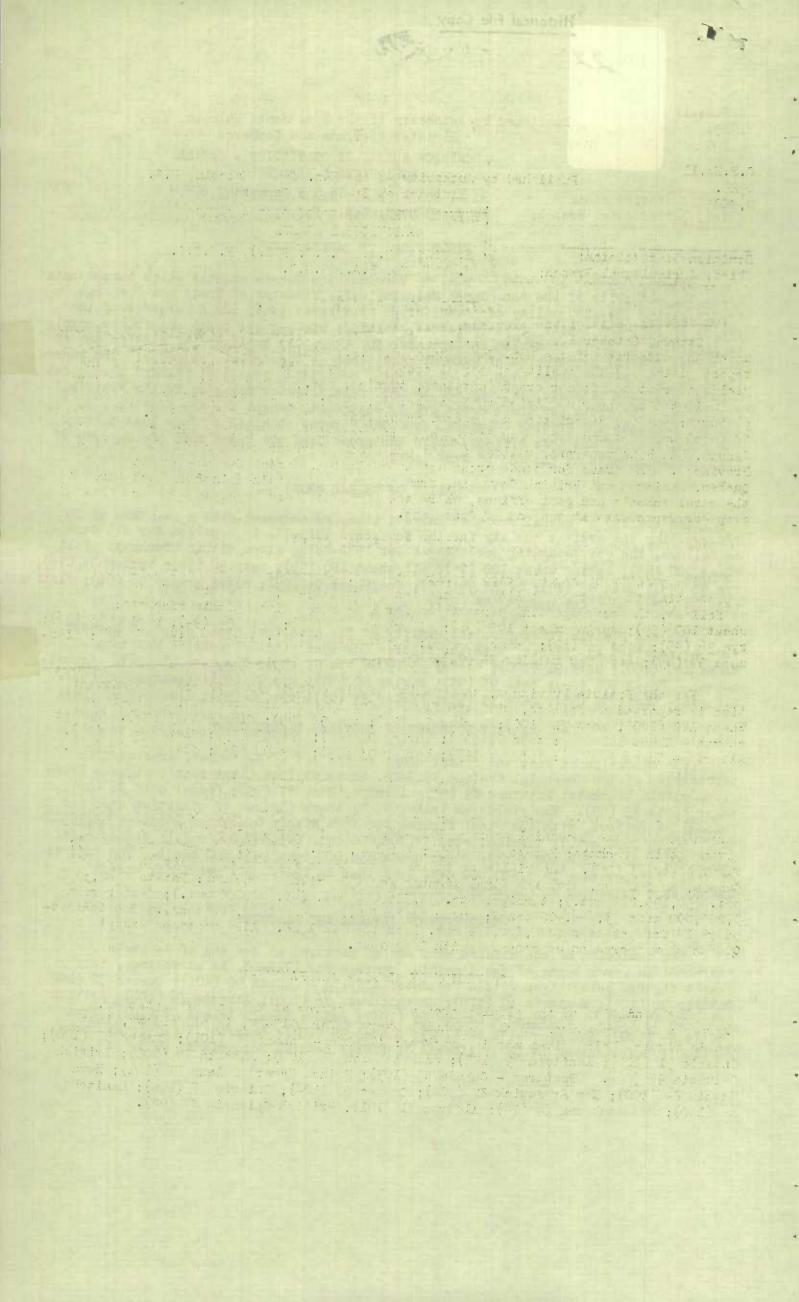
For the Prairie Provinces, the quality of the principal grain crops at harvest time is reported as follows, with the figures for 1928 within brackets: Manitoba — Wheat 100 (100); oats 91 (100); barley 93 (97); rye 93 (95); flaxseed 93 (96). Saskatchewan — Wheat 101 (94); oats 93 (93); barley 92 (95); rye 97 (95); flaxseed 95 (94). Alberta — Wheat 98 (95); oats 93 (93); barley 93 (93); rye 95 (96); flaxseed 96 (99).

### HARVEST FORECAST OF ROOT AND FODDER CROPS

The condition of root and fodder crops at the end of September, expressed in percentages of the decennial average 1919-28, is as follows, last year's figures being given within brackets: Potatoes 89 (95); turnips, etc. 87 (99); fodder corn 86 (96); sugar beets 83 (95). The yields as indicated by these figures of condition are, for Canada, as follows, with the final figures for 1928 within brackets: Potatoes 42,395000 cwt. (50,195,000 cwt.); turnips, etc. 33,706,000 cwt. (43,623,000 cwt.); fodder corn 3,290,000 tons (3,666,400 tons); sugar beets 350,000 tons (433,000 tons). The indicated yield for potatoes is 7,800,000 cwt. less than in 1928. All provinces except Quebec show decreases as compared with last year.

