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by Authority of the Hon. James A. Mackindon Minister of Trade and Commerce

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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Acting Dominion Smittician: Chief, Agricultural Branch:

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Ottawa, May 8, 1942, 3 p.m. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the first crop report of the present season, indicating (1) the intended acreage of principal field crops as reported by crop correspondents at April 30; (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. The intended acreages shown in this report are merely indicative of farmers' plans at the end of April and may be altered by subsequent conditions affecting seeding. An effort is made, however, to eliminate the habitual bias in the 'Intentions' figures as disclosed by the experience of previous years. So far as they were available, the preliminary 1941 Census acreages were used as a basis in the calculations of the 1942 intended acreages.

## SUMMARY

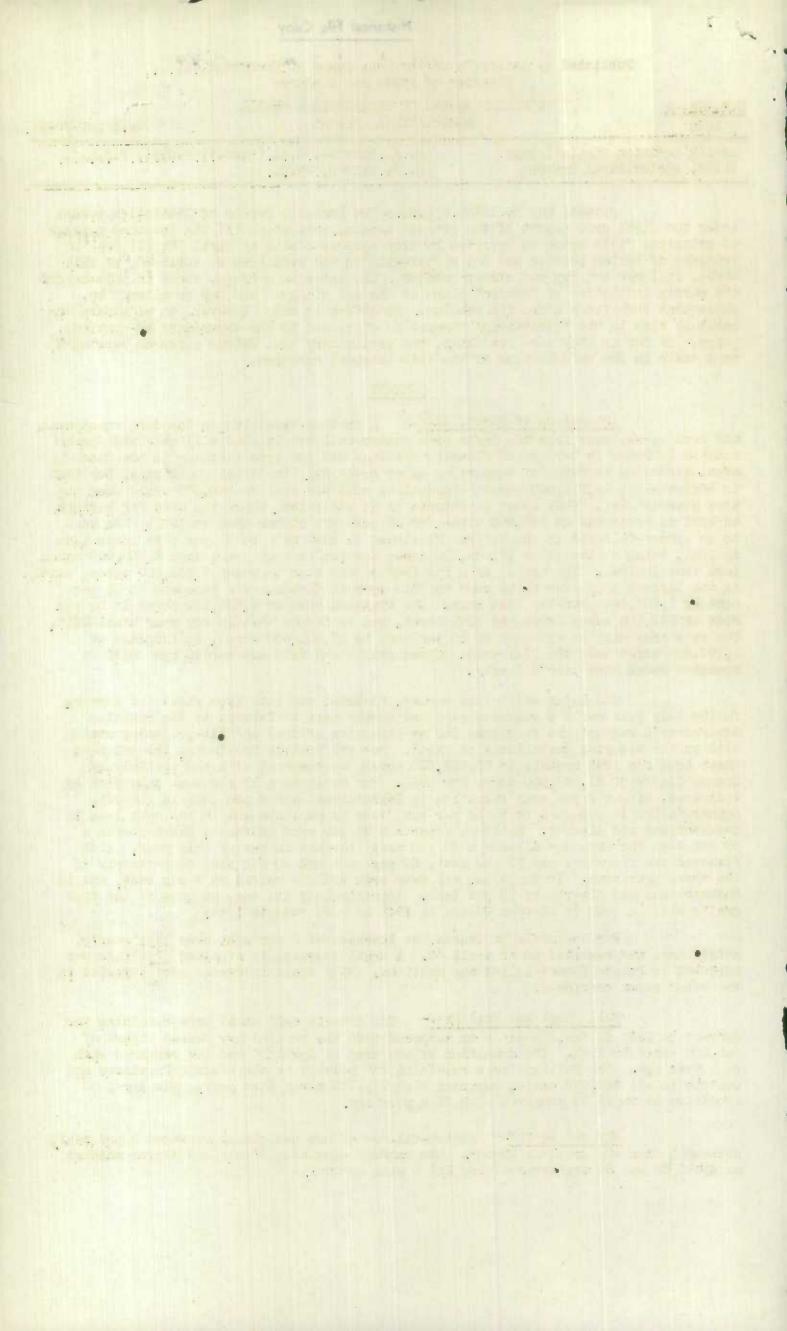
Intentions to Plant, 1942.— A further reduction in Canada's wheat area and some curtailment from the large area summer-fallowed in 1942 will make way for a notable increase in barley and flaxseed seedings and for some increase in the cats area, according to farmers' intentions as of April 30. The total wheat area, for 1942 is indicated at 21,312,900 acres, a reduction of 3 per cent or 554,600 acres from the area sown in 1941. Fall wheat in Ontario is an exception, where the area for harvest in 1942 is estimated at 746,000 acres, or 32 per cent higher than in 1941. The area to be summer-fallowed in the Prairie Provinces in 1942 will be 12 per cent lower than in 1941, being estimated at 17,349,000 acres for the present year, some 2,389,000 acres less than in 1941. The barley area for 1942 is expected to reach 7,209,000 acres, which is the largest area ever to be sown to this crep in Canada. The increase is 36 per cent or 1,904,600 over the 1941 area. The flaxseed area at 1,531,600 acres is 54 per cent or 537,100 acres above the 1941 level, and is larger than in any year since 1913. The cats area will be expanded by 10 per cent to 13,501,000 acres, an increase of 1,190,000 acres over the 1941 area. Mixed grains and fall and spring ryer will be somewhat above last year's levels.

