

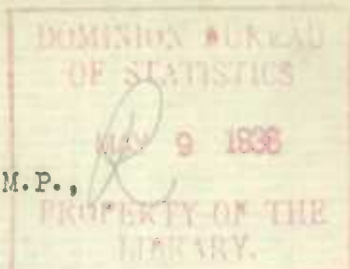
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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



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Ottawa, May 8, 1936, 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 April 30, of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover meadows.

SUMMARY

Intentions to Plant, 1936. - An increase of nearly a million acres in the area sown to grain in Canada in 1936 is to be expected if the intentions of farmers at May 1 are carried out. The intended area of spring wheat is 24,354,000 acres compared with 23,560,600 acres in 1935 and 26,646,100 acres in the peak year, 1932. The intended increase compared with the previous year amounts to 793,400 acres or about 3 per cent and it is practically confined to the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. The intended acreages of oats and spring rye show little change from the 1935 figures. Barley, however, promises an increase of 168,500 acres or 4 per cent, while flaxseed will be up 22,400 acres or 10 per cent, if farmers' plans are realized. The intended acreage of mixed grains for 1936 is 1,145,500 acres, which is about 1 per cent below the 1935 level.

A 2 per cent increase in potato acreage to a figure of 514,800 acres in 1936 is intended.

Fall Wheat. - The area of fall wheat remaining for harvest in Ontario at 538,000 acres is practically identical with that of 1935. Less wheat was sown last fall but the winter-killing amounted to only 8 per cent or 47,000 acres compared with 19 per cent or 130,000 acres a year ago. The condition of fall wheat at April 30 was 90 compared with 85 at April 30, 1935.

Fall Rye. - The winter-killing of fall rye amounted to 30,000 acres or 6 per cent, leaving 505,000 acres for harvest compared with 573,700 acres a year ago. The condition at April 30 was 94 in both 1935 and 1936.

Hay and Clover. - The condition of hay and clover meadows at April 30, 1936, was placed at 99 compared with 92 a year ago. Every province in Canada, except New Brunswick, showed an improvement and the Dominion average is the highest since 1929.

Spring Seeding. - The seeding of spring grains is even later than in 1935. 8 per cent of the wheat crop was sown prior to April 30 as in 1935 but only 3 per cent of the oats and 2 per cent of barley were in the ground compared with 11 and 8 per cent respectively a year ago. On the whole, the seeding is the latest since 1928.

INTERPRETATION OF "INTENTIONS" REPORT

This is the sixth year in which an 'Intentions' report for spring grains has been compiled. Potatoes were added to the schedule in 1934. The acreages shown in this report for 1936 should not be expected to compare exactly with the actually sown acres - as shown by the June Survey results for the Eastern Provinces and British Columbia and by the quinquennial census results for the Prairie Provinces. The intended acreages are merely indicative of farmers' plans about the first of May and the areas actually sown may be altered by the subsequent weather, by changes in prices, and by many other similar conditions. An effort is made, however, to eliminate the habitual bias in the 'Intentions' figures as disclosed by the previous years' experience. With this correction, the 'Intentions' of the past three years have corresponded very closely with the June Survey figures as published later.

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GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

At the End of April. - The reports of crop correspondents throughout Canada at the end of April indicate that seeding operations will again be late but that soil conditions are very satisfactory for germination and early growth. Throughout the Dominion, cold and wet weather was experienced during most of April and, as a result, the thawing and drying of the soil took much longer than usual. Winter-killing of meadows and pastures and of fall-sown crops was less than usual.

In the Maritime Provinces and eastern Quebec, meadows and pastures came through the winter in satisfactory condition and should respond rapidly to warm weather. Increased acreages, particularly of potatoes, are planned in the Maritime Provinces. In the western counties of Quebec and over most of Ontario, there was little growth and no possibility of work on the land while cold, wet weather persisted during the first three weeks of April. In the last week of the month, however, under better weather conditions, pastures began to turn green and well-drained farms were soon ready to work. Germinating conditions for spring-sown crops are considered very favourable.

Seeding will again be late in the Prairie Provinces but soil moisture conditions are certainly the best since 1932. There has been practically no soil-drifting this spring; on the other hand, flooding has retarded farm operations in the Assiniboine Valley. Deficiency of sub-soil moisture is still reported from districts of western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta, but the affected area is much less extensive than in recent years. The seed used for the 1936 crop is not as dependable as usual and where it lacks in vitality, soil conditions must remain favourable to ensure a good start for the crop. In British Columbia, the weather changed 'for the better' in the last two weeks of April and with ample soil moisture, prospects are considered to be very good.