# CONDITION OF ALFALFA AND PASTURES

The condition of the alfalfa crop and of pastures at the end of September, expressed in percentages of the decennial average for 1919-28, is as follows, last year's figures being given within brackets: Alfalfa - Canada 90 (101); Quebec 97 (100); Ontario 91 (101); Manitoba 69 (100); Saskatchewan 76 (100); Alberta 76 (100); British Columbia 95 (99). Pastures - Canada 85 (103); Prince Edward Island 77 (101); Nova Scotia 84 (100); New Brunswick 82 (102); Quebec 98 (104); Ontario 77 (104); Manitoba 66 (100); Saskatchewan 64 (94); Alberta 71 (101); British Columbia 87 (92).



#### GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER

Atlantic Provinces. Conditions have improved during the month owing to abundant rains in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, especially in the latter part of the month. In spite of a dry summer, the crops in many instances are turning out better than expected. This applies to potatoes and roots as well as to grains. Crops have been housed in good condition. The rains have greatly facilitated fall ploughing. Pastures are somewhat poor, but rains have helped them. The apple crop is of good quality and abundant.

Quebec.— The month of September has been ideal for the harvesting of all crops which have been housed in good condition, except in some localities where heavy rains have retarded operations to some extent. The grain is of good quality and in many instances better than last year. Frosts on September 18, 19 and 20 were reported from several parts of the province, but the damage was small. Very little ploughing has been done to date owing to the ground being too hard and dry. Prospects are very encouraging this year, although lack of rain has made pastures short.

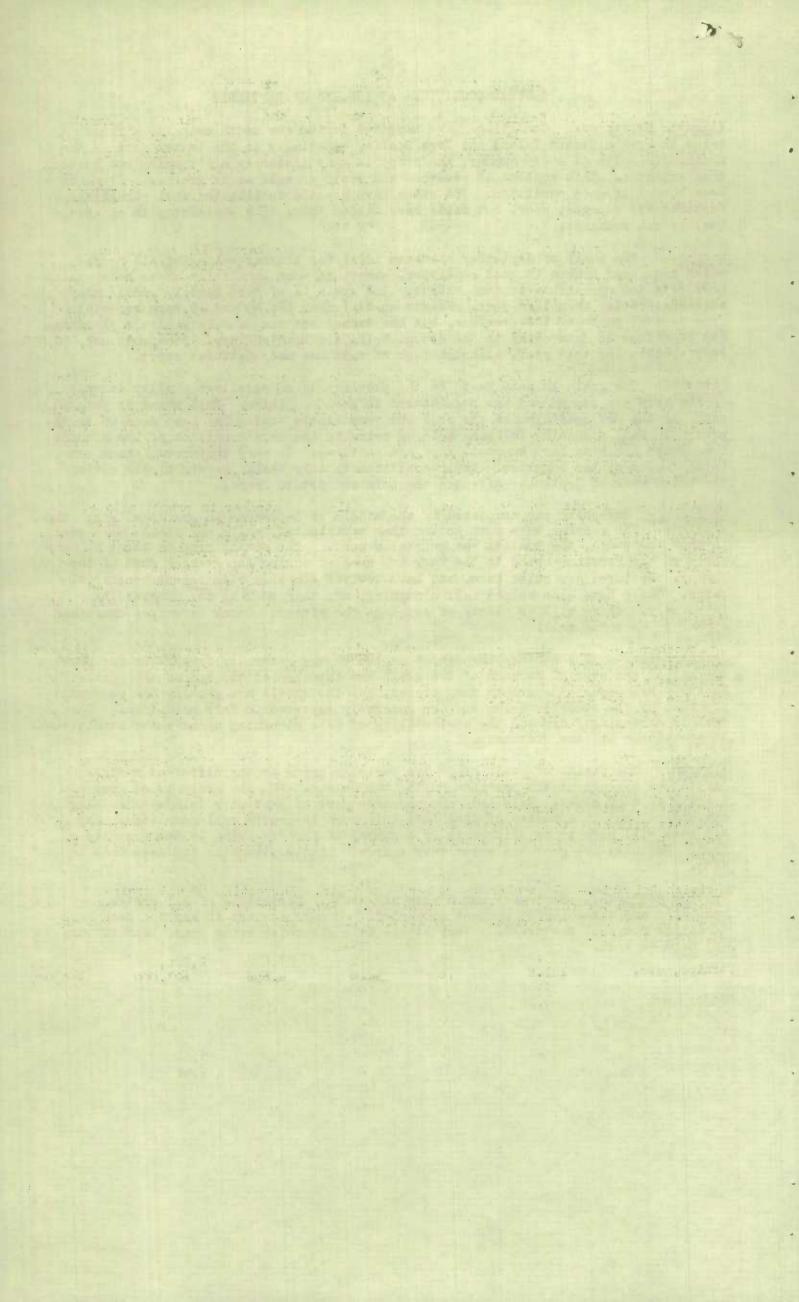
Ontario. The grain in many parts of the province is of excellent quality in spite of the very dry season and has been stored in good condition. Fall wheat is patchy owing to the dry condition of the soil and very little sowing has been done up to the present. Fall ploughing is being held up owing to the hard condition of the ground. The drouth has been hard on root crops and pastures. In many instances, stock are being fed on winter supplies. Their condition is only fair. Severe frosts during the third week of September affected the corn and potato crops.

