1930 (2,200)

by Authority of the Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH.

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Chief, Agricultural Branch: T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

FIELD CROPS OF CANADA

Ottawa, October 11, 1930, 12 noon. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued today 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 corn), as indicated by their condition on September 30, 1930; (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 and the areas are as estimated from the returns obtained in June through the rural schools and post offices, except of the provinces of Quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, 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 1920-29, is reported for all Canada as follows, the corresponding percentages for 1929 being given within brackets:

Fall wheat 98 (100); spring wheat 100 (100); all wheat 100 (100); oats 98 (94); barley 96 (93); rye 95 (96); peas 98 (95); beans 95 (95); buckwheat 92 (93); mixed grains 102 (96); flaxseed 95 (94); corn for husking 88 (88).

For the Prairie Provinces, the quality of the principal grain crops at harvest time is reported as follows, with the figures for 1929 within brackets: Manitoba - Wheat 97(100); oats 96 (91); barley 95 (93); rye 95 (93); flaxseed 95 (93); Saskatchewan - Wheat 101 (101); oats 96 (93); barley 93 (92); rye 95 (97); flaxseed 95 (95). Alberta - Wheat 99 (98); oats 98 (93); barley 97 (93); rye 95 (95); flaxseed 93 (96).

HARVEST FORECAST OF ROOT AND FODDER CROPS

The condition of root and fodder crops in Canada at the end of September, expressed in percentages of the decennial average 1920-29, is as follows, with last year's figures being given within brackets: Potatoes 90 (89); turnips, etc. 89 (87); fodder corn 91 (86); sugar beets 90 (83). The yields as indicated by these figures of condition are, for Canada, as follows with the final figures for 1929 within brackets: Potatoes 45,262,000 cwt. (39,930,000 cwt.); turnips, etc. 36,08[illegible],000 cwt. (36,228,000 cwt.); fodder corn 3,667,000 tons (3,322,300 tons); sugar beets 448,000 tons (384,000 tons). For potatoes, the indicated yield is 5,332,000 cwt. more than the final estimate of 1929. All provinces except Quebec show increases 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 ten-year average 1920-29, is as follows, last year's figures being given within brackets: Alfalfa - Canada 92 (90); Quebec 104 (97); Ontario 90 (91); Manitoba 94 (69); Saskatchewan 89 (76); Alberta 101 (76); British Columbia 97 (95). Pastures - Canada 91 (85); Prince Edward Island 87 (77); Nova Scotia 78 (84); New Brunswick 96 (82); Quebec 101 (98); Ontario 81 (77); Manitoba 88 (66); Saskatchewan 84 (64); Alberta 99 (71); British Columbia 87 (87). Alfalfa and pasture conditions for Canada both show an improvement over last year. The Prairie provinces have been greatly benefited by late rains, but in the Maritimes, and in parts of Ontario and British Columbia, the drought has not been sufficiently alleviated.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

Maritime Provinces.- The month of September was quite favourable for the harvesting of crops throughout the three provinces. Grain gave high yields of good quality and was threshed under favourable conditions. There has been an absence of the usual September frosts. However, the dry weather experienced earlier in the season continued on into this month, with the result that pastures and hay have been further affected. Rain has fallen in a few places in New Brunswick which will help the situation. Potato digging is well under way, the tubers being housed in good condition, but with some rot and scab being evident, noticeably in the later crops. Root crops have been generally affected by the drought.

Quebec.- The grain crops have been harvested under generally favourable weather conditions, notwithstanding considerable rain in many parts of the province. This has caused the sprouting of grain left in the fields, particularly on low-lying land. On the whole the crops have turned out well and cereals are of good quality. Potatoes are suffering from the wet weather and scab and rust and blight have made their appearance. However there are some good tuber crops. Pastures are generally good. In some localities ploughing is rendered difficult by the dryness of the soil.

Ontario.- The past month has been a favourable one for crops in every part of the province, particularly in the eastern sections where correspondents state that many farmers had the best crop in years. Timely rains in western and central Ontario have relieved the situation arising from very dry conditions of the past season. Consequently, pastures as well as fall wheat have benefited. The outturns of most grains are satisfactory and the quality is very good. Fall ploughing is generally well under way, but is difficult owing to the dry condition of the soil. Feed will likely be plentiful for the winter. The milk flow has recently taken a drop, partly because of dry pastures. Livestock are in fair condition.