Since May 1. - Almost generally throughout Canada, the weather during the first week of May has been much more favourable for work on the land, seeding and early growth. In the Maritime and Eastern Provinces, temperatures have risen and there have been light rains. Pastures and meadows have responded splendidly. Seeding proceeded very satisfactorily in the Prairie Provinces during the first five or six days of the month before operations were hindered by rain in Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan and by high winds and soil-drifting in south-western Alberta. In the northern areas, where seeding has not yet begun in earnest, the fields are drying quickly.

INTENDED ACREAGES OF PRINCIPAL CROPS

For all Canada, the intended acreages for 1936 as reported at May 1 are as follows, with the 1935 acreages within brackets: Spring wheat 24,354,000 (23,560,600); oats 14,150,200 (14,096,200); barley 4,055,300 (3,886,800); spring rye 144,300 (145,800); flaxseed 236,800 (214,400); mixed grains 1,145,500 (1,152,500); potatoes 514,800 (506,800).

For the Prairie Provinces, the intended acreages for 1936, as compared with the 1935 acreages within brackets, are as follows: Spring wheat 24,087,000 (23,293,000); oats 9,510,000 (9,478,000); barley 3,362,000 (3,187,000); spring rye 133,500 (134,900); flaxseed 226,900 (204,200); mixed grains 64,800 (66,400); potatoes 114,400 (113,900). By provinces, the intended acreages are as follows: Manitoba - Wheat 2,535,000 (2,587,000); oats 1,491,000 (1,434,000); barley 1,278,000 (1,121,000); spring rye 10,000 (11,000); flaxseed 18,900 (17,300); mixed grains 21,900 (23,100); potatoes 33,800 (34,500). Saskatchewan - Wheat 13,602,000 (13,206,000); oats 5,041,000 (4,942,000); barley 1,146,000 (1,146,000); spring rye 81,600 (81,600); flaxseed 187,600 (167,500); mixed grains 23,100 (23,300); potatoes 51,000 (49,500). Alberta - Wheat 7,950,000 (7,500,000); oats 2,978,000 (3,102,000); barley 938,000 (920,000); spring rye 41,900 (42,300); flaxseed 20,400 (19,400); mixed grains 19,800 (20,000); potatoes 29,600 (29,900).

PROGRESS OF SEEDING

At the end of April, practically no seeding had been done in the Maritime Provinces or Quebec. In the other five provinces the percentages of seeding completed by April 30 were as follows, with figures for the same date last year within brackets: Spring wheat - Ontario 7 (50); Manitoba 15 (14); Saskatchewan 8 (9); Alberta 5 (5); British Columbia 29 (25). Oats - Ontario 12 (58); Manitoba 3 (2); Saskatchewan 1 (1); Alberta 1 (1); British Columbia 22 (22). Barley - Ontario 8 (59); Manitoba 2 (1); Saskatchewan 1 (-); Alberta 1 (-); British Columbia 12 (11).

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

Of the 585,000 acres of wheat sown in Ontario in the autumn of 1935, 47,000 acres or 8 p.c. are estimated to have been winter-killed, leaving 538,000 acres for harvest in 1936, as compared with a harvested area of 555,100 acres in 1935.

In all Canada, where 536,000 acres were seeded to rye last autumn, 30,000 acres or 6 p.c. are estimated as winter-killed, leaving 506,000 acres for harvest, as compared with 573,700 acres harvested in 1935. In Ontario, 2,000 acres or 3 p.c. of the 53,000 acres seeded were winter-killed, leaving 51,000 acres for harvest. In Manitoba, where 93,000 acres were sown, 4,000 acres or 4 p.c. were winter-killed, leaving 89,000 acres for harvest. In Saskatchewan, 247,000 acres were sown, 17,000 acres or 7 p.c. were winter-killed and 230,000 acres remain to be harvested. Of the 143,000 acres sown to fall rye in Alberta, 7,000 acres or 5 p.c. were winter-killed, leaving 136,000 acres for harvest.

During the winter of 1935-36, the following percentages of hay and clover meadows are estimated to have been winter-killed, with corresponding figures for the previous year within brackets: Canada 6 (8); Prince Edward Island 8 (2); Nova Scotia 2 (5); New Brunswick 4 (3); Quebec 9 (6); Ontario 5 (13); Manitoba 2 (2); Saskatchewan 1 (3); Alberta 1 (2); British Columbia 5 (3).

The condition of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover meadows at the end of April 1936, expressed in percentages of the long-time average yields per acre, is as follows, with last year's figures for the same date within brackets: Fall wheat - Ontario 90 (85). Fall rye - Canada 94 (94); Ontario 99 (91); Manitoba 94 (96); Saskatchewan 93 (92); Alberta 93 (97). Hay and clover - Canada 99 (92); Prince Edward Island 104 (99); Nova Scotia 101 (94); New Brunswick 98 (99); Quebec 102 (96); Ontario 96 (85); Manitoba 96 (95); Saskatchewan 99 (92); Alberta 98 (96); British Columbia 96 (90).

GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF APRIL

Summarized from the Reports of Crop Correspondents.

Maritime Provinces -

During the month of March, there were indications of an early spring in the Maritime Provinces, but April provided cold, wet and windy weather. The season, however, is well ahead of last year. Work on the land was just starting at the month-end, with practically no seeding done. Night frosts continued and there have also been cold rains to hinder growth. Growth of meadows and pastures commenced earlier than usual and there was little winter-killing evident at the end of April. An increased potato acreage is expected this year in response to higher prices obtained for the 1935 crop.

In the Annapolis Valley, apple buds have made a good but slow start and bloom prospects are considered very favourable. Similar conditions prevail in the Saint John River Valley of New Brunswick.

Quebec -

While the winter snow disappeared earlier than usual in April, the weather has remained cold and growth is not well advanced. As far as one can judge from present appearance, pastures and meadows do not seem to have suffered much damage during the winter and are in good condition. A small increase in the acreage of field crops is indicated by farmers' intentions at the first of May, only flaxseed showing a diminution.

Ontario -

The month of April was generally cloudy and cold, with considerable rain. Work on the land was hindered by the wet soil until nearly the end of the month. Pastures have picked up very rapidly lately while market gardens are very promising. The rapid rise in the price of potatoes will probably encourage the planting of a larger acreage. Winter-killing of hay and pasture land is no greater than usual, while fall wheat came through in very good condition despite the poor "top" grown last fall. The bud development on apples promises a good bloom but dead wood and trees are still appearing in eastern and central Ontario to dim the prospects. Other fruits and berries are reported to be in good condition.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The history of the United States is a story of growth and change. It begins with the first settlers and continues through the years of exploration, settlement, and the struggle for independence.

In the early years, the United States was a collection of small, separate colonies. Each colony had its own laws and customs. But as the colonies grew, they began to realize that they had common interests and that they should work together.

The first step towards unity was the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. This document declared that the United States was a new, free nation, no longer dependent on Great Britain.

But the new nation was not without problems. There were disagreements about how to govern the country. It was not until 1787 that the Constitution was signed, which provided a framework for the government.

THE CONSTITUTION

The Constitution is the foundation of the United States government. It sets out the powers of the different branches of government and the rights of the people.

The Constitution is divided into three main parts: the Preamble, the Articles, and the Amendments. The Preamble states the purpose of the government. The Articles describe the structure of the government. The Amendments are changes to the original Constitution.

The first ten amendments are known as the Bill of Rights. They protect the freedoms of speech, religion, and other basic rights of the citizens.

Over the years, there have been many changes to the Constitution. These changes have helped the United States to grow and adapt to the challenges of the world.

The United States is a country of many different people and cultures. But we all share a common history and a common goal: to live in a free and just society.

Manitoba -

The spring is generally late and very little seeding had been completed at the end of the month. An increase in acreage and generally improved prospects are evident in the south-western corner of the province where drought has ruled for several years past. There is every indication of a sharp increase in Durum wheat acreage and a more than compensating decrease in the acreage of common spring wheat, largely as a result of rust in 1935. While the season has been backward to date, soil moisture conditions are generally described as good to excellent and a change to warmer weather would speedily improve prospects. Low subsoil reserves are still evident in some southern districts. The Assiniboine Valley lands were badly flooded and seeding will be late in these areas. The exact areas to be seeded to the different crops were still in doubt at the end of April. Further postponement of seeding operations will doubtless lead to increased barley acreage at the expense of wheat. Shortage of seed is reported from south-western areas and seed of low vitality will be used in other parts of the province.

Saskatchewan -

Weather conditions were generally unfavourable for spring seeding operations in April and only about 8 per cent of the wheat acreage was seeded before the end of the month. While seeding started late it may still be completed in good time if seeding weather during May is favourable. The seed bed is generally good and the soil is in good condition for cultivation except in places in west-central Saskatchewan and on some of the heavy land and low spots where it was too wet for working. Abundant snowfall during the winter and further snowfall in late April provided ample surface moisture to give the crop a good start. Sub-soil moisture conditions, however, vary. In eastern Saskatchewan reserves are reported moderately good, whereas in the western portion of the province where precipitation was light last year, good rains will be required during the summer to supplement present reserve. There has been little or no damage from soil drifting or blowing during the spring. With a few exceptions, fall rye wintered fairly well.