The major shift into barley, flaxseed and oats from wheat and summerabllow this year marks a generous response on the part of farmers to the Dominion Government's request and programme for an expansion of feed and eil-producing grains with an accompanying curtailment of wheat. For the Prairie Provinces, the intended wheat area for 1942 amounts to 20,409,000 acres, as compared with the preliminary Census figure of 21,140,000 acres for 1941. For Manitoba a 12 per cent reduction is indicated, with a 2 per cent reduction in Saskatchewan and 3 per cent in Alberta. Summer-fallow is expected to be 13 per cent less in Manitoba and 12 per cent less in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Manitoba reports a 30 per cent increase, Saskatchewan a 50 per cent increase and Alberta a 40 per cent increase in barley this year. With flaxseed the increases are 35 per cent, 60 per cent and 50 per cent respectively in the three provinces. In Manitoba, the oats area will be raised by 9 per cent, and in Saskatchewan and Alberta by 15 per cent. Approximately the same amounts of the feed grains will be sown in eastern Canada in 1942 as were sown in 1941.

For the whole of Canada, an increase of 3 per cent over last year's potate area was reported as of April 30. A small decrease in expected plantings was reported in Prince Edward Island and Manitoba, while small increases were reported in the other seven provinces.

Pall Wheat and Fall Rye.— The Ontario fall wheat area remaining for harvest in 1942 is 746,000 acres as compared with the preliminary Census figure of 566,000 acres in 1941. The condition of the crop at April 30 was 102 compared with 96 a year ago. The fall rye area remaining for harvest in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario totals 760,000 acres, compared with 711,700 acres last year. The April 30 condition averaged 92 compared with 95 a year ago.

Hay and Clover. Winter-killing of hay and clover averaged 3 per cent. unchanged from the previous winter. The average condition of hay and clover meadows at April 30 was 98 as compared with 101 a year earlier.



Spring Seeding. The spring wheat area in the Prairie Provinces was 15 per cent sown at April 30, compared with 21 per cent in the previous year. As in the two preceding years the seeding of coarse grains was barely started at April 30. The seeding of spring grains was more advanced in Ontario, but more retarded in British Columbia than was the case a year ago.

## GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

The spring season has been comparatively early in most of the Maritime Provinces, western Quebec and Ontario. Elsewhere in Quebec and in the four western provinces spring field work and seeding operations are comparatively late. Winter damage to fall sown crops and grasses has been very light throughout the country. Manitoba has experienced an abnormally wet spring opening, and Saskatchewan has had sufficient moisture for current needs. Alberta, on the other hand, was relatively dry during April. Field work and seeding are late in all three provinces. The season in British Columbia is about two weeks later than usual.

#### Maritime Provinces

Prince Edward Island had a comparatively mild winter, while Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had the usual amount of snow. With very little alternating freezing and thawing in the three provinces, hay and clover meadows have wintered exceptionally well. Field work has already started on the Island and in parts of the other two provinces. Some districts in New Brunswick, however, were still covered with snow at April 30. For the Maritime area as a whole there is promise of an early spring.

