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Chief, Ag

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

MINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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BUREAU
STATISTICS

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FIELD CROPS OF CANADA

Ottawa, November 13, 1930, 4 p.m. -- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the ^{provisional} estimate of the yields of cereal crops. The report is based upon the returns of our regular corps of crop correspondents, including practical farmers throughout Canada, bank managers and railway and elevator agents in the Prairie Provinces and the Alberta Provincial Police. A special return was also received for this report from a large list of selected agriculturists, in addition to those already co-operating as regular crop correspondents, and from rural postmasters in the Prairie Provinces. In all cases, estimates of yield were based on total acreages sown. The areas used are as obtained in June last through the rural schools and post offices except for Quebec where the areas are as estimated from the returns of crop correspondents at the end of June.

The forecast shows a wheat crop of 395,854,000 bushels in Canada, of which it is estimated that 374,000,000 bushels will be produced in the Prairie Provinces. The preliminary estimate of September 10th forecasted a production of 384,769,000 bushels with 362,000,000 bushels in the Prairie Provinces. Changes from the preliminary estimate are a reduction in the Ontario forecast, an increase of nearly 3 million bushels in Manitoba fairly well distributed over the province, decreases in southern and east-central Saskatchewan more than sufficient to offset increases in three west-central and northern districts, and considerable increases in Alberta, especially in northern and western districts. The forecasted barley crop of 137,963,000 bushels is the largest on record, slightly exceeding the heavy yield of 1928.

Of the total wheat crop of 374,000,000 bushels in the West, probably 45-50 million bushels are not yet threshed and it is evident that unusual amounts will not be marketed as grain. Although the prices of wheat in the straight grades are relatively higher than coarse grains, many fields of low yields or of deteriorated quality will be left for winter feed, and some threshed wheat that has been badly weathered will be mixed with other grains for feeding. An effort will be made by the Bureau later in the season to secure data on the amount of wheat fed to live stock in this year of very low grain prices.

Accompanying this report is a chart showing the average yields of wheat by crop districts in the West. It is best interpreted in conjunction with information on acreage which is given below. It will be apparent that the shaded areas do not cover only land devoted to wheat production; the chart only suggests that the average yield per sown acre of the wheat land within the whole district comes within the yield class pictured. The first six districts of Manitoba run from west to east; 7 and 8 run in a similar direction to the western border of 3; 9 is directly north of 8; 10, 11 and 12 run diagonally northeast; while 13 and 14 run the same way further north. Both Saskatchewan and Alberta crop districts are numbered to the left from the southeast corner to the western boundary, then from the eastern boundary west again.

Crop Districts	Manitoba (acres)	Saskatchewan (acres)	Alberta (acres)
1	280,000	798,800	864,500
2	409,000	1,490,500	1,098,300
3	618,000	3,572,400	1,714,700
4	19,000	1,221,400	891,400
5	51,000	1,171,400	699,600
6	6,600	2,315,100	845,500
7	343,000	1,893,700	527,300
8	276,000	802,400	398,700
9	130,400	1,060,300	
10	141,000		
11	105,000		
12	30,000		
13	41,000		
14	20,000		

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AVERAGE YIELDS PER ACRE OF WHEAT
IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES
ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE, NOVEMBER 13, 1930



PROGRESS OF THRESHING IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The month of September was particularly favourable for the threshing of the western crop, but wet and cold weather, accompanied by snow, began early in October, and so hindered operations that the unthreshed and damp grain in the fields became a problem of great concern. The weather turned fair and milder throughout the West about October 20th and has been generally settled up to the last few days when scattered snow storms have occurred. The province of Manitoba, southern and eastern Saskatchewan, and southern, west-central and north-western Alberta have threshing operations practically complete. Snow was heaviest and weather most unfavourable in northern and west-central Saskatchewan and east-central Alberta, and in this territory considerable grain is lying unthreshed and in a deteriorated condition. For the Prairie Provinces, probably 45-50 million bushels of wheat are still in the stooks, some of which will not be threshed because of the prevailing low prices and the further subtractions of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel for tough grades. Following are the summarized reports on the progress of threshing from the Provincial Departments of Agriculture:-

Manitoba.- On account of the very low prices of grain this fall, there was a larger than usual amount of grain left standing in the stook. It was considered not to be worth the cost of threshing and will be left for the stock. The total amount of crop unthreshed is very small and the amount of unthreshed crop that it would pay to thresh is only a fraction of one per cent.