Manitoba.— Threshing was completed by the middle of September in practically all the province. The returns were much better than anticipated, while the yields were small in many instances, the quality was generally good. The potato crop is light in many parts of the Province owing to the very dry weather during the greater part of the summer. Pastures are quite bare, but have revived somewhat with recent beneficial rains. These have also helped fall ploughing, and this work is now progressing favourably. There will be plenty of roughage for winter. Stock have free range and appear to be doing well.

Saskatchewan. The weather throughout September was generally favourable for harvest operations and over 90 percent of the grain was threshed at the end of the month. Pastures are reported short in many places, but the cattle are getting the pasturage provided by the stubble fields and are generally reported in fair condition. The soil is exceedingly dry and the advisability of fall ploughing under these conditions is questioned in some instances.

Alberta. The yields of grain crops are variable owing to the different weather conditions throughout the province during the season. But the grain is of good quality in many cases. Rain and snow the last part of September delayed threshing operations, but in a number of districts this work is pretty well completed. Hay and oats will have to be shipped in by a number of farmers owing to the scarcity of feed. Pastures are poor and water very scarce. Little ploughing has been done to date.

British Columbia. September was a very dry month. Harvesting of all grains completed and threshing 85 percent completed. Ranges are not in any too good condition for fall pasturage. Very little fall ploughing being done, land too dry and hard to work.



Harvest Forecast of the Yield of Root and Fodder Crops as indicated by Condition on September 30, 1929.

NOTE. - For condition, 100 = Average yield per acre 1919-28.