## Quebec

Although the spring season has been somewhat retarded this year, moisture reserves have been ample, and pastures have been making good growth. Winter damage to meadows has been insignificant, and an increase in the fertilizing of pastures has been noted. Young cattle were placed on pasture earlier than usual because of a general scarcity of fodder.

#### Ontari.

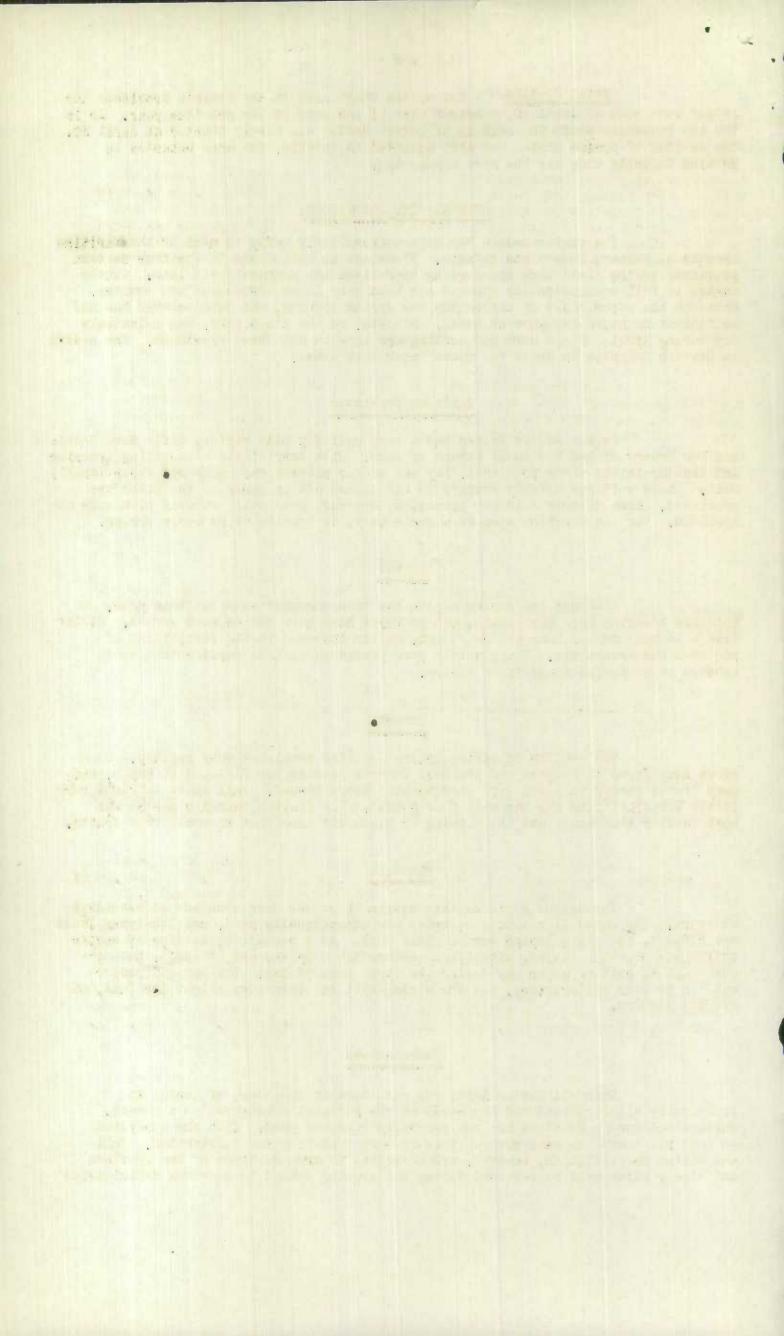
The seeding of spring grains is being completed very rapidly. On a great many farms in western and southern Ontario seeding was finished at May 5, and many fields seeded in April were showing well above ground. Fall wheat suffered very little winter\_killing and has made fast growth. The fruit blossoming period was much earlier than usual and the showing of bloom was excellent on small tree fruits.

### Manitoba

Throughout Manitoba this season there has been abundant to excessive moisture. The sub-soil moisture reserves are exceptionally good, and low-lying lands are flooded, thereby delaying spring field work. As a result the seeding of spring grains was greatly delayed, with little accomplished by the end of April, but with some hope of getting under way during the first week of May. The hay and pasture outlook is very satisfactory, and the winter-kill has been very slight for fall rye and clovers.

