

22-002  
no. 22  
1936  
Oct. 9  
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by Authority of the Hon. W.D. EULER, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

UNION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

C.R. No. 22  
1936.

Dominion Statistician:  
Chief, Agricultural Branch:

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FIELD CROPS OF CANADA, 1936.

Ottawa, October 9, 1936, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued today a bulletin giving a first estimate of the area and yield of the potato, root and fodder crops of Canada for 1936. The estimate is based upon the returns of crop correspondents at September 30. A short description of the 1936-37 feed situation is appended to this crop report.

According to the first estimate, the production of potatoes in Canada will amount to 38,514,000 cwt. from 496,400 acres, as compared with 38,670,000 cwt. from 506,800 acres in 1935 and with 44,246,000 cwt. from 543,400 acres, the average of the five years 1931-35, representing yields per acre of 78 cwt., 76 cwt. and 81 cwt. respectively. By provinces, in order of magnitude, the yields per acre in cwt. are as follows, with last year's figures and the five-year averages within brackets: Prince Edward Island 130 (92, 97); British Columbia 115 (107, 109); New Brunswick 109 (99, 106); Nova Scotia 105 (101, 99); Quebec 90 (89, 99); Alberta 64 (64, 65); Ontario 60 (53, 64); Saskatchewan 38 (71, 54); Manitoba 32 (75, 65).

The production of turnips, mangolds, etc. in Canada in 1936 is estimated at 37,679,000 cwt. from 181,800 acres or 207 cwt. per acre, as compared with 35,110,000 cwt. from 185,200 acres or 190 cwt. per acre in 1935 and with 35,485,000 cwt. from 175,000 acres or 203 cwt. per acre, the average for the five years 1931-35. The yield of fodder corn is placed at 3,030,000 tons from 408,500 acres or 7.42 tons per acre, as compared with 4,078,000 tons from 480,700 acres or 8.48 tons per acre in 1935 and with 3,351,000 tons from 411,500 acres or 8.14 tons per acre, the five-year average.

All cuttings of alfalfa are estimated to have yielded 1,922,000 tons from 853,600 acres or 2.25 tons per acre, as compared with 1,958,700 tons from 762,300 acres or 2.57 tons per acre in 1935 and with 1,618,000 tons from 679,300 acres or 2.38 tons per acre, the average for 1931-35. The yield of sugar beets is now estimated at 529,000 tons from 56,100 acres or 9.43 tons per acre, as compared with 465,800 tons from 52,600 acres or 8.86 tons per acre in 1935 and with 463,000 tons from 49,500 acres or 9.35 tons per acre, the five-year average.

While the 1936 potato production for the Dominion is practically identical with that of 1935, the distribution by provinces provides a decided contrast with conditions a year ago. The Maritime Provinces have a good crop this year and the southern districts of the Prairie Provinces an extremely poor harvest. Last year this situation was reversed. The large yields are found in the normal surplus area this year, whereas a year ago there were excesses in the normally deficit areas. Generally fine weather during September, except in parts of Quebec, northern Alberta and British Columbia, served to improve late crop prospects but could not entirely offset early season damage in many of the producing areas. Fodder corn and alfalfa show reductions in yield compared with 1935 harvests, while the root crops, turnips and sugar beets, have larger production estimates. The increase in sugar beet acreage, resulting from the establishment of a new factory in Alberta, raises the production estimate higher than in any previous year on the records back to 1908.



I.- FIRST ESTIMATE OF THE YIELD OF ROOT AND FODDER CROPS  
IN CANADA, 1936 AS COMPARED WITH 1935.