|  | Average       | Con-   | Indi-        | ment of address for the plants against the second |                   |                 |
|--|---------------|--|--------------|---|-------------------|-----------------|
|  | Yield         | dition   | cated        | Area Sown   | Final             | Forecast        |
| Field Crops  | per           | Sept. 30   | Yield        | 1929  | Estimate          | of Yield        |
|  | acre          | 1929   | per acre     | -)-)  | 1928              | 1929            |
| The state of the s | 1919-28       |  | 1929         |   | 2)20              | 1727            |
| C 627 671 6  | Cwt.          | p.c.   | Cwt.         | Acres   | Cwt.              | Cwt.            |
| CANADA   |               |  |              |   |                   |                 |
| Potatoes Turnips, etc.   | 90.3          | 89   | 17-9         | 544,392   | 50,195,000        | 42,395,000      |
| turings, etc.  | 190.4<br>tons | 87   | 169.7        | 198,650   | 43,623,000        | 33,706,000      |
| Fodder corn  | 8.88          | 86   | tons         | 107 077   | tons              | tons            |
| Sugar beets  | 9.79          | 83   | 7.76<br>8.05 | 423,873   | 3,666,400         | 3,290,000       |
| PRINCE EDWARD  | ISLAND- cwt.  | 0)   | cwt.         | 43,464  | 433,000           | 350,000         |
| Potatoes   | 103.7         | 86   | 69.2         | 42,500  | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 252.5         | 88   | 222.2        | 11,116  | 5,708,000         | 3,791,000       |
|  | tons          |  | tons         | 11,110  | 3,027,000<br>tons | 2,470,000       |
| Fodder corn  | 8.10          | 101  | 8.18         | 580   | 7,000             | tons 5,000      |
| NOVA SCOTIA -  | cwt.          |  | cwt.         |   | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Potatoes   | 103.2         | 94   | 97.0         | 30,783  | 3,280,000         | 2,986,000       |
| Turnips, etc.  | 232.8         | 90   | 209.5        | 15,516  | 3,877,000         | 3,251,000       |
| Fodder corn  | tons          |  | tons         |   | tons              | tons            |
| NEW BRUNSWIRK -  | 8.75          | 93   | 8.14         | 1,026   | 11,000            | 8,000           |
| Potatoes   | cwt.          | 03   | cwt.         | 1.5   | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 195.2         | 91<br>89   | 106.3        | 45,215  | 6,776,000         | 4,806,000       |
|  | tons          | 09   | 173.7        | 13,790  | 3,707,000         | 2,395,000       |
| Fodder corn  | 8.06          | 95   | tons<br>7.66 | 7 17/   | tons              | tons            |
| QUEBEC -   | cwt.          | 22   | cwt.         | 3,136   | 28,000            | 24,000          |
| Potatoes   | 97.4          | 98   | 95.5         | 161,000   | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 157.7         | 100  | 157.7        | 34,000  | 13,071,000        | 15,376,000      |
|  | tons          |  | tons         | 77,000  | tons              | 5,362,000       |
| Fodder corn  | 8.33          | 96   | 8.00         | 84,000  | 663,000           | tons<br>672,000 |
| ONTARIO -  | cwt.          |  | cwt.         |   | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Potatoes   | 68.1          | 814  | 57.2         | 148,435   | 11,875,000        | 8,490,000       |
| Turnips, etc.  | 205.0         | 84   | 172.0        | 104,674   | 24,690,000        | 18,004,000      |
| Fodder corn  | tons          | 45   | tons         |   | tons              | tons            |
| Sugar beets  | 9.74          | 85   | 8.28         | 287,566   | 2,686,000         | 2,381,000       |
| MANITOBA -   | 9.85<br>cwt.  | 85   | 8.37         | 36,864  | 380,000           | 309,000         |
| Potatoes   | 79.3          | 61   | cwt.<br>48.4 | 70 000  | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 103.5         | 65   | 67.3         | 31,000  | 2,585,000         | 1,500,000       |
|  | tons          |  | tons         | 4,500   | 605,000           | 303,000         |
| Fodder corn  | 6.08          | 60   | 3.65         | 17,000  | tons              | tons            |
| SASKATCHEWAN -   | cwt.          |  | cwt.         | 11,000  | 91,400            | 62,000          |
| Potatoes   | 82.5          | 60   | 49.5         | 41,637  | cwt.<br>3,052,000 | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 108.5         | 66   | 71.6         | 3,196   | 226,000           | 2,061,000       |
| W- 41.   | tons          | Design of the last | tons         | 3,-30   | tons              | tons            |
| Fodder corn ALBERTA -  | 4.54          | 62   | 2.81         | 10,065  | 31,000            | 28,000          |
| Potatoes   | cwt.          | -  | cwt.         |   | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 95•7<br>121•8 | 69   | 66.0         | 27,822  | 2,220,000         | 1,836,000       |
|  | tons          | 76   | 92.6         | 4,858   | 623,000           | 450,000         |
| Fodder corn  | 4.18          | 65   | tons         | 17 500  | tons              | tons            |
| Sugar beets  | 8.95          | 70   | 2.72<br>6.27 | 13,500  | 69,000            | 37,000          |
| BRITISH COLUMBIA   | 4 - cwt.      |  | cwt.         | 6,600   | 53,000            | 41,000          |
| Potatoes   | 106.4         | 91   | 96.8         | 16,000  | cwt.              | cwt.            |
| Turnips, etc.  | 197.1         | 90   | 177.4        | 7,000   | 1,628,000         | 1,549,000       |
|  | tons          |  | tons         | ,,000   | 1,319,000<br>tons | 1,242,000       |
| Fodder corn  | 11.14         | 93   | 10.36        | 7,000   | 80,000            | tons            |
|  |               |  |              | .,,   | 00,000            | 73,000          |



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