#### Saskatchawan

Rainfall during April was considerably in excess of normal in practically all districts and the seed-bed was materially improved as a result. Surface moisture conditions are now generally reported good. With the exception of some wet spots the soil generally is in good condition for cultivation. Fall and winter precipitation, however, was deficient in most sections of the province and timely rains will be required during the growing season to overcome deficiencies



#### Saskatchewan (concluded)

of sub-soil moisture, particularly in those areas of south central, central and north-western Saskatchewan which suffered crop failure last year. There has been considerable variation in the progress of wheat seeding, with about 21 per cent completed at the end of April in the south centre, and about 7 per cent completed in the north-east and north-west. Elsewhere the wheat seeding is around 13 to 15 per cent completed. For the province as a whole about 11 per cent of the wheat and possibly 3 per cent of the coarse grains have been sown.

#### Alberta

Almost the whole of central and southern Alberta experienced dry, cool weather during April. While surface moisture conditions are ample for germination, good soaking rains would improve the crop outlook. High winds and lack of rain caused a certain amount of soil drifting. In the northern and Peace River districts the spring moisture has been ample. For the province as a whole spring field work and seeding operations have been later than usual, although it was anticipated that seeding would become general during the first week of May.

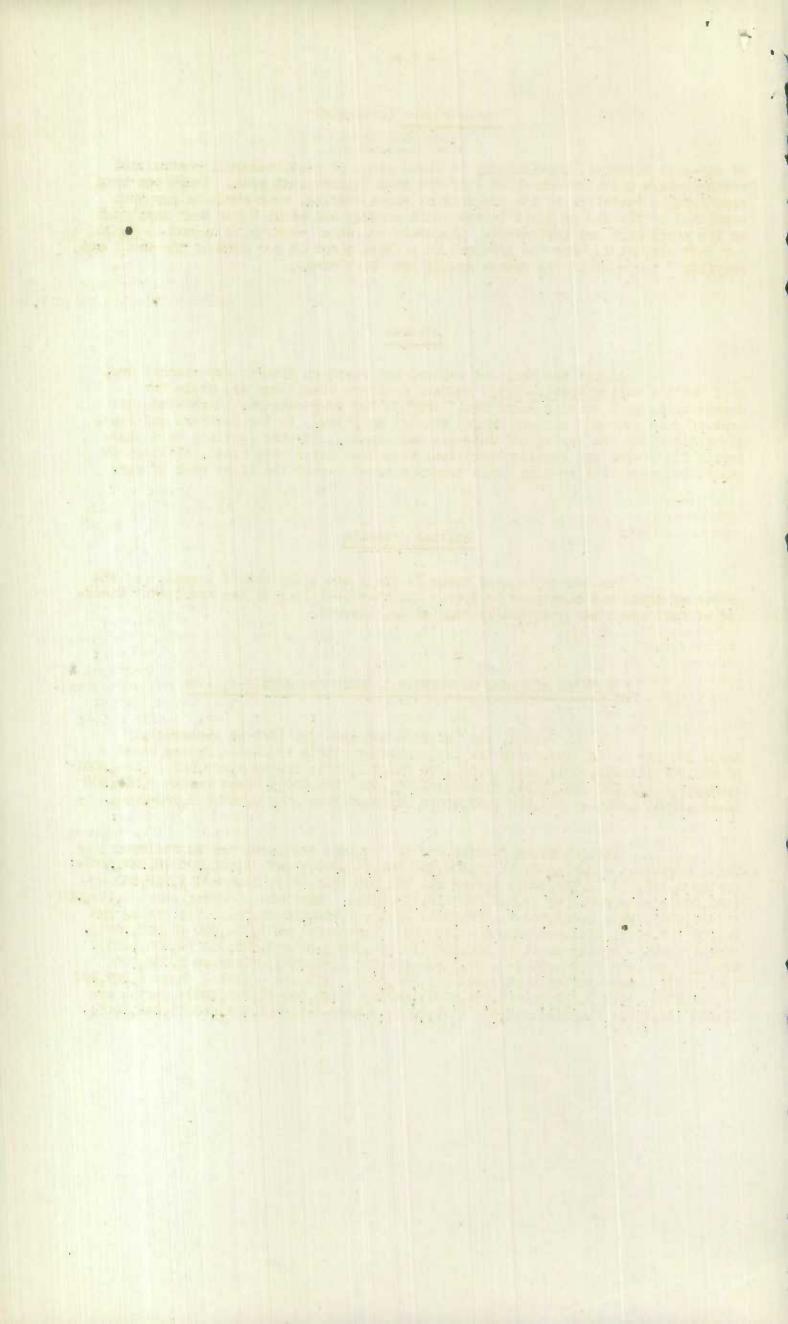
### British Columbia

The season in most areas is about two weeks behind normal, and the growth of grass has been poor to date. The winter-killing of hay and clover fields and of fall wheat was practically negligible, however.