Field Crops	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
	acres	acres	per acre cwt.	per acre cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
<u>CANADA -</u>						
Potatoes	506,800	496,400	76.0	78.0	38,670,000	38,514,000
Turnips, etc.	185,200	181,800	190.0	207.0	35,110,000	37,679,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	480,700	408,500	8.48	7.42	4,078,000	3,030,000
Alfalfa	762,300	853,600	2.57	2.25	1,958,700	1,922,000
Sugar beets	52,600	56,100	8.86	9.43	465,800	529,000
<u>P. E. ISLAND -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	33,100	33,400	92.0	130.0	3,045,000	4,342,000
Turnips, etc.	10,100	12,000	240.0	334.0	2,424,000	4,008,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	400	500	7.50	6.60	3,000	3,300
<u>NOVA SCOTIA -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	20,600	20,600	101.0	105.0	2,086,000	2,163,000
Turnips, etc.	11,800	11,700	283.0	280.0	3,337,000	3,276,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	700	800	9.28	9.00	6,500	7,200
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	44,300	45,100	99.0	109.0	4,383,000	4,916,000
Turnips, etc.	11,700	11,800	193.0	225.0	2,256,000	2,655,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	600	800	8.28	6.80	5,000	5,400
<u>QUEBEC -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	127,900	131,200	88.6	90.0	11,338,000	11,915,000
Turnips, etc.	37,800	37,200	193.0	212.0	7,308,000	7,910,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	50,800	48,300	8.76	7.50	515,500	363,000
Alfalfa	11,100	13,000	2.32	2.90	25,700	37,000
<u>ONTARIO -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	149,200	145,000	52.8	60.0	7,873,000	8,700,000
Turnips, etc.	98,100	96,200	178.0	187.0	17,462,000	17,989,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	324,800	306,900	9.34	7.90	3,034,000	2,425,000
Alfalfa	588,900	666,400	2.55	2.20	1,519,000	1,466,000
Sugar beets	38,500	37,600	8.50	8.72	327,000	328,000
<u>MANITOBA -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	34,500	31,600	75.4	32.0	2,600,000	1,011,000
Turnips, etc.	6,400	3,400	117.0	58.0	750,000	197,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	73,700	35,800	4.75	3.58	350,000	128,000
Alfalfa	30,600	29,000	2.29	2.13	70,000	62,000
<u>SASKATCHEWAN -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	49,500	44,200	71.3	38.0	3,529,000	1,680,000
Turnips, etc.	2,200	1,800	76.1	46.0	167,000	83,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	17,500	6,200	3.67	1.48	64,000	9,100
Alfalfa	10,200	19,600	2.07	1.42	21,000	28,000
<u>ALBERTA -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	29,900	27,800	64.0	64.0	1,906,000	1,774,000
Turnips, etc.	1,800	1,800	104.0	74.0	187,000	133,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	6,200	3,000	4.50	3.35	28,000	10,000
Alfalfa	73,400	75,400	2.30	2.20	169,000	166,000
Sugar beets	14,100	18,500	9.84	10.86	138,300	201,000
<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA -</u>			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	17,800	17,500	107.0	115.0	1,905,000	2,013,000
Turnips, etc.	5,300	5,900	230.0	242.0	1,219,000	1,428,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	6,000	6,200	12.05	12.73	72,000	79,000
Alfalfa	48,100	50,200	3.20	3.25	154,000	163,000



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FEED SUPPLIES FOR 1936-37 \*

The 1936-37 feed situation is characterized by a very short crop of feed grains, and a supply of forage crops below those of last year and below the average of the period 1930 to 1934. With a greater number of animal units on farms this situation will result in considerably changed feeding practices as compared with those of last year. There will be fewer animals fattened during the winter and breeding stock will probably receive less feed and particularly, less grain. Feed supplies for 1936-37 are unevenly distributed. The Maritime Provinces and Quebec will have a surplus while most of Western Ontario and the southern portion of the Prairie Provinces have a deficit of feed. Higher prices of all feeds and probably heavier than usual importation of feed corn will mark the 1936-37 season.

Feed Grains

Production.-Feed grain production in Canada in 1936 is the smallest recorded during the period from 1925 to date. First estimates of yield indicate that the total production of feed grains is 7.7 million tons. **This is 25 per cent less than the 1935 production** and 19 per cent less than an average production of 9.5 million tons over the period 1930 to 1934. The production of oats this year is estimated to be 4.7 million tons, a reduction of 30 per cent from that of 1935 and 23 per cent less than the 1930 to 1934 average. This is the smallest oat crop since that of 1910. Barley production is 11 per cent less than it was last year and 9 per cent below the five-year average, 1930 to 1934. Only ~~two~~ rye crops since 1918 ~~have~~ been smaller than that harvested this year. The total yield of corn for grain will be less than last year but probably greater than the average from 1930 to 1934.

