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FIELD CROPS OF CANADA, 1943

Ottawa, August 9, 1943, 3 p.m. - Field crop prospects declined in Canada during July largely on account of a setback in Saskatchewan and Alberta where high temperatures, hot winds, and insufficient rainfall were experienced at a vulnerable stage in crop development. This is indicated in a report issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics which also gives the first estimates of fall wheat, fall rye and alfalfa production in Canada in 1943. The fall wheat crop in Ontario is estimated at less than 60 per cent of the 1942 harvest, while fall rye production in the four producing provinces is estimated to be less than 30 per cent of last year's crop. Acreage reduction is an important factor in the smaller outturn of these fall-sown grains this year, especially in the case of rye.

Spring-sown crops of wheat, oats and barley showed a numerical condition at the end of July about equal to or somewhat better than the June 30 figure in the Maritime Provinces, Manitoba and British Columbia, but in Quebec the oats and barley crops lost ground while wheat made a small gain during July. Conditions at the end of July were much worse in Saskatchewan and Alberta than they were a month earlier for all three crops.

Flaxseed prospects declined sharply in Saskatchewan and Alberta where the acreage is substantial, but improved slightly in Manitoba to show a condition figure of 92 per cent of the long-time average yield per acre which compares very favourably with the condition figure of 95 per cent at the end of July 1942. Some improvement in flaxseed conditions was noted in Ontario, but the crop there is small and the condition figure of 72 per cent on July 31 is poor compared with 95 per cent at the same date in 1942.

Comparison with 1941

Comparing the condition of these major crops at the end of July this year with the brilliant prospects on July 31, 1942, puts the 1943 crops in very poor light, but when compared with conditions on the same date in 1941, the outlook in the Prairie Provinces this year is considerably better than it was two years ago. The same cannot be said of Ontario and Quebec, however, where the outlook for oats and barley, crops which are grown in substantial volume in these two provinces, was worse on July 31 this year than it was on the same date in 1941. It should be noted, however, that the condition of forage crops this year is better than it was two years ago in both Ontario and Quebec.

Spring rye is not a promising crop this year in any of the provinces where it is grown, except in British Columbia where the acreage is comparatively small. Potatoes and turnips give good promise in the Maritimes and in Manitoba, while they held their condition fairly well in Saskatchewan and Alberta during July. Both crops show small gains in British Columbia compared with June 30, but prospects declined in Quebec. In Ontario, little change is shown from the June 30 condition figure.

Sugar beet conditions improved in Manitoba during July but fell off in Alberta and Ontario, while corn for husking, grown largely in Manitoba and Ontario, showed only slight change from the June 30 condition figure, declining a little in Ontario and moving up slightly in Manitoba. Beans where grown, held or improved on their June 30 condition.

Hay, clover and pasture showed a better condition for Canada on July 31 this year than at the same date a year ago, despite the general decline in crop prospects in Saskatchewan and Alberta during July.

Fall Wheat and Rye

Production of fall wheat in Ontario this year is estimated to be 13,823,000 bushels compared with 23,391,000 bushels harvested in 1942. The acreage on which this year's harvest is estimated is 601,000 acres compared with 757,000 acres in 1942.

The fall rye crop grown in Ontario and the three Prairie Provinces is estimated at 5,379,000 bushels compared with 18,201,000 bushels a year ago. Acreage this year is only 351,300 acres compared with 1,013,600 acres in 1942.

CONDITION OF FIELD CROPS JULY 31, 1943

The condition figure for wheat in the Prairie Provinces is based on an analysis of weather conditions expressed in terms of the long-time average yield per acre which for Manitoba is 16 bushels, for Saskatchewan 15 bushels, and for Alberta 18 bushels per acre. Condition figures for wheat in the other provinces and for all other crops are based on 100 being equal to the long-time average yield per acre. In the all-Canada figure for wheat, the Prairie Provinces condition figure based on weather data is combined with the other condition figures.

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at July 31, 1943, expressed as percentages of the long-time average yields per acre, was as follows, with the condition at June 30, 1943, and July 31, 1942, within brackets: Spring wheat 111 (115, 149); oats 99 (88, 111); barley 83 (89, 112); spring rye 75 (91, 109); peas 81 (82, 96); beans 79 (77, 101); buckwheat 88 (90, 94); mixed grains 75 (76, 98); flaxseed 71 (91, 110); corn for silage 76 (76, 91); potatoes 90 (89, 98); turnips, etc. 87 (87, 94); hay and clover 101 (100, 100); fodder corn 81 (80, 92); sugar beets 87 (86, 99); pasture 104 (104, 99):

For the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal grain crops at the same dates was as follows: Manitoba - Wheat 148 (144, 145); oats 93 (90, 103); barley 111 (87, 104); spring rye 84 (87, 100); flaxseed 92 (91, 95). Saskatchewan - Wheat 117 (123, 147); oats 79 (95, 123); barley 82 (94, 122); spring rye 74 (94, 112); flaxseed 68 (92, 114). Alberta - Wheat 88 (90, 155); oats 76 (87, 112); barley 78 (87, 112); spring rye 70 (86, 108); flaxseed 72 (87, 109).

