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Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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FIELD CROPS OF CANADA

Ottawa, November 10, 1932, 4 p.m.-- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the provisional estimates of grain production in Canada. 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.

Yields of Principal Grain Crops.

The total yields of the principal grain crops are estimated provisionally in bushels as follows, with the figures for 1931 within brackets: Wheat 431,200,000 (304,144,000); oats 394,876,000 (328,278,000); barley 82,981,000 (67,382,600); rye 9,937,000 (5,322,000); peas 1,505,800 (1,369,400); beans 1,059,600 (1,304,100); buckwheat 8,281,000 (6,916,700); mixed grains 39,878,000 (39,431,000); flaxseed 2,533,700 (2,565,000); corn for husking 5,231,000 (5,449,000). The average yields per acre are, in bushels as follows, with the averages for 1931 within brackets: Wheat 15.9 (11.6); oats 30.0 (25.5); barley 22.2 (17.9); rye 12.9 (6.8); peas 18.1 (16.6); beans 15.1 (15.9); buckwheat 23.0 (20.6); mixed grains 33.3 (33.2); flaxseed 5.6 (4.1); corn for husking 38.2 (41.4).

Comparisons, Preliminary and Provisional Estimates

There is a general tendency toward lower estimates of crop production in the Maritimes, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces, with no significant changes in the estimates of Quebec and British Columbia. In Maritime and eastern Canada, changes from the preliminary estimates are very slight. In Ontario, there are reductions of 1 and 1.6 million bushels respectively in wheat and oat production. In the Prairie Provinces, the largest relative reductions are in rye and flax which are down 24 and 20 per cent respectively. Wheat is lowered 8 per cent, oats 10 per cent and barley 7 per cent compared with the September estimates.

Production of Late Crops

The 1932 production of peas, beans, buckwheat, mixed grains and corn for husking are estimated for the first time and show very little change from the 1931 figures. Buckwheat is an exception, however, and the production of this grain is 1½ million bushels higher than in 1931 due to greater acreage and improved yields per acre.

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, with the figures for 1931 within brackets: Wheat 411,000,000 (284,000,000); oats 247,300,000 (183,700,000); barley 65,569,000 (50,540,000); rye 8,763,000 (4,157,000); flaxseed 2,453,700 (2,470,000). By provinces, the yields are as follows: Manitoba - wheat 45,000,000 (27,000,000); oats 38,500,000 (25,500,000); barley 22,500,000 (15,400,000); rye 557,000 (661,000); flaxseed 355,000 (450,000). Saskatchewan - wheat 202,000,000 (121,000,000); oats 108,200,000 (67,700,000); barley 23,399,000 (14,340,000); rye 5,335,000 (2,396,000); flaxseed 1,982,000 (1,820,000). Alberta - wheat 164,000,000 (136,000,000); oats 100,600,000 (90,500,000); barley 19,670,000 (20,800,000); rye 2,871,000 (1,100,000); flaxseed 116,700 (200,000).

Wheat Production in the Prairie Provinces.

The estimate of wheat production in the Prairie Provinces is now placed at 411 million bushels compared with the preliminary estimate of 446 million bushels. A reduction of 2 million bushels is shown in Manitoba, 25 million in Saskatchewan and 8 million in Alberta. The largest relative reduction (14 per cent) is in the main wheat-growing province of Saskatchewan and the least (4 per cent) in Manitoba.

The November estimate is equally as representative (statistically) as that of September, the compilations resulting from about 7,000 returned schedules in each case. The acreages used for the two estimates are identical, being based on the June survey schedules returned by 45,500 western farmers.

The obvious explanation of the reduction lies in the impossibility of estimating the effects of drought and other depreciating influences on yield until actual threshing operations were in progress. The western crop was encouraged in stooling and leaf growth by heavy June rains. When drought and insects later began to cause damage, the effects on the development and weight of the kernel were obscured by the heavy growth of straw and the damage was underestimated when the first yield reports were filed at the end of August. Threshing has proceeded at a very satisfactory rate since that time, although rain and snow in the north and west caused some concern. The present figures are based largely on threshing returns.

The heavy marketings up to date may suggest that there is undue pessimism among our correspondents regarding yields. In the period from August 1 to October 28, the deliveries at country elevators and platform loadings were approximately 26.2 million bushels in Manitoba, 119.1 million in Saskatchewan, and 69.7 million in Alberta, making a total of 215 million bushels. At the present date, deliveries have exceeded 230 million bushels. On a crop estimated at 411 million bushels, total commercial marketings should be in the neighborhood of 355 million bushels. Up to the present, 64.8 per cent of this amount has been delivered, which is a considerably higher proportion than is usual at this period of the year.