Saskatchewan.- Little or no progress was made with threshing during the month of October. The weather during the first half of the month was very unfavourable, culminating in a snow storm on the 16th. Threshing was particularly retarded in the northern and west-central portions of the province. Work has been resumed and fair progress is being made, although in some of the northern districts, the wheat stooks are still rather damp. The amount of unthreshed grain is roughly estimated at about 20 per cent for the province. During the past week, the weather has been very favourable for the time of year and a continuation is hoped for to prevent further loss to the unthreshed grain as a marked deterioration has already occurred in many districts.

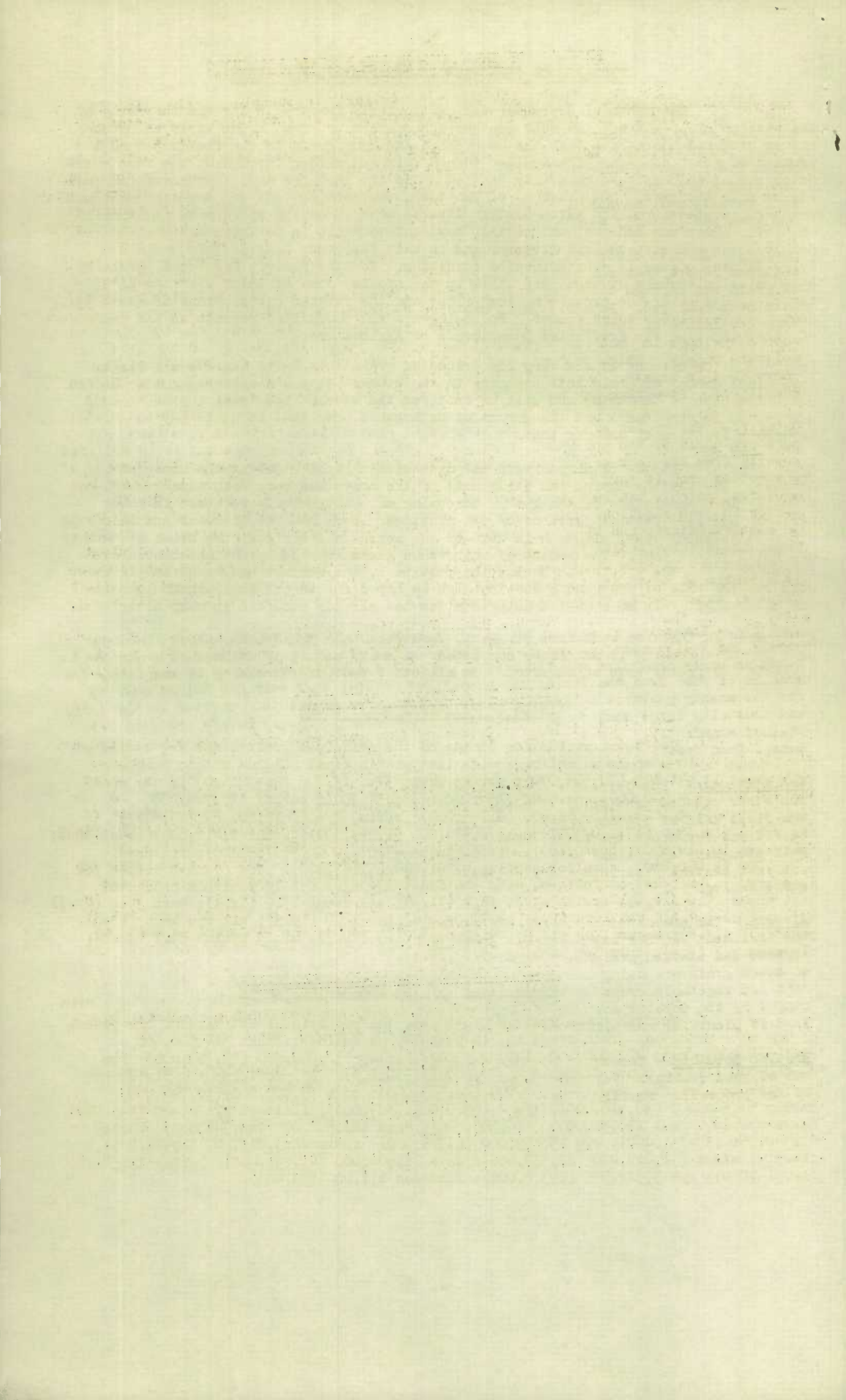
Alberta.- In the area east from St. Paul, Vermilion, and Wainwright, about 10-20 per cent of the threshing is yet to be completed. A small amount of unthreshed grain is still in the fields west of Edmonton. In all other sections, threshing is completed.