Alberta -

Another late, wet spring is being experienced and the optimism resulting from improved soil moisture conditions is tempered by inability to get on the land. A shortage of seed is reported from districts where frost and drought ruled in 1935. Compared with 1935, the eastern side of the province has much better prospects and there are only a few localities where moisture is insufficient to give the crop a good start. Soil-drifting has been negligible throughout the province. Fall-sown wheat and rye suffered from the drought last year; germination was poor and in some cases postponed until this spring. There has been a recent improvement. The southern sections of the province, where seeding usually starts, received heavy snowfall late in April so that dates of seeding will be more uniform over the province than usual. Some drought-stricken eastern districts report work horses in poor shape from shortage of feed and this will lengthen the period of spring work and seeding. Wet land is common over all the central and northern areas. In these districts frost damaged the oats last fall and there is difficulty in securing reliable seed. A week or ten days of warm, dry weather would improve prospects over the entire province.

British Columbia -

During March and the first part of April, the weather was cold and conditions backward. Since the middle of April, fairly high temperatures were experienced, giving a stimulus to growth. With ample moisture in the soil, prospects now seem very favourable.

Intended Acreages of Principal Crops, May 1, 1936, as compared with 1935.

Field Crops	Area 1935	P.C. of 1935	Intended Area 1936	Field Crops	Area 1935	P.C. of 1935	Intended Area 1936
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>P.C.</u>	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>	<u>P.C.</u>	<u>Acres</u>
<u>CANADA -</u>				<u>MANITOBA -</u>			
Fall wheat ^{1/}	555,100	97	538,000	Spring wheat	2,587,000	98	2,535,000
Spring wheat	23,560,600	103	24,354,000	Oats	1,434,000	104	1,491,000
All wheat	24,115,700	103	24,892,000	Barley	1,121,000	114	1,278,000
Oats	14,096,200	100	14,150,200	Fall rye ^{1/}	96,000	93	89,000
Barley	3,886,800	104	4,055,300	Spring rye	11,000	91	10,000
Fall rye ^{1/}	573,700	88	506,000	All rye	107,000	93	99,000
Spring rye	145,800	99	144,300	Flaxseed	17,300	109	18,900
All rye	719,500	90	650,300	Mixed grains	23,100	95	21,900
Flaxseed	214,400	110	236,800	Potatoes	34,500	98	33,800
Mixed grains	1,152,500	99	1,145,500				
Potatoes	506,800	102	514,800	<u>SASKATCHEWAN -</u>			
<u>P. E. ISLAND -</u>				Spring wheat	13,206,000	103	13,602,000
Spring wheat	26,000	98	25,500	Oats	4,942,000	102	5,041,000
Oats	154,100	102	157,200	Barley	1,146,000	100	1,146,000
Barley	3,700	102	3,800	Fall rye ^{1/}	292,600	79	230,000
Mixed grains	23,900	100	23,900	Spring rye	81,600	100	81,600
Potatoes	33,100	102	33,800	All rye	374,200	83	311,600
<u>NOVA SCOTIA -</u>				Flaxseed	167,500	112	187,600
Spring wheat	4,200	102	4,300	Mixed grains	23,300	99	23,100
Oats	94,500	103	97,300	Potatoes	49,500	103	51,000
Barley	7,700	101	7,800				
Mixed grains	5,900	103	6,100	<u>ALBERTA -</u>			
Potatoes	20,600	103	21,200	Spring wheat	7,500,000	106	7,950,000
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK -</u>				Oats	3,102,000	96	2,978,000
Spring wheat	18,600	102	19,000	Barley	920,000	102	938,000
Oats	215,100	102	219,400	Fall rye ^{1/}	125,800	108	136,000
Barley	12,400	105	13,000	Spring rye	42,300	99	41,900
Mixed Grains	3,000	98	2,900	All rye	168,100	106	177,900
Potatoes	44,300	102	45,200	Flaxseed	19,400	105	20,400
<u>QUEBEC -</u>				Mixed grains	20,000	99	19,800
Spring wheat	62,500	102	63,900	Potatoes	29,900	99	29,600
Oats	1,674,400	102	1,707,900				
Barley	140,900	102	143,700	<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA -</u>			
Spring rye	6,100	100	6,100	Spring wheat	57,500	100	57,500
Flaxseed	2,500	98	2,500	Oats	103,400	102	105,500
Mixed grains	122,500	103	126,200	Barley	12,100	103	12,500
Potatoes	127,900	103	131,700	Spring rye	4,800	97	4,700
<u>ONTARIO -</u>				Flaxseed	300	100	300
Fall wheat ^{1/}	555,100	97	538,000	Mixed grains	4,200	102	4,300
Spring wheat	98,800	98	96,800	Potatoes	17,800	100	17,800
All wheat	653,900	97	634,800				
Oats	2,376,700	99	2,352,900				
Barley	523,000	98	512,500				
Fall rye ^{1/}	59,300	86	51,000				
Flaxseed	7,400	96	7,100				
Mixed grains	926,600	99	917,300				
Potatoes	149,200	101	150,700				

^{1/} Harvested area, 1935, and area for harvest, 1936.



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