In the province of Manitoba, the most important reductions between the two estimates were recorded in the southern and central regions. In Saskatchewan, the largest declines in yield per acre were shown in the north (Crop Districts 8 and 9). The eastern and north-central districts showed lesser declines, while the reductions in the south-centre and south-west (Crop Districts 3 and 4) were the least severe. The downward trend in yields per acre was fairly general over the province of Alberta but the greatest declines were in the extreme south (Census Districts 1 and 2) and in the north-central and northern regions. Census Districts 3, 4, and 5 in the south-centre showed minor declines while Census District 6 showed an appreciable improvement.

Production of Other Grains in the Prairie Provinces.

The production estimates for oats, barley, rye and flax also show appreciable reductions compared with the preliminary estimates of September 10. The production of oats in the three provinces is now placed at 247,300,000 bushels - a 10 per cent reduction from the September estimate of 274,700,000 bushels. Barley shows a smaller reduction of 7 per cent - from 70,400,000 bushels in September to the present estimate of 65,569,000 bushels. Rye production is now estimated at 8,763,000 bushels, a significant decrease of 24 per cent from the September figure of 11,586,000 bushels. Flax production is also placed considerably lower, the new estimate of 2,453,700 bushels being 20 per cent below the production of 3,052,000 bushels forecasted in September.

1. Provisional Estimate of the Area and Yield of Field Crops for 1932, as compared with 1931.

Field Crops	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932
	Acres	Acres	bush. per acre	bush. per acre	Bush.	Bush.
CANADA						
Fall wheat	537,658	546,000	28.8	28.3	15,475,000	15,463,000
Spring wheat	25,576,992	26,628,900	11.3	15.6	288,669,000	415,737,000
All wheat	26,114,650	27,174,900	11.6	15.9	304,144,000	431,200,000
Oats	12,871,341	13,156,700	25.5	30.0	328,278,000	394,876,000
Barley	3,768,269	3,742,000	17.9	22.2	67,382,600	82,981,000
Fall rye	598,511	613,900	6.5	12.6	3,873,000	7,760,500
Spring rye	179,023	158,700	8.1	13.7	1,449,000	2,176,500
All rye	777,534	772,600	6.8	12.9	5,322,000	9,937,000
Peas	82,640	83,200	16.6	18.1	1,369,400	1,505,800
Beans	82,109	70,300	15.9	15.1	1,304,100	1,059,600
Buckwheat	335,339	360,500	20.6	23.0	6,916,700	8,281,000
Mixed grains	1,186,877	1,196,200	33.2	33.3	39,431,000	39,878,000
Flaxseed	627,430	453,750	4.1	5.6	2,565,000	2,533,700
Corn, husking	131,695	137,000	41.4	38.2	5,449,000	5,231,000
P. E. ISLAND						
Spring wheat	20,291	23,300	16.2	18.0	328,000	419,000
Oats	149,059	149,500	32.2	33.9	4,800,000	5,068,000
Barley	3,732	4,000	22.8	28.5	85,000	114,000
Buckwheat	1,868	2,600	26.6	24.7	49,700	64,000
Mixed grains	21,903	23,800	32.5	34.5	712,000	821,000
NOVA SCOTIA						
Spring wheat	2,927	3,300	17.1	19.8	50,000	65,000
Oats	83,743	85,100	34.7	37.7	2,906,000	3,208,000
Barley	7,672	7,900	28.8	29.3	221,000	231,000
Buckwheat	4,041	4,100	21.9	23.1	88,400	95,000
Mixed grains	3,878	4,800	33.5	35.6	130,000	171,000
NEW BRUNSWICK						
Spring wheat	7,673	11,300	18.5	21.9	142,000	247,000
Oats	216,516	216,500	31.0	31.4	6,718,000	6,798,000
Barley	9,845	12,000	28.9	27.8	284,600	334,000
Beans	826	1,000	18.2	17.5	15,000	18,000
Buckwheat	41,637	42,100	17.2	21.2	714,600	893,000
Mixed grains	1,938	4,300	28.8	30.2	56,000	130,000
QUEBEC						
Spring wheat	40,499	43,000	19.7	18.9	798,000	813,000
Oats	1,680,525	1,748,000	28.1	29.4	47,223,000	51,391,000
Barley	95,279	99,000	25.7	23.9	2,449,000	2,366,000
Spring rye	5,456	5,200	15.7	15.1	86,000	77,000
Peas	18,200	18,000	15.5	16.4	282,000	295,000
Beans	6,200	6,000	18.9	16.8	117,000	101,000
Buckwheat	106,200	109,000	22.2	24.2	2,358,000	2,638,000
Mixed grains	107,903	112,000	24.9	30.8	2,687,000	3,450,000
Flaxseed	1,529	1,500	10.2	10.1	16,000	15,000
Corn, husking	7,200	7,000	25.4	24.9	183,000	174,000
ONTARIO						
Fall wheat	526,136	536,000	28.9	28.4	15,205,000	15,212,000
Spring wheat	99,575	100,000	20.5	19.9	2,041,000	1,990,000
All wheat	625,711	636,000	27.6	27.1	17,246,000	17,202,000
Oats	2,343,884	2,338,600	33.5	32.9	78,520,000	76,940,000
Barley	439,483	456,000	30.7	30.9	13,492,000	14,090,000
Fall rye	56,398	57,500	17.7	17.8	998,000	1,024,000
Peas	60,175	59,500	16.6	18.4	999,000	1,095,000
Beans	73,833	62,000	15.6	14.8	1,152,000	918,000
Buckwheat	178,093	197,000	20.5	22.9	3,651,000	4,511,000
Mixed grains	999,568	986,000	34.7	34.2	34,685,000	33,721,000
Flaxseed	7,065	6,300	10.7	9.8	76,000	62,000
Corn, husking	124,495	130,000	42.3	38.9	5,266,000	5,057,000