YIELDS OF PRINCIPAL GRAIN CROPS

The total yields for Canada of the principal grain crops are estimated provisionally in bushels as follows; with last year's final figures within brackets: Fall wheat 19,441,000 (20,504,000); spring wheat 376,413,000 (284,016,000); all wheat 395,854,000 (304,520,000); oats 429,156,000 (282,838,300); barley 137,963,000 (102,313,300); fall rye 16,668,000 (9,775,000); spring rye 5,618,500 (3,385,500); all rye 22,286,500 (13,160,500); peas 2,376,200 (1,979,800); beans 1,411,600 (1,491,300); buckwheat 10,814,000 (10,470,100); mixed grains 43,078,000 (35,753,700); flaxseed 4,459,000 (2,060,400); corn for husking 4,801,000 (5,183,000). The average yields per acre are, in bushels, as follows, with the final averages for 1929 within brackets: Fall wheat 23.9 (24.6); spring wheat 15.6 (11.6); all wheat 15.9 (12.1); oats 32.5 (22.7); barley 24.8 (17.3); fall rye 15.3 (14.7); spring rye 16.0 (10.3); all rye 15.5 (13.3); peas 19.0 (15.8); beans 15.4 (17.3); buckwheat 21.9 (20.3); mixed grains 36.1 (32.0); flaxseed 7.7 (5.4); corn for husking 29.6 (34.1).

GRAIN YIELDS OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

For the three Prairie Provinces, the provisional estimate of the yields of the five principal grain crops is, in bushels, as follows: Wheat 374,000,000 (281,664,000); oats 260,000,000 (141,620,000); barley 112,500,000 (79,787,000); rye 21,040,000 (11,982,000); flaxseed 4,370,000 (1,970,000). By provinces the yields are as follows: Manitoba, wheat 46,500,000 (28,565,000); oats 53,000,000 (30,740,000); barley 51,500,000 (36,518,000); rye 2,159,000 (1,309,000); flaxseed 1,176,000 (445,000). Saskatchewan, wheat 196,500,000 (160,565,000); oats 128,500,000 (68,944,000); barley 41,500,000 (30,755,000); rye 15,159,000 (8,301,000); flaxseed 3,017,000 (1,462,000). Alberta, wheat 131,000,000 (92,534,000); oats 78,500,000 (41,936,000); barley 19,500,000 (12,514,000); rye 3,722,000 (2,372,000); flaxseed 177,000 (63,000).



GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The Maritime Provinces.- All crops have been harvested in good condition, with fine weather prevailing. The quality of threshed grains is very satisfactory. Potatoes and hoed crops are generally of good quality and yield, although rot has been reported from a few districts. Most pastures are holding out well despite the lack of rain and stock are in good condition for the winter. Brooks and wells are dry in many places, the shortage of water having an evident effect upon milk flow. Although fall work is generally well advanced, ploughing has been delayed by the prolonged drought. This has been particularly severe in western districts.