Stocks.-Offsetting to some extent the reduced production are the larger stocks of feed grains carried over into this crop year. At July 31, 1936, stocks of oats totalled 686 thousand tons as compared with 450 thousand tons at the end of July, 1935; barley, 236 thousand tons as compared with 133 thousand tons; and rye, 89 thousand tons compared with 88 thousand tons a year ago.

Exports and Imports.-During the crop year ending July 31 last, exports of oats totalled 204 thousand tons. This was a reduction from 1935 of 18 per cent but still 48 per cent above the five-year average, 1930 to 1934. Likewise, barley and rye exports showed a reduction from the previous year but were still substantially above the average of the 1930 to 1934 period. The large corn crop of 1935 resulted in a 37 per cent reduction in imports of this commodity.

The 1936-37 marketing season has commenced with heavy exports of barley and rye to the United States. The barley exported to the United States has been chiefly for malting purposes but considerable quantities of feed barley have gone to the United Kingdom. During August and September, a good demand for malting barley at high prices has resulted in larger exports, ~~reducing~~ the domestic supplies of this grain. In the case of certain feeds, an increase in imports is to be expected. This is particularly true of corn, considerable quantities of which are used as a finishing feed in Ontario.

Milled Feeds.-Mill output of bran and shorts in July of this year was 42 per cent greater than the corresponding month a year ago. August production of bran and shorts showed a gain of 25 per cent over August, 1935. Output of ground feeds was 27 per cent greater in July and 9 per cent greater in August than the output for the corresponding months of 1935.

Prices.-The small crops of 1936, together with a general rise in grain prices, have carried feed grains to considerably higher levels than those of a year ago. At the end of September the following were the increases in prices over the same period of 1935:

	Per Cent Increase
Oats	49
Barley	83
Rye	65
Corn	71
Feed Wheat	70

Hog prices at the end of September, 1936 were slightly lower than a year ago, and with barley prices 83 per cent higher, the barley-hog ratio is much less

favourable to hog feeding than at this time last year. Farmers will probably feed to lighter weights and a greater percentage of unfinished hogs may be expected. Cattle prices were lower than a year ago, but lamb prices were higher.

Higher prices and the very high quality of the 1936 wheat crop will likely result in a considerable reduction in the use of this crop for feed. The 1935 season, on the contrary, was characterized by a plentiful supply of feed wheat.

#### Forage Crops

Production.-First estimates of hay and clover production place the 1936 crop at 13.6 million tons compared with 14.1 million tons last year and an average of 13.4 million tons from 1930 to 1934. Alfalfa production is only slightly lower than that of last year, but the total yield of fodder corn is 26 per cent less. Total forage production, including hay and clover, alfalfa, grain hay and fodder corn is estimated at 7 per cent less than that of last year and 4 per cent less than the five-year average, 1930 to 1934. Turnip and other root crop production indicates an increase of 7 per cent over the 1935 yield. Sugar beet production of 529 thousand tons is 13 per cent greater than in 1935. The larger sugar beet production in 1936, together with an improvement in the yield of pulp, should increase the amount of feed available from this source.

Prices.-Timothy hay prices in September of this year in Eastern markets were from 25 cents to \$1.50 a ton lower than a year ago. Alfalfa prices at Toronto showed no change. Prairie hay prices at Saskatoon were 50 cents a ton higher and at Edmonton \$2.00 a ton higher than in September of 1935.

#### Pastures

At the end of August, pasture conditions were 79 per cent of the long-time average compared with a condition of 93 for August 1935. Pasture conditions in the drought areas of Ontario and the Prairie Provinces have improved lately and partially alleviated feed grain and fodder shortages. If favourable weather continues through the autumn months, this will permit the further conservation of low feed supplies.





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