	Acres	Acres	bush. per acre	bush. per acre	Bush.	Bush.
MANITOBA						
Spring wheat	2,577,780	2,651,000	10.5	16.8	27,000,000	45,000,000
Oats	1,495,944	1,463,500	17.0	26.3	25,500,000	38,500,000
Barley	1,112,863	1,123,300	13.8	20.0	15,400,000	22,500,000
Fall rye	33,799	30,100	14.2	13.6	480,000	400,000
Spring rye	15,329	10,500	11.8	14.9	181,000	157,000
All rye	49,128	40,600	13.4	13.7	661,000	557,000
Peas	750	2,000	16.0	13.0	12,000	26,000
Buckwheat	3,500	5,700	15.8	14.0	55,000	80,000
Mixed grains	11,324	17,000	20.5	21.6	232,000	367,000
Flaxseed	97,562	49,300	4.6	7.2	450,000	355,000
SASKATCHEWAN						
Spring wheat	14,775,047	15,543,000	8.2	13.0	121,000,000	202,000,000
Oats	4,368,735	4,364,700	15.5	24.8	67,700,000	108,200,000
Barley	1,366,092	1,329,500	10.5	17.6	14,340,000	23,399,000
Fall rye	415,152	405,200	4.3	10.8	1,785,000	4,376,000
Spring rye	95,410	77,300	6.4	12.4	611,000	959,000
All rye	510,562	482,500	4.7	11.1	2,396,000	5,335,000
Peas	400	500	6.0	11.0	2,400	5,500
Beans	100	100	5.6	9.0	600	900
Mixed grains	20,165	20,800	12.0	19.6	242,000	408,000
Flaxseed	492,168	381,200	3.7	5.2	1,820,000	1,982,000
ALBERTA						
Spring wheat	7,999,895	8,201,000	17.0	20.0	136,000,000	164,000,000
Oats	2,447,288	2,704,800	37.0	37.2	90,500,000	100,600,000
Barley	723,772	701,300	28.7	28.0	20,800,000	19,670,000
Fall rye	93,162	121,100	6.5	16.2	610,000	1,960,500
Spring rye	58,857	62,000	8.3	14.7	490,000	910,500
All rye	152,019	183,100	7.2	15.7	1,100,000	2,871,000
Peas	400	400	15.0	13.3	6,000	5,300
Beans	500	500	11.0	9.3	5,500	4,700
Mixed grains	17,909	25,300	33.2	28.5	595,000	721,000
Flaxseed	28,831	15,200	6.9	7.7	200,000	116,700
BRITISH COLUMBIA						
Fall wheat	11,522	10,000	23.3	25.1	270,000	251,000
Spring wheat	53,305	53,000	24.6	22.7	1,310,000	1,203,000
All wheat	64,827	63,000	24.4	23.1	1,580,000	1,454,000
Oats	85,647	86,000	51.5	48.5	4,411,000	4,171,000
Barley	9,531	9,000	32.6	30.8	311,000	277,000
Spring rye	3,971	3,700	20.3	19.7	81,000	73,000
Peas	2,715	2,800	25.1	28.3	68,000	79,000
Beans	650	700	21.5	24.6	14,000	17,000
Mixed grains	2,289	2,200	40.1	40.6	92,000	89,000
Flaxseed	275	250	11.2	10.8	3,000	3,000

11. Area and Provisional Estimate of the Yields of Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces, 1932, as compared with 1931.

Crops	1931	1932	1931	1932
	Acres	Acres	Bush.	Bush.
Wheat	25,352,722	26,395,000	284,000,000	411,000,000
Oats	8,311,967	8,533,000	183,700,000	247,300,000
Barley	3,202,727	3,154,100	50,540,000	65,569,000
Rye	711,709	706,200	4,157,000	8,763,000
Flaxseed	618,561	445,700	2,470,000	2,453,700