by Authority of the Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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

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Ottawa, May 10, 1933, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued to-day the first crop report of the present season, indicating (1) the intended acreage of principal field crops as reported by crop correspondents at May 1; (2) the progress of spring seeding and (3) winter killing and condition at May 1, of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover meadows.

SUMMARY.

Judged by the intentions of farmers at May 1, the acreage to be sown to spring grains in Canada in 1933 will be over 1½ million acres less than in 1932. This decrease is almost entirely due to a reduction of 1,475,100 acres in the area intended for spring wheat. The decreased acreage is also confined mainly to the Prairie Provinces. The intended acreages of oats and mixed grains are slightly above the acreages seeded in 1932, with barley and spring rye slightly lower. The intended acreage of flax is given as 384,100 compared with 453,700 seeded in 1932, which would mean a reduction of 15.4 per cent.

The contemplated reduction in spring wheat acreage is divided among the three Prairie Provinces -- 214,000 acres in Manitoba, 777,000 acres in Saskatchewan and 484,600 acres in Alberta. Little change is indicated in the other provinces.

Winter-killing of fall wheat in Ontario was slightly higher than in 1931-32, but still quite moderate. The area to be harvested amounts to 514,200 acres compared with 536,000 acres in 1932, while the condition at April 30 was 95 compared with 100 at the same date in 1932.

Fall rye winter-killed to the extent of 8 per cent or 41,900 acres, leaving 454,100 acres to be harvested. The condition at April 30 was 89 compared with 94 at the same date of 1932.

Despite the late spring, the condition of hay and clover at April 30 was 94 compared with 90 on April 30, 1932. As in 1932, condition figures are slightly higher in the Prairie Provinces than in the Maritimes and eastern Canada.

Seeding of spring grains in the six provinces is later than in any year since 1928.

INTERPRETATION OF "INTENTIONS" REPORT.

The "Intentions" report for spring grains has now been compiled for three years at the same date. The acreages shown in this report for 1933 should not be expected to compare exactly with those disclosed later by the June Survey. The intended acreages are only indicative of farmers' plans about the first of May and the actually sown acreages may be changed by many later considerations such as soil and weather conditions and price movements. Since the spring season of 1933 is the latest since 1928, there are many districts in which the total acreage and the proportions seeded to the different grains depend greatly on the weather during the month of May. Misgivings with regard to the weather may be offset to some extent by the recent strengthening of prices.

In the two years for which intended acreages may be compared with those finally established, wheat and oats "Intentions" have been low and barley, rye and flax (particularly the latter) have been high. An effort has been made to correct the 1933 "Intentions" for the probable bias.

WEATHER CONDITIONS SINCE MAY I.

The weather has been slightly warmer and more settled since May 1, but work on the land and seeding operations are still more backward than in any year since 1928. This situation prevails fairly generally from Atlantic to Pacific.

In the Maritime Provinces, very little ploughing and seeding has been done because of the wet soil and cold weather. Conditions are promising, however, and many

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[redacted] acreages of small grains. In Quebec and Ontario, but [redacted] latter province, the weather has been generally cool and clear [redacted] of May and land work has proceeded more rapidly. Higher temperatures [redacted] bring on pasture growth and to promote germination. In southwestern [redacted] the season is less advanced than in 1932. Rain and low temperatures have [redacted] with seeding and spraying operations.

In the Prairie Provinces, there has been a real improvement in the weather and the drilling of wheat has proceeded rapidly, except in some northerly districts. Fully one-half of the wheat crop is now in the ground and seeding of coarse grains is well started. The work is proceeding more slowly than usual because horses are being used to a greater extent and the shortage of feed in many southern districts has lowered their condition. In the wheat areas, high winds have been prevalent and some further soil drifting has occurred. Generally, however, moisture is ample for the present. Soil conditions in the wheat areas of Manitoba and Saskatchewan are very favourable for germination and early growth. Prospects in the dry sections of west-central Saskatchewan and east-central Alberta have been improved by moderate precipitation, but more will be needed soon after seeding. In the park belt and along the foothills, the soil is wet; warm weather is required. Further rains have fallen in the Edmonton district, while the Peace River district has advanced rapidly in the past ten days.