## INTENDED ACREAGES OF PRINCIPAL CROPS AND SUMMER-FALLOW

For all Canada, the intended acreages for 1942 as reported at April 30, are as follows, with the 1941 acreages within brackets: Spring wheat 20,566,900 (21,301,500); oats 13,501,000 (12,311,000); barley 7,209,000 (5,304,400); spring rye 249,600 (237,200); flaxseed 1,531,600 (994,500); mixed grains 1,519,800 (1,484,000); potatoes 502,600 (487,400); summer-fallow 17,349,000 (19,738,000).

Corresponding figures for the Prairie Provinces are as follows:
Three Provinces - Spring wheat 20,409,000 (21,140,000); oats 9,280,000 (8,137,000);
barley 6,642,000 (4,735,000); spring rye 236,500 (223,400); flaxseed 1,517,000
(982,000); summer-fallow 17,349,000 (19,738,000); Manitoba - Spring wheat 2,149,000
(2,442,000); eats 1,426,000 (1,308,000); barley 1,990,000 (1,531,000); spring rye
28,700 (27,300); flaxseed 230,000 (170,000); summer-fallow 1,740,000 (2,000,000).
Saskatchewan - Spring wheat 11,973,000 (12,217,000); oats 4,635,000 (4,030,000);
barley 2,492,000 (1,661,000); spring rye 151,000 (141,000); flaxseed 1,090,000
(681,000); summer-fallow 10,028,000 (11,396,000). Alberta - Spring wheat 6,287,000
(6,481,000); oats 3,219,000 (2,799,000); barley 2,160,000 (1,543,000); spring rye
56,800 (55,100); flaxseed 197,000 (131,000); summer-fallow 5,581,000 (6,342,000).



#### PROGRESS OF SEEDING

As usual at the end of April, little seeding had been done in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec. Elsewhere in Canada the percentages **seeded by** April 30 were as follows, with comparative figures for the same date last year within brackets: Spring wheat - Manitoba 13 (18); Saskatchewan 11 (14); Alberta 22 (34); Prairie Provinces 15 (21); Ontario 52 (36); British Columbia 65 (75). Oats - Manitoba 2 (3); Saskatchewan 3 (4); Alberta 11 (10); Prairie Provinces 6 (6); Ontario 54 (45); British Columbia 47 (54). Barley - Manitoba 2 (3); Saskatchewan 2 (3) Alberta 9 (6); Prairie Provinces 4 (4); Ontario 53 (37); British Columbia 28 (41).