Quebec.- In most districts the weather during October has been dry, but a few sections report that wet weather has caused sprouting of grain in stocks. Harvesting of grain was carried out under favourable conditions and good yields of high quality have been realized. Potato digging was also completed satisfactorily. There were some complaints of late blight and dry rot. The hay crop was plentiful, but pastures show a variance in condition throughout the province depending mainly on the late moisture supply. Milch cows are already being fed in the barns in some districts where feed is scanty. However the milk flow is keeping up and live stock are in good conditions. Ploughing has been retarded by the dryness of the soil.

Ontario.- The yields of most grain crops have been satisfactory and in eastern and northern parts of the province, above the average. Buckwheat, corn and roots suffered severely from the lack of rain in some districts in the south and west. The quality of the potato crop is very high, with no mention made of disease. Fall wheat, which was appearing patchy, has been benefited by recent precipitation, and is entering the winter in good condition. Ploughing has been rendered difficult by the dry hard ground in eastern Ontario and by heavy frosts in the West. On the whole, pastures are rather bare, and stable-feeding is necessary. Low water supplies are a further trouble to stock farmers in some western districts particularly. Despite these drawbacks, there is a continued heavy demand for feeder cattle and hogs. Kent County reports abundant crops of sugar beets, with high sugar content.

Manitoba.- Threshing of all grains is practically completed and the quality is very good. The fall season has not been favourable for ploughing operations, the dry soil being an early hindrance and later rain and hard frosts interfered with good work. The absence of snow from the fields has encouraged general farm work and helped make up for the scanty pastures. Live stock are in better condition than earlier in the fall, and unusually large numbers are being kept for winter feeding. Potato and root crops yielded abundantly, were of good quality, and were harvested and stored with little damage from frost.

Saskatchewan.- The harvest season has been more unfavourable in Saskatchewan than in the other western provinces. Damp and cold weather hindered threshing operations in the first half of October and heavy snow storms beginning on the 16th stopped all field operations for about two weeks. Recently, threshing has resumed under difficulty. Fall ploughing operations have not been extensive. Feed is plentiful in the northern and west central districts and the dairying and live stock feeding enterprises are quite active.

Alberta.- The amount of threshing completed varies throughout the province owing to the inclement weather experienced. Standing grain has been damaged by snowfall, and swathed and stacked grains have suffered from sprouting and bleaching. Large quantities of tough grain are being marketed in the Edmonton inspection division. The potato, root and vegetable crops have given good yields, although considerable proportions were caught by the October snow and frost. Fall ploughing has proceeded satisfactorily. Feed is plentiful and will be sufficient for winter feeding.

British Columbia.- Threshing is nearly completed with yields generally below average, but of good quality. Fall ploughing has been delayed by the dry, hard soil, but it is now proceeding rapidly.