The weather in British Columbia during May has been more favourable for land work and early growth. Fruit prospects are still indefinite.

INTENDED ACREAGES OF PRINCIPAL CROPS.

For all Canada, the intended acreages for 1933 as reported at May 1 are as follows, with the 1932 acreages within brackets: Spring wheat 25,171,000 (26,646,100); oats 13,250,300 (13,148,400); barley 3,695,500 (3,757,600); spring rye 146,300 (159,900); flaxseed 384,100 (453,700); mixed grains 1,195,500 (1,184,000).

For the Prairie Provinces, the intended acreages for 1933, as compared with 1932 in brackets, are as follows; Spring wheat 24,919,400 (26,395,000); oats 8,620,300 (8,533,000); barley 3,081,500 (3,154,100); spring rye 136,500 (149,800); flaxseed 376,400 (445,700); mixed grains 61,400 (63,100). By provinces, the intended acreages are as follows: Manitoba - Spring wheat 2,437,000 (2,651,000); oats 1,463,500 (1,463,500); barley 1,129,000 (1,123,300); spring rye 9,500 (10,500); flaxseed 39,000 (49,300); mixed grains 16,800 (17,000). Saskatchewan - Spring wheat 14,766,000 (15,543,000); oats 4,452,000 (4,364,700); barley 1,263,000 (1,329,500); spring rye 68,000 (77,300); flaxseed 324,000 (381,200); mixed grains 19,600 (20,800). Alberta - Spring wheat 7,716,400 (8,201,000); oats 2,704,800 (2,704,800); barley 689,500 (701,300); spring rye 59,000 (62,000); flaxseed 13,400 (15,200); mixed grains 25,000 (25,300).

PROGRESS OF SPRING SEEDING.

In the Maritime Provinces and in 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, with the figures for 1932 in brackets: Spring wheat - Ontario 18 (34); Manitoba 22 (52); Saskatchewan 13 (23); Alberta 10 (17); British Columbia 43 (57). Oats - Ontario 19 (36); Manitoba 2 (7); Saskatchewan 2 (2); Alberta 2 (3); British Columbia 40 (40). Barley - Ontario 17 (36); Manitoba 1 (4); Saskatchewan 0 (2); Alberta 0 (1); British Columbia 35 (43).

WINTER-KILLING OF FALL WHEAT, FALL RYE AND HAY AND CLOVER MEADOWS.

In Ontario, where the bulk of the fall wheat is grown, 547,000 acres were seeded last autumn. Of this amount 32,800 acres, or 6 p.c. are estimated as winter-killed, leaving an area of 514,200 acres for harvest, as compared with a harvested area of 536,000 acres in 1932.

For fall rye, the area estimated as sown in Canada was 496,000 acres, of which 8 p.c., or 41,900 acres, is reported as winter-killed, leaving 454,100 acres as the area to be harvested. In Ontario, of the 59,000 acres sown, 4 p.c., or 2,400 acres, is reported as winter-killed, leaving 56,600 acres to be harvested. In Manitoba 25,000 acres were sown, 800 acres, or 3 p.c., were winter-killed and 24,200 acres remain for harvest. In Saskatchewan, 304,000 acres were sown, 36,500 acres, or 12 p.c., were winter-killed and 267,500 acres remain to be harvested. Out of 108,000 acres sown in Alberta, 2,200 acres, or 2 p.c., were winter-killed, leaving 105,800 acres for harvest.

The percentages of hay and clover reported as winter-killed during the winter of 1932-33 are as follows, with the corresponding figures for last year in

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[redacted]); Prince Edward Island 9 (8); Nova Scotia 5 (4); New
13 (13); Ontario 9 (13); Manitoba 3 (4); Saskatchewan 2 (4);
Columbia 8 (3).

[redacted]TION OF FALL WHEAT, FALL RYE AND HAY AND CLOVER MEADOWS.

