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Ottawa, May 10, 1926, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued to-day the first crop report of the present season, indicating the proportions winter-killed of fall wheat and rye and of hay and clover meadows and the progress of spring seeding. The report is compiled from the returns of crop correspondents at the end of April.

WINTER KILLING OF FALL WHEAT AND RYE.

The area estimated last November as having been sown to fall wheat was 861,873 acres, of which 801,577 acres were in Ontario, 44,076 acres in Alberta and 16,220 acres in British Columbia. The proportions reported as winter-killed is 13 p.c., or 108,800 acres, leaving the area to be harvested for all Canada at 753,073 acres. The percentage of 13 winter killed compares with 4 p.c. last year, and is larger than in any year since 1918, when the proportion winter-killed was reported as 52 p.c. The percentage now reported, viz., 13, is equal to the average for the ten years 1916-25. In Ontario, the percentage winter-killed is 13, which compares with 4 p.c. last year, and is higher than in any year since 1918, when the percentage was 56. This year's percentage of 13 is exactly equal to the ten-year average 1916-25. It represents 104,200 acres, leaving the area to be harvested in Ontario at 697,377 acres. In Alberta, the proportion reported as winter-killed is 10 p.c., as compared with 4 p.c. last year, 10 p.c. in 1924 and 9 p.c., the decennial average. It represents 4,400 acres and leaves 39,676 acres as the area to be harvested. In British Columbia, where the winter has been the mildest on record, only one p.c. is reported as winter-killed, this proportion representing 200 acres, and leaving the area to be harvested at 16,020 acres. The area estimated last November as having been sown to fall rye was 688,493 acres. Of this area, 5 p.c. is now reported as winter-killed. This proportion represents 35,200 acres, and leaves the area to be harvested at 653,293 acres. By provinces, the estimated areas sown, winter-killed and to be harvested are as follows: Ontario: sown, 87,800 acres; winter-killed, 2 p.c., or 1,800 acres; to be harvested, 86,000 acres. Manitoba: sown, 266,721 acres; winter-killed, 9 p.c., or 22,000 acres; to be harvested, 244,721 acres. Saskatchewan: sown 199,650 acres; winter-killed, 3 p.c., or 6,000 acres; to be harvested, 193,650 acres. Alberta: sown, 134,322 acres; winter-killed, 4 p.c., or 5,400 acres; to be harvested 128,922 acres.

CONDITION OF FALL WHEAT, FALL RYE AND HAY AND CLOVER MEADOWS.

The condition of fall wheat at the end of April, 1926, expressed as a percentage of the average yield per acre for the ten years 1916-25, is reported for all Canada as 89, compared with 100 last year, and 99 in 1924. The condition this year is the lowest since 1918, when the percentage was only 76. For Ontario, the condition is 88, compared with 100 last year and 99 in 1924. For Alberta, the condition is expressed as 103, which compares with 105 last year and 100 in 1924. In British Columbia the condition is 107, as compared with 94 last year. It is the highest figure since the record began in 1917. For fall rye, the condition is reported as 97 for all Canada, 92 for Ontario, 96 for Manitoba, 98 for Saskatchewan and 101 for Alberta. This is the first year that reports have been collected of the condition of fall rye at this date. The condition of hay and clover meadows on April 30, 1926, is, in percentage of the ten-year average 95 for Canada, as compared with 100 last year. By provinces, the condition, with the corresponding figure for April 30, 1925, given within brackets, is as follows: Prince Edward Island 100 (92); Nova Scotia 98 (101); New Brunswick 107 (97); Quebec 100 (100); Ontario 91 (101); Manitoba 97 (101); Saskatchewan 97 (101); Alberta 100 (104); British Columbia 104 (96). In the Atlantic Provinces and in Quebec the condition reported for 1926 is based upon very few replies, as the ground was mostly still covered with snow.

PROGRESS OF SPRING SEEDING.

Throughout eastern Canada very little progress had been made with spring seeding by the end of April: none in the three Atlantic Provinces, none in Quebec and comparatively little in Ontario. For spring wheat only 1 p.c. is reported for Ontario, as compared with 57 p.c. at the same date last year. In the Prairie Provinces and in British Columbia, good progress has been made with the seeding of spring wheat, and the following are the percentages reported as completed by April 30, the percentages for 1925 being given within brackets: Manitoba 68 (60); Saskatchewan 45 (32); Alberta 34 (23); British Columbia 76 (74). Six provinces 44 (33). For Manitoba, the proportion of 68 p.c. is the largest since 1918, 94 p.c.; in Saskatchewan 45 p.c. is larger than since 1919, 62 p.c.; in Alberta 34 p.c. is larger than since 1923, 52 p.c. In British Columbia the proportion of 76 p.c. is the largest since 1915, 89 p.c. For oats, barley and total seeding, the percentages completed by April 30, 1926, as compared with 1925 in brackets, are, by provinces, as follows: Oats: Quebec 0 (16); Ontario 5 (67); Manitoba 9 (10); Saskatchewan 2 (2); Alberta 3 (3); British Columbia 71 (60); Six Provinces 4 (19). Barley: Quebec 9 (12); Ontario 4 (61); Manitoba 7 (8); Saskatchewan 1 (1); Alberta 2 (2); British Columbia 66 (63); Six Provinces 4 (12). Total Seeding: Quebec 0 (16); Ontario 4 (60); Manitoba 32 (30); Saskatchewan 33 (17); Alberta 23 (15); British Columbia 68 (62); Six Provinces 31 (24).

GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF APRIL.

Atlantic Provinces.- The spring is very late; and the fields are still covered with snow. Quebec.- Except in the counties around Montreal, where the snow had recently disappeared, the fields are still snow-covered, in some cases to the depth of 4 or 5 feet. The spring is everywhere very late, and seeding was not expected to begin until about the 15th of May. Ontario.- The spring is very late, and there has not been much growth. Very little work has been done on the land. In most places live stock are still being fed from winter supplies. Manitoba.- The land is in splendid shape for seeding, and a larger percentage of wheat has been sown than is usual at the end of April. The weather is cool and there has been but little growth. In many parts severe winds have caused soil drifting, and rain was needed. Saskatchewan.- Seeding operations were not started quite so early as was anticipated, owing to a cold spell in early April. Very little snow was lying on the ground, consequently with the advent of warm weather the surface water disappeared very quickly, and seeding operations started with very little delay. The last two weeks were characterized by high winds, and many farmers found it necessary at intervals to take measures to prevent summer fallow land from drifting. Otherwise the land was in ideal condition for seeding and germination. Alberta.- Seeding is progressing satisfactorily, and at the end of the month a larger percentage of grain was sown than at the same date for the two previous years. Generally the seed bed is in excellent condition. In some localities where high winds have dried out the surface soil and caused some drifting, rain would be welcome. British Columbia.- The spring is from two to three weeks earlier than the average. The weather was fine for seeding in April, and with the exception of a few districts, the seeding is completed. Clover and fall sown grains are exceptionally good.

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