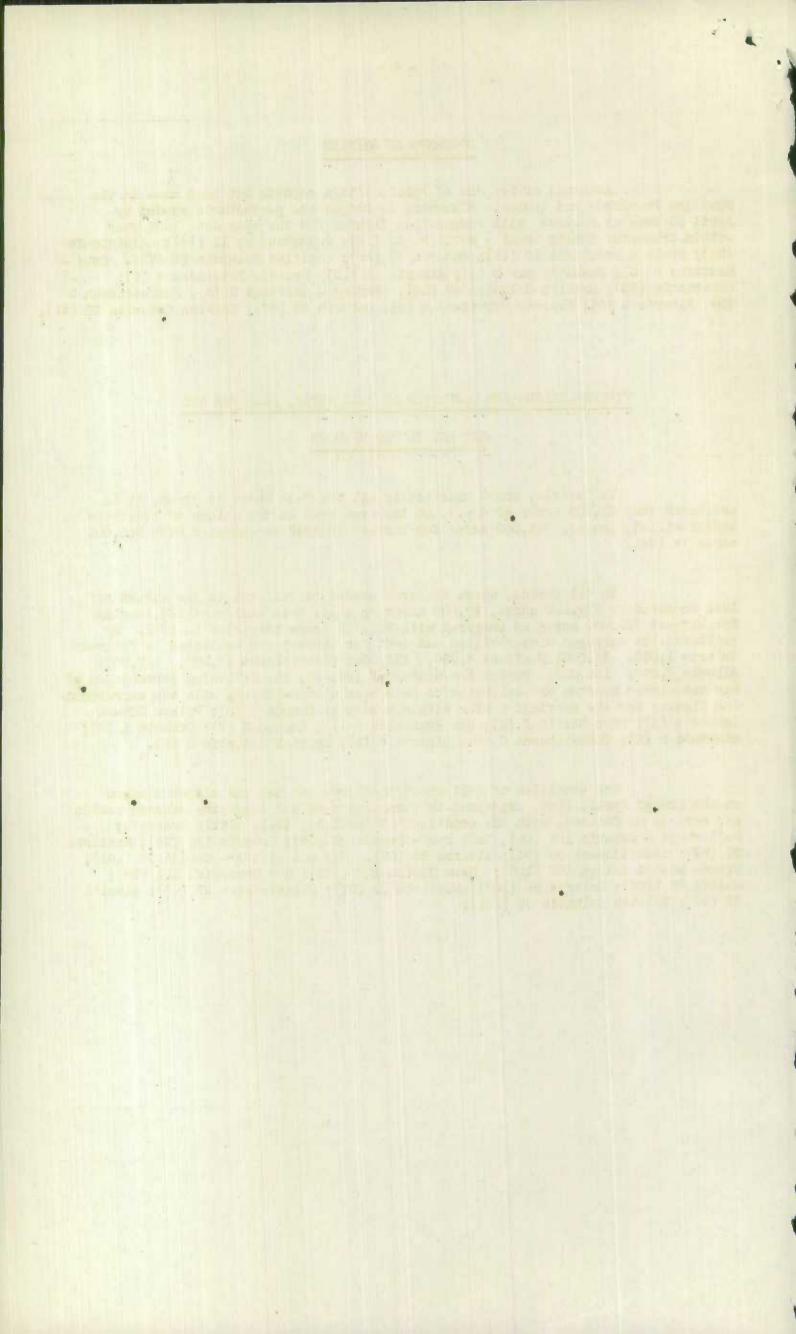
# WINTER-KILLING AND CONDITION OF FALL WHEAT, FALL RYE AND

#### HAY AND CLOVER MEADOWS

In Ontario, where practically all the fall wheat is grown, it is estimated that 31,000 acres or 4 p.c. of the area sown in the autumn of 1941 were winter-killed, leaving 746,000 acres for harvest in 1942 as compared with 566,000 acres in 1941.

In all Canada, where the area seeded to fall rye in the autumn of 1941 amounted to 789,000 acres, 29,000 acres or 4 pc. were winter-killed, leaving for harvest 760,000 acres as compared with 711,700 acres harvested in 1941. By provinces the acreages winter-killed and left for harvest are estimated as follows: Ontario 1,000, 73,000; Manitoba 6,000, 135,000; Saskatchewan 19,000, 447,000; Alberta 3,000, 105,000. During the winter of 1941-42, the following percentages of hay and clover meadows are estimated to have been winter-killed, with the corresponding figures for the previous winter within brackets: Canada 3 (3); Prince Edward Island 4 (2); Nova Scotia 2 (1); New Brunswick 3 (1); Quebec 3 (3); Ontario 6 (4); Manitoba 3 (2); Saskatchewan 3 (2); Alberta 6 (1); British Columbia 2 (2).

The condition of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover meadows at the end of April, 1942, expressed in percentages of the long-time average yields per acre is as follows, with the condition at April 30, 1941, within brackets: Fall wheat - Ontario 102 (96); Fall rye - Canada 98 (95); Ontario 101 (99); Manitoba 97 (97); Saskatchewan 99 (94); Alberta 95 (97). Hay and clover - Canada 98 (101); Prince Edward Island 103 (102); Nova Scotia 100 (102); New Brunswick 101 (99); Quebec 98 (102); Ontario 96 (100); Manitoba 99 (97); Saskatchewan 97 (98); Alberta 92 (96); British Columbia 98 (101).