The condition of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover meadows at the end [redacted]ril 1933, expressed as percentages of the long-time average yields per acre, is as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: Fall wheat - Ontario 95 (100). Fall rye - Canada 89 (94); Ontario 94 (97); Manitoba 92 (96); Saskatchewan 85 (93); Alberta 96 (96). Hay and clover - Canada 94 (90); Prince Edward Island 95 (95); Nova Scotia 93 (97); New Brunswick 90 (93); Quebec 95 (90); Ontario 93 (87); Manitoba 93 (94); Saskatchewan 95 (90); Alberta 97 (101); British Columbia 90 (100).

GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF APRIL.

Summarized from the Reports of Crop Correspondents.

Maritime Provinces. - The spring is late and cold throughout the Maritimes, with snow still lying on many fields in New Brunswick. Soil moisture conditions are generally satisfactory and seeding will probably be general by the middle of May. It is too early to make any definite report on the winter-killing of meadows, but indications are that the damage is not so severe as was expected from the light snow covering of the winter and the alternate thaws and frosts.

Quebec. - In general, the season is late and the weather has continued cold during April. No seeding has been done in the lower St. Lawrence and Quebec regions. In the other districts, especially around Montreal and in the Ottawa Valley, progress is slow. Intentions to plant reports indicate an increase over 1932 except for rye. Where it is possible to estimate, meadows seem in better condition than they were last year.

Ontario. - Seeding of spring grains up to the end of April was materially less than last year. This is especially true in western and southwestern Ontario where seeding generally gets away to an early start. Cold, backward and damp weather throughout the whole province has been the cause. Seeding intentions show that less spring wheat and oats will be sown, and more barley and mixed grains on the whole, though the total acreage for spring grain will show little change. The prospect of higher prices for barley and the availability of a ready market are responsible for a slight switching to this grain, especially in eastern Ontario. Winter-killing of wheat, hay and clover is less than anticipated, but, nevertheless, was considerable in the Niagara Peninsula and eastern Ontario.

Manitoba. - The weather during April has been cold and windy with frosts at night that prevented work on the land until afternoon, so that the amount of seeding accomplished by the end of the month is much less than for several years. Moisture supplies are reported as sufficient almost everywhere to ensure good germination with the advent of warm weather. There has been very slow growth of grasses and grazing is poor, with horses in rather poor condition for spring work in localities where feed was scarce. A shortage of horses is mentioned in some southwestern areas where losses had occurred during the winter.

Saskatchewan. - At the end of April some seeding had been done in practically all parts of the province. The most advanced districts were the west central and southwestern, while the most backward were in the north. Taking the province as a whole around 13 per cent of the acreage intended for wheat was seeded during April. The percentage of the coarse grain acreage seeded was practically negligible. The land is generally reported in good condition for cultivation. Moisture conditions over the province vary considerably. The northeastern section has a plentiful supply of moisture and also the east central and most parts of the southeastern, while in the Regina Weyburn district moisture conditions are fair, sufficient to assure germination. In most of the south central districts there is sufficient moisture for germination, but reserves are light, while in central Saskatchewan subsoil moisture is low and good precipitation during the summer will be needed. In the west central part of the province conditions are more patchy with most districts reporting sufficient surface moisture; in some districts the subsoil moisture is not plentiful. In the northwestern section conditions are fairly satisfactory with a recent snow storm providing additional surface moisture. On the whole moisture conditions appear better than last year. No damage so far has resulted from soil blowing or drifting. Fall rye is coming very slowly on account of cold backward weather and correspondents in some districts think considerable winter killing has occurred. The weather has been generally cold, cloudy and unsettled with local showers which have kept farmers off the land. A snow storm last week in northwestern Saskatchewan improved moisture conditions,

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[redacted] seeding operations. Growth on the whole has been slow. Live stock [redacted] fair condition with some thin animals in the central and southern