1. Provisional Estimate of the Area and Yield of Field Crops for 1930, as compared with 1929.

Field Crops	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930
	Acres	Acres	bush. per acre	bush. per acre	Bush.	Bush.
CANADA						
Fall wheat	834,284	815,000	24.6	23.9	20,504,000	19,441,000
Spring wheat	24,420,718	24,082,200	11.6	15.6	284,016,000	376,413,000
All wheat	25,255,002	24,897,200	12.1	15.9	304,520,000	395,854,000
Oats	12,479,477	13,221,900	22.7	32.5	282,838,300	429,156,000
Barley	5,925,542	5,558,000	17.3	24.8	102,313,300	137,963,000
Fall rye	664,193	1,091,000	14.7	15.3	9,775,000	16,668,000
Spring rye	327,751	350,550	10.3	16.0	3,385,500	5,618,500
All rye	991,944	1,441,550	13.3	15.5	13,160,500	22,286,500
Peas	125,194	125,210	15.8	19.0	1,979,800	2,376,200
Beans	86,290	91,580	17.3	15.4	1,491,300	1,411,600
Buckwheat	515,976	493,400	20.3	21.9	10,470,100	10,814,000
Mixed grains	1,118,649	1,193,700	32.0	36.1	35,753,700	43,078,000
Flaxseed	382,359	579,500	5.4	7.7	2,060,400	4,459,000
Corn, husking	152,055	162,000	34.1	29.6	5,183,000	4,801,000
P. E. ISLAND						
Spring wheat	27,057	26,500	16.7	19.7	452,000	522,000
Oats	170,105	174,700	32.5	33.7	5,524,000	5,887,000
Barley	5,870	5,400	24.7	27.2	145,000	147,000
Peas	211	280	20.0	22.0	4,200	6,200
Buckwheat	3,091	2,700	22.3	23.0	68,900	62,000
Mixed grains	28,045	30,600	32.3	33.2	906,000	1,016,000
NOVA SCOTIA						
Spring wheat	6,056	5,800	15.7	20.0	95,000	116,000
Oats	109,836	115,200	32.1	37.7	3,523,300	4,343,000
Barley	10,868	10,800	26.9	33.2	292,500	359,000
Spring rye	172	200	15.0	22.5	3,000	4,500
Peas	774	800	17.6	22.0	13,600	18,000
Beans	2,461	2,600	16.6	19.8	40,800	51,000
Buckwheat	8,221	7,600	23.0	22.1	189,100	168,000
Mixed grains	4,800	4,700	32.9	34.6	158,100	163,000
NEW BRUNSWICK						
Spring wheat	8,916	9,900	18.8	17.9	168,000	177,000
Oats	216,530	223,000	30.4	31.4	6,588,000	7,022,000
Barley	9,448	10,800	27.4	28.3	258,800	306,000
Spring rye	565	350	15.0	20.0	8,000	7,000
Peas	1,753	1,880	16.5	25.0	29,000	47,000
Beans	1,515	1,860	18.2	20.2	27,500	38,000
Buckwheat	44,533	45,200	23.9	27.5	1,064,100	1,243,000
Mixed grains	4,055	4,000	32.0	30.8	129,600	123,000
QUEBEC						
Spring wheat	58,266	58,000	17.1	17.9	995,000	1,033,000
Oats	1,826,042	1,863,000	26.0	26.8	47,475,000	49,928,000
Barley	154,016	156,000	22.8	23.2	3,512,000	3,619,000
Spring rye	10,954	11,000	15.8	15.1	173,500	166,000
Peas	34,806	34,000	15.5	14.3	539,000	486,000
Beans	16,731	17,000	17.1	16.3	286,000	277,000
Buckwheat	159,707	160,000	21.9	22.9	3,495,000	3,664,000
Mixed grains	134,500	136,000	26.4	25.2	3,552,000	3,427,000
Flaxseed	2,996	3,000	12.1	8.7	36,400	26,000
Corn husking	32,055	32,000	22.9	23.7	733,000	758,000
ONTARIO						
Fall wheat	691,662	677,000	25.8	24.4	17,821,000	16,519,000
Spring wheat	106,610	99,000	18.1	21.9	1,930,000	2,168,000
All wheat	798,272	776,000	24.7	24.1	19,751,000	18,687,000
Oats	2,335,310	2,469,000	31.5	39.6	73,640,000	97,772,000
Barley	622,063	610,000	29.0	34.0	18,032,000	20,740,000
Fall rye	52,023	53,000	16.8	17.9	873,000	949,000
Pear	79,523	80,000	15.5	20.5	1,236,000	1,640,000
Beans	63,732	68,000	17.5	14.9	1,113,000	1,013,000
Buckwheat	294,388	275,000	18.9	20.5	5,562,000	5,638,000
Mixed grains	892,897	958,000	33.5	38.3	29,904,000	36,691,000
Flaxseed	5,492	5,200	8.5	11.2	47,000	58,000
Corn husking	120,000	130,000	37.1	31.1	4,450,000	4,043,000