Manitoba.- Threshing is nearly completed in every part of the province. Some varieties of wheat have yielded well, others rather poorly, dependent partly upon weather conditions and partly on the amount of rust prevalent in the particular district. Outturns are much better than expected at first, and the grain is of splendid quality. Potatoes are a fair crop in most districts. Heavy frosts were experienced at the last of the month. Ploughing is well advanced but there is a great need of immediate rains as the ground is very dry. Feed prospects are none too good, although some districts seem to have plenty. Livestock are in good condition.

Saskatchewan.- Rain, and in some cases snow, interfered with threshing operations in September, the regions most affected being generally in the northern portion of the province. In the southern and central part, threshing was well advanced and in some districts practically completed before the unfavourable weather set in. The main injury has been from bleaching and sprouting, which are reported in many fields in the north. Previous to the rain, the wheat was grading very high, but the unthreshed grain will suffer to a marked degree in grade. The dry condition of the soil, resulting from the prolonged drought in the central and southern districts, has not encouraged fall ploughing, consquently there has not been as large an acreage fall ploughed as would otherwise have been the case.

Alberta.- Threshing operations have been retarded by rain and snow and slight damage has been caused to the grain which was necessarily left standing in the fields. There is still some grain to be cut. In many instances, yields are turning out better than at first anticipated, grade and quality being very satisfactory in spite of weather conditions. There has been little frost to date. There appears to be some smut, but the damage is small from this source. Potatoes are a good crop. The late rains will help the feed situation. Livestock are in good condition as pastures have kept up well.

British Columbia. Grain crops have been harvested under favourable conditions with generally good yields. Heavy frosts during the week September 21 to 27 cut down potatoes and prospects are that the crop will be light. Recent rains will revive pastures and make fall ploughing possible.

Harvest Forecast of the Yield of Root and Fodder Crops
as indicated by Condition on September 30, 1930.

NOTE:- For condition, 100 = Average yield per acre 1920-29

Field Crops	Average Yield per acre 1920-29.	Condition Sept. 30, 1930	Indicated Yield per acre 1930.	Area Sown 1930	Final Estimate 1929.	Forecast of Yield 1930.
	Cwt.	p.c.	Cwt.	Acres	Cwt.	Cwt.
CANADA						
Potatoes	88.6	90	79.6	568,600	39,930,000	45,262,000
Turnips, etc.	191.0	89	172.9	208,700	36,228,000	36,088,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	8.73	91	8.15	449,700	3,322,300	3,667,000
Sugar beets	9.63	90	8.53	52,500	364,000	448,000
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	104.9	97	101.8	45,700	3,820,000	4,652,000
Turnips, etc.	255.2	95	242.4	13,500	3,161,000	3,272,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	8.02	104	8.34	800	6,300	7,000
NOVA SCOTIA	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	103.5	98	101.4	31,200	2,872,000	3,164,000
Turnips, etc.	224.5	90	202.1	15,800	3,454,000	3,193,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	8.75	99	8.66	1,200	11,000	10,000
NEW BRUNSWICK	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	119.9	90	107.9	48,000	4,646,000	5,179,000
Turnips, etc.	197.4	95	187.5	13,600	2,710,000	2,550,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	8.67	106	9.19	3,700	31,000	34,000
QUEBEC	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	95.2	89	84.7	169,000	15,429,000	14,314,000
Turnips, etc.	162.0	98	158.8	41,000	8,333,000	6,511,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	8.50	100	8.50	89,000	885,000	757,000
ONTARIO	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	68.1	88	59.9	159,000	8,484,000	9,524,000
Turnips, etc.	203.8	84	171.2	105,000	16,400,000	17,976,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	9.55	88	8.40	312,000	2,221,000	2,621,000
Sugar beets	9.68	86	8.32	38,000	304,000	316,000
MANITOBA	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	75.8	98	74.3	31,700	1,161,000	2,355,000
Turnips, etc.	101.3	96	97.2	4,800	309,000	467,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	5.89	94	5.54	14,000	43,000	78,000
SASKATCHEWAN	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	74.6	93.	69.4	41,000	1,149,000	2,845,000
Turnips, etc.	97.3	94	91.5	3,000	73,000	275,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	4.25	82	3.49	9,000	11,000	31,000
ALBERTA	Cwt.		Cwt.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Potatoes	89.2	101	90.1	28,000	1,022,000	1,802,000
Turnips, etc.	120.0	98	117.6	5,000	321,000	588,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	4.10	104	4.26	13,000	42,000	55,000
Sugar Beets	8.98	101	9.07	14,500	60,000	132,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA	cwt.		cwt.		cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	105.7	90	95.1	15,000	1,347,000	1,427,000
Turnips, etc.	199.3	90	179.4	7,000	1,467,000	1,256,000
	tons		tons		tons	tons
Fodder corn	11.06	95	10.51	7,000	72,000	74,000