Alberta. - The outstanding characteristic of the season is its lateness. [redacted]situation is not yet alarming and if warm weather should ensue, prospects would improve quickly and materially. Over most of the province, including the south, along the foothills, and practically all the north country, moisture varies from plentiful to excessive. In the east-central districts (3, 5 and 7), soil conditions are much less promising. Moisture is needed at points such as Jenner, Bindloss, Bowmanton, Oyen, Excel, Hutton, Acadia Valley, Big Stone and Lougheed. The spring in these districts has been windy and cold and some soil-drifting has already occurred. The feed situation in the southern districts (1 and 2) has been relieved by the new growth, but not before there were some losses, particularly among range flocks of sheep. In the western districts along the foothills and extending east past the Edmonton-Macleod line, the season is generally described as wet and late. Seeding will probably be general in the second week of May. In some localities, such as Innisfail, Red Deer and Eckville, postponed threshing of 1932 crops is now being done. In the northern districts, the snow was very heavy and melted slowly. Many correspondents noted that the absorption of moisture by the soil was particularly good this spring. In parts of the Peace River country, snow was still lying on the fields at the end of April. Seeding was predicted for May 2-15.

British Columbia. - Spring is about two weeks later than usual and seeding has been delayed owing to cool weather. There was considerable damage to fall wheat by severe frosts before the snow covering came. Moisture conditions at this time are very satisfactory. The weather is turning warmer and farm operations are proceeding rapidly.

Acreages of Principal Crops, May, 1, 1933 as compared with 1932.

Field Crops	Area 1932	P.C. of 1932	Intended Area 1933
	Acres	P.C.	Acres
Fall wheat	536,000	102	547,000
Spring wheat	26,646,100	94	25,171,000
All wheat	27,182,100	95	25,718,000
Oats	13,148,400	101	13,250,300
Barley	3,757,600	98	3,695,500
Fall rye	613,900	81	496,000
Spring rye	159,900	91	146,300
All rye	773,800	83	642,300
Flaxseed	453,700	85	384,100
Mixed grains	1,184,000	101	1,195,500
P. E. ISLAND -			
Spring wheat	23,300	103	24,000
Oats	149,500	100	149,500
Barley	4,000	100	4,000
Mixed grains	23,800	97	23,000
NOVA SCOTIA -			
Spring wheat	3,300	103	3,400
Oats	85,100	102	87,000
Barley	7,900	101	8,000
Mixed grains	4,800	100	4,800
NEW BRUNSWICK -			
Spring wheat	11,300	106	12,000
Oats	216,500	100	216,500
Barley	12,000	101	12,100
Mixed grains	4,300	100	4,300
QUEBEC -			
Spring wheat	52,000	103	53,000
Oats	1,735,500	102	1,770,000
Barley	114,300	104	118,900
Spring rye	6,200	94	5,800
Flaxseed	1,400	100	1,400
Mixed grains	99,000	104	103,000
ONTARIO -			
Fall wheat	536,000	102	547,000
Spring wheat	100,000	98	98,000
All wheat	636,000	101	645,000
Oats	2,338,000	99	2,315,000
Barley	456,000	101	461,000
Fall rye	57,500	103	59,000
Flaxseed	6,300	96	6,000
Mixed grains	986,000	101	996,000
MANITOBA -			
Spring wheat	2,651,000	92	2,437,000
Oats	1,463,500	100	1,463,500
Barley	1,123,300	101	1,129,000
Fall rye	30,100	83	25,000
Spring rye	10,500	90	9,500
All rye	40,600	85	34,500
Flaxseed	49,300	80	39,000
Mixed grains	17,000	99	16,800
SASKATCHEWAN -			
Spring wheat	15,543,000	95	14,766,000
Oats	4,364,700	102	4,452,000
Barley	1,329,500	95	1,263,000
Fall rye	405,200	75	304,000
Spring rye	77,300	88	68,000
All rye	482,500	77	372,000
Flaxseed	381,200	85	324,000
Mixed grains	20,800	94	19,600
ALBERTA -			
Spring wheat	8,201,000	94	7,716,400
Oats	2,704,800	100	2,704,800
Barley	701,300	98	689,500
Fall rye	121,100	89	108,000
Spring rye	62,000	95	59,000
All rye	183,100	91	167,000
Flaxseed	15,200	88	13,400
Mixed grains	25,300	99	25,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA -			
Spring wheat	61,200	100	61,200
Oats	90,800	101	92,000
Barley	9,300	103	10,000
Spring rye	3,900	102	4,000
Flaxseed	300	95	300
Mixed grains	3,000	101	3,000