	acres	acres	Bush. per acre	Bush. per acre	Bush.	Bush.
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
Spring wheat	2,300,615	2,470,000	12.4	18.8	28,565,000	46,500,000
Oats	1,558,404	1,590,000	19.7	33.3	30,740,000	53,000,000
Barley	2,181,895	1,991,000	16.7	26.0	36,518,000	51,500,000
Fall rye	60,171	83,000	16.6	19.7	1,000,000	1,637,000
Spring rye	24,869	30,000	12.4	17.4	309,000	522,000
All rye	85,040	113,000	15.4	19.1	1,309,000	2,159,000
Peas	1,476	1,300	22.6	20.0	33,000	26,000
Buckwheat	6,036	2,900	15.0	13.4	91,000	39,000
Mixed grains	11,569	14,500	19.1	28.3	221,000	410,000
Flaxseed	62,474	112,000	7.1	10.5	445,000	1,176,000
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
Spring wheat	14,445,286	14,326,000	11.1	13.7	160,565,000	196,500,000
Oats	4,255,789	4,531,000	16.2	28.4	68,944,000	128,500,000
Barley	2,228,604	2,016,000	13.8	20.5	30,755,000	41,500,000
Fall rye	452,194	818,000	14.0	14.8	6,331,000	12,106,000
Spring rye	189,444	192,000	10.4	15.9	1,970,000	3,053,000
All rye	641,638	1,010,000	12.9	15.0	8,301,000	15,159,000
Peas	1,503	1,650	10.0	15.3	15,000	26,000
Beans	824	1,020	8.0	11.5	7,000	12,000
Mixed grains	22,607	23,000	15.2	21.6	344,000	497,000
Flaxseed	298,302	431,000	4.9	7.0	1,462,000	3,017,000
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
Fall wheat	128,253	124,000	18.3	21.0	2,353,000	2,600,000
Spring wheat	7,422,962	7,040,000	12.1	18.2	90,181,000	128,400,000
All wheat	7,551,215	7,164,000	12.3	18.3	92,534,000	131,000,000
Oats	1,917,744	2,165,000	21.9	36.2	41,935,000	78,500,000
Barley	703,704	748,000	17.3	26.2	12,514,000	19,500,000
Fall rye	99,805	137,000	15.7	14.4	1,571,000	1,976,000
Spring rye	95,734	110,000	8.4	15.9	801,000	1,746,000
All rye	195,539	247,000	12.0	15.1	2,372,000	3,722,000
Peas	1,483	1,300	12.3	16.0	18,000	21,000
Beans	377	300	8.0	12.0	3,000	3,600
Mixed grains	15,290	17,900	23.4	32.4	358,000	580,000
Flaxseed	12,639	28,000	5.0	6.3	63,000	177,000
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA</u>						
Fall wheat	14,369	14,000	23.0	23.0	330,000	322,000
Spring wheat	44,950	47,000	23.7	21.1	1,065,000	992,000
All wheat	59,319	61,000	23.5	21.5	1,395,000	1,314,000
Oats	89,717	91,000	49.3	46.2	4,463,000	4,204,000
Barley	9,074	10,000	31.5	29.2	286,000	292,000
Spring rye	6,013	7,000	20.2	17.2	121,000	120,000
Peas	3,665	4,000	25.2	26.5	92,000	106,000
Beans	650	800	21.5	21.8	14,000	17,000
Mixed grains	4,886	5,000	37.1	34.1	181,000	171,000
Flaxseed	456	300	15.0	15.0	7,000	5,000

11. Area and Provisional Estimate of the Yields of Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces, 1930, as compared with 1929.

	1929	1930	1929	1930
	Acres.	Acres.	Bush.	Bush.
Wheat	24,297,116	23,960,000	231,664,000	374,000,000
Oats	7,731,937	8,286,000	141,620,000	260,000,000
Barley	5,114,203	4,755,000	79,787,000	112,500,000
Rye	922,217	1,370,000	11,932,000	21,040,000
Flaxseed	373,415	571,000	1,970,000	4,370,000

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