Intended Acreages of Principal Crops and Summer-Fallow at April 30, 1942, as compared with Acreages in 1941 1/

Crop and Ar	ea In	tentions		Area	Intentions	
or ob and	941 p.c. 194		Crop and Province	Area . 1941	p.c. of 1941	Area 1942
CANADA -	eres p.c	acres	MANITOBA -	acres	p.c.	acres
Fall wheat 2/ 56	66,000 132	746,000	Spring wheat	2,442,000	90	2 140 000
Spring wheat 21,30	1,500 97	20,566,900	Oats	1,308,000	88 109	2,149,000
	7,500 97	21,312,900	Barley	1,531,000	130	1,990,000
	1,000 110	13,501,000	Fall rye 2/	149,000	91	135,000
	1,700 136 1,700 107	7,209,000	Spring rye	27,300	105	28,700
	7,200 105	249,600	All rye Flaxseed	176,300	93 135	163,700
All rye 94	8,900 106	1,009,600	Mixed grains	9,300	101	230,000
	4,500 154	1,531,600	Potatoes	35,100	97	34,000
	4,000 102	1,519,800	Summer-fallow	2,000,000	87	1,740,000
Summer-fallow 19,738	7,400 103 8,000 88	502,600 17,349,000				
	0,000	17,049,000				
P. E. ISLAND -			SASKATCHEWAN -			
	9,900 96	9,500	Spring wheat	12,217,000	98	11,973,000
	5,000 100	125,000	Oats	4,030,000	115	4,635,000
	3,100 103 5,500 108	13,500	Barley	1,661,000	150	2,492,000
	9,900 95	37,900	Fall rye 2/ Spring rye	384,000	116	447,000
NOVA SCOTIA -		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	All rye	525,000	114	151,000
	0 600	0.500	Flaxseed	681,000	160	1,090,000
	2,600 105	2,700	Mixed grains	37,500	105	39,400
	2,600 108	13,600	Potatoes Summer-fallow	47,000	101	47,500
Mixed grains	5,500 105	5,800	Dodumici -Tarrow	11,396,000	88	10,028,000
Potatoes 20	0,500, 110	22,600				
NEW BRUNSWICK -			ALBERTA -			
	4,700 104	4,900	Spring wheat	6,481,000	97	6,287,000
	3,000 104	201,000	Oats	2,799,000	115	3,219,000
	7,000 110 2,200 110	18,700	Barley	1,543,000	140	2,160,000
	3,100 110	2,400	Fall rye 2/ Spring rye	105,000 55,100	100	105,000
	E E E E	, , ,	All rye	160,100	101	56,800 161,800
QUEBEC -	F00 00	-	Flaxseed	131,000	150	197,000
Spring wheat 31 Oats 1,679	,500 98 9,000 102	30,900	Mixed grains	38,800	110	42,700
	5,000 101	1,713,000	Potatoes Summer-fallow	22,400 6,342,000	103	23,100
Spring rye 9	,000 92	8,300		0,042,000	00	5,581,000
	,500 115	200,000				
Pctatoes 139	,900 104	145,000				
ONTARIO -			BRITISH COLUMBI	A -		
	,000 132	746,000	Spring wheat	67,800	95	64,400
	,000 101	45,500	Oats	121,000	104	126,000
	,000 130	791,500	Barley	16,700	103	17,200
	,000 100	1,965,000	Spring rye	4,800	101	4,800
	,700 99		Flaxseed Mixed grains	<b>700</b> 4,700	130 102	900 4,800
Flaxseed 11	,800 116		Potatoes	19,500	103	20,100
Mixed grains 1,177		1,177,000				
Potatoes 120	,000 104	125,000				

The 1941 acreages are the preliminary compilations from the 1941 Census, except for summer-fallow in the three Prairie Provinces, mixed grains and potatoes in Saskatchewan, and all the crops in Nova Scotia, Quebec and British Columbia, where the 1941 June Survey acreages are shown, because in these instances the Census returns are not yet available.

<sup>2/</sup> Harvested area 1941, and area for harvest 1942.