Charts on Page 4.

Two charts appear on the last page of this report showing the condition of wheat by Crop Districts in the three Prairie Provinces. The condition figures are based upon an analysis of weather factors in both years and are expressed in terms of the long-time average yields per acre for each province.

1.- First Estimate of Fall Wheat, Fall Rye and First Cutting of Alfalfa.

	Area		Yield Per Acre		Total Production	
	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943
	ac.	ac.	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
Fall Wheat -						
Ontario	757,000	601,000	30.9	23.0	23,391,000	13,823,000
Fall Rye -						
Ontario	78,600	64,000	19.1	16.1	1,501,000	1,030,000
Manitoba	145,000	45,000	19.3	16.0	2,800,000	720,000
Saskatchewan	650,000	187,500	16.9	14.5	11,000,000	2,719,000
Alberta	140,000	54,800	20.7	16.6	2,900,000	910,000
Canada	1,013,600	351,300	18.0	15.3	18,201,000	5,379,000
Alfalfa -			tons	tons	tons	tons
Quebec	52,000	52,000	1.56	1.82	81,000	95,000
Ontario	763,000	794,000	2.07	1.89	1,579,000	1,501,000
Manitoba	200,000	182,000	1.75	1.74	350,000	317,000
Saskatchewan	135,000	115,000	1.47	1.62	198,000	186,000
Alberta	220,000	207,000	1.69	1.43	372,000	296,000
British Columbia ..	69,800	74,000	2.13	1.77	149,000	131,000
Canada	1,439,800	1,424,000	1.90	1.77	2,729,000	2,526,000

FIRST ESTIMATE OF THE PRODUCTION OF LATE CROPS

1943 AS COMPARED WITH 1942 (concluded)

Province and Crop	Area		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943
	acres	acres	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
ONTARIO -						
Peas	34,000	32,000	16.9	16.0	575,000	512,000
Beans	62,000	68,000	20.2	17.5	1,252,000	1,190,000
Buckwheat	126,000	159,000	21.0	22.4	2,646,000	3,562,000
Mixed grains	1,151,000	895,000	44.1	22.8	50,759,000	20,406,000
Corn, husking	258,000	217,000	52.8	43.9	13,622,000	9,526,000
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	122,000	114,000	58.7	65.0	7,161,000	7,540,000
Turnips, etc.	57,700	59,000	220.0	222.0	12,694,000	13,098,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	300,000	307,000	10.45	9.97	3,135,000	3,061,000
Alfalfa	763,000	794,000	2.74	2.79	2,091,000	2,215,000
Sugar beets	20,700	9,300	11.80	9.00	245,000	83,500
MANITOBA -						
Peas	6,700	6,100	25.0	22.0	168,000	134,000
Buckwheat	6,100	6,400	21.0	15.0	128,000	96,000
Mixed grains	39,200	40,900	35.0	31.0	1,372,000	1,268,000
Corn, husking	100,000	40,000	7.5	24.0	750,000	960,000
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	29,000	28,400	82.0	85.0	2,378,000	2,414,000
Turnips, etc.	3,000	4,000	108.0	120.0	324,000	480,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	50,000	41,700	3.00	3.50	150,000	146,000
Alfalfa	200,000	230,000	2.40	2.40	480,000	552,000
Sugar beets	15,000	14,100	8.60	8.16	129,000	115,000
SASKATCHEWAN -						
Mixed grains	75,000	75,300	33.4	22.3	2,505,000	1,684,000
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	45,000	45,500	89.0	67.0	4,094,000	3,116,000
Turnips, etc.	3,900	4,200	118.0	83.2	460,000	349,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	19,400	9,100	2.43	2.59	47,000	24,000
Alfalfa	135,000	151,300	1.95	1.98	263,000	300,000
ALBERTA -						
Peas	16,000	30,300	19.0	14.0	304,000	424,000
Beans	2,300	800	11.7	16.0	27,000	13,000
Mixed grains	73,000	80,600	36.9	26.0	2,694,000	2,096,000
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	28,500	31,200	95.0	74.0	2,708,000	2,309,000
Turnips, etc.	4,400	4,200	109.0	91.0	480,000	382,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	14,000	10,700	4.50	3.00	63,000	32,000
Alfalfa	220,000	226,000	2.50	2.20	550,000	497,000
Sugar beets	27,600	29,100	12.39	11.27	342,000	328,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA -						
Peas	6,400	7,900	23.1	22.1	148,000	175,000
Beans	600	600	24.2	23.5	15,000	14,000
Mixed grains	6,200	6,700	40.8	41.4	253,000	277,000
			cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Potatoes	15,100	18,800	100.0	116.0	1,510,000	2,181,000
Turnips, etc.	3,900	3,200	204.0	202.0	796,000	646,000
			tons	tons	tons	tons
Fodder corn	4,400	4,500	10.65	11.44	47,000	51,000
Alfalfa	69,800	71,400	3.16	2.73	221,000	195,000

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