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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH.

Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Agricultural Branch: T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

Ottawa, May 12, 1930, 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, fall rye and of hay and clover meadows, together with statistics on 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, FALL RYE AND HAY AND CLOVER MEADOWS

The area estimated last November as having been sown to fall wheat was 809,000 acres, of which 670,000 acres were in Ontario, 126,000 acres in Alberta and 13,000 acres in British Columbia. The proportion reported as winter-killed is 21 p.c. or 172,700 acres, leaving the area to be harvested for all Canada at 636,300 acres. The percentage of 21 in 1930 compares with 6 p.c. in 1929, 21 p.c. in 1928 and 9 p.c., the average of the ten years 1920-29. In Ontario the percentage winter-killed is 24, as compared with 5 p.c. in 1929 and 9 p.c., the average for the ten years 1920-29. This represents 161,000 acres, leaving the area to be harvested in Ontario at 509,000 acres. In Alberta, the proportion reported as winter-killed is 9 p.c., as compared with 10 p.c. last year and 8 p.c., the ten-year average. This amounts to 11,000 acres, leaving the acreage to be harvested at 115,000. In British Columbia, 5 p.c. is reported as winter-killed, as against 4 p.c. last year and 5 p.c., the ten-year average. The proportion this year represents 700 acres, leaving the area to be harvested at 12,300 acres.

The area estimated as having been sown to fall rye in Canada was 818,000 acres, of which 6 p.c. or 52,600 acres is now reported as winter-killed, leaving the area to be harvested at 765,400 acres. By provinces, areas sown, winter-killed and to be harvested are as follows: Ontario, sown 46,000 acres, winter-killed 10 p.c. or 4,600 acres, to be harvested 41,400 acres; Manitoba, sown 60,000 acres, winter-killed 3 p.c. or 2,000 acres, to be harvested 58,000 acres; Saskatchewan, sown 610,000 acres, winter-killed 7 p.c. or 43,000 acres, to be harvested 567,000 acres; Alberta, sown 102,000 acres, winter-killed 3 p.c. or 3,000 acres, to be harvested 99,000 acres.

The proportion of hay and clover winter-killed in Canada is reported as 9 p.c. as compared with 5 p.c. last year. By provinces, the percentages reported winter-killed are as follows, last year's figures being given within brackets: Prince Edward Island 10 (11); Nova Scotia 5 (3); New Brunswick 3 (4); Quebec 7 (6); Ontario 16 (4); Manitoba 2 (3); Saskatchewan 6 (3); Alberta 3 (1); British Columbia 3 (2).

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

The condition of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover at the end of April, 1930, expressed as percentages of the ten-year averages, is reported as follows, the figures for 1929 and 1928 being given within brackets: Fall wheat - Canada 87 (103; 88); Ontario 85 (103; 87); Alberta 98 (100; 101); British Columbia 96 (97; 99). Fall rye - Canada 95 (97; 96); Ontario 94 (103; 92); Manitoba 98 (97; 96); Saskatchewan 94 (95; 96); Alberta 98 (97; 101). Hay and clover - Canada 95 (99; 95); Prince Edward Island 94 (94; 94); Nova Scotia 97 (94; 100); New Brunswick 101 (100; 96); Quebec 98 (98; 98); Ontario 90 (103; 90); Manitoba 95 (99; 97); Saskatchewan 93 (96; 98); Alberta 95 (100; 101); British Columbia 99 (98; 99).

PROGRESS OF SPRING SEEDING

In the three Atlantic Provinces and Quebec, practically no seeding had been done at the end of April. In the other provinces, the percentages of seeding completed by April 30 are as follows, the figures for 1929 and 1928 being given within brackets: Spring wheat - Ontario 48 (28; 8); Manitoba 73 (53; 31); Saskatchewan 61 (39; 8); Alberta 64 (36; 6); British Columbia 73 (55; 49). Oats - Ontario 25 (13; 7); Manitoba 11 (6; 3); Saskatchewan 8 (2; 0); Alberta 11 (4; 1); British Columbia 58 (48; 38). Barley - Ontario 18 (9; 6); Manitoba 8 (5; 2); Saskatchewan 4 (1; 0); Alberta 3 (2; 0);



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British Columbia 52 (53; 40): Of the total seeding, the percentages completed by the end of April with last year's proportions in brackets, are as follows: Ontario 23 (14); Manitoba 41 (31); Saskatchewan 48 (27); Alberta 52 (31); British Columbia 63 (51).

GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF APRIL

MARITIME PROVINCES.- The weather has been cold and dry with continuous night frosts since the snow left the fields. The land is drying nicely, however, and will be ready to work somewhat earlier than usual in some localities. The growth of grass is slow and it is still difficult to estimate the amount of winter-killing.

QUEBEC.- April has been characterized by heavy frosts. The ground, up to the end of the month, was still frozen in a number of districts and there was snow on low-lying fields. Consequently very little work has been done on the land. The season is backward in many parts of the province and average in others. Clover meadows have wintered well and pastures have a good appearance.

ONTARIO.- Work on the land has commenced. Frosts have been experienced practically every night, but the land is reported to be working well. Growth of winter wheat is backward, and where showing, the plants are very irregular. Some sections made good progress with seeding in the last part of the month owing to the favourable weather. Live stock are in good condition, but feed is somewhat scarce. Prospects are generally bright.

MANITOBA.- Cool weather has been experienced throughout the province, with heavy frosts at night. Work on the land is a little earlier than last season. There have been a few scattered showers, but a good rain is needed to start germination, there being few reports indicating that wheat is showing above ground. Sub-soil moisture is insufficient. Pastures are slow in starting and stock are only in fair condition owing to the scarcity of feed brought about by conditions last fall.

SASKATCHEWAN.- Seeding started earlier than usual in April and conditions were generally reported favourable for work on the land. Although many report sufficient surface moisture for germination, many also refer to the deficiency of reserve moisture in the sub-soil and express the need for abundant rains after seeding. The weather during the latter part of April was somewhat cool for good growth and frost was reported on several nights.

ALBERTA.- The ground is reported to be in good tilth for seeding, which is now general throughout the province. Seeding is earlier than last season, but has been delayed on account of rains. This precipitation was needed as the soil is dry. A few reports mentioned soil drifting due to high winds. Since rains have fallen, germination has been good and wheat made its appearance during the last week of April. Pasture lands are reported to be in fair shape, with very little evidence of winter-killing, and stock is improving.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.- Spring work is well advanced and there is ample moisture for the germination of all seeds. The weather has been cool and growth backward. Pastures are improving.

ARGENTINA CORN CROP

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports the receipt of a cablegram from the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Buenos Aires, stating that according to the first official forecast of the Argentina government, the total production of corn for the year 1929-30 is 253,165,000 bushels from 9,820,000 acres (second estimate) as compared with 231,704,000 bushels from 10,000,000 acres in 1928-29. The average yield per acre is thus 25.3 bushels as compared with 23.2 bushels for 1928-29.



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