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Ottawa, May 10, 1943, 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.

### SUMMARY

Intentions to Plant, 1943.- A further sharp decline in Canada's wheat acreage is indicated by the April 30 survey of farmers' intentions to plant. The total wheat area for 1943 is placed at 17,087,100 acres, a reduction of 21 per cent from 1942. Substantial reductions are shown for all of the three Prairie Provinces where increased acreages of coarse grains and flaxseed are in prospect. There is little change in the prospective area to be summerfallowed in 1943 in the Prairie Provinces, the 1943 estimate being 20,637,000 acres as compared with 19,979,000 acres in 1942. The barley area for 1943 is currently estimated at 8,087,100 acres, an increase of 16 per cent over 1942 and the largest area ever devoted to this crop in Canada. The acreage to be seeded to oats in 1943 is also substantially above that of 1942. The flaxseed area at 2,516,300 acres is 69 per cent or 1,024,100 acres above the 1942 acreage. The acreage devoted to fall and spring rye has been sharply reduced but some increase occurred in the acreage planted to mixed grains. While acreage changes are most pronounced in the Prairie Provinces, the figures indicate that farmers are endeavouring to increase their feed grain production in almost all areas of the Dominion.

The changes revealed in the intentions to plant survey indicate that farmers are making every effort to carry out the objectives which were placed before them by the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture in the early winter. The shift out of wheat and into coarse grains and flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces has been encouraged by the continuation of the wheat acreage reduction program in those provinces. For the Prairie Provinces as a whole the intended wheat area for 1943 amounts to 16,320,000 acres as compared with the 1942 total of 20,653,000 acres. For Manitoba a reduction of 14 per cent is indicated with a 20 per cent reduction in Saskatchewan and 25 per cent in Alberta. Little change is indicated in the acreage to be summerfallowed in the three western provinces although Saskatchewan and Alberta report slight increases while in Manitoba a minor decline is forecast. Sharp increases in the acreage to be devoted to flaxseed is reported from all three western provinces. Manitoba reports an increase of 35 per cent, Saskatchewan 80 per cent and Alberta 55 per cent. For the whole of Canada an increase of 4 per cent in the acreage to be devoted to potatoes has been reported. Substantial increases are reported for all three of the Maritime Provinces.

Fall Wheat and Fall Rye.- In Ontario it is reported that 15 per cent of the area sown to fall wheat in 1942 has been winter-killed. A net area of 601,000 acres remains to be harvested in 1943. At April 30 the condition of the crop was reported as 83 per cent of normal as compared with 102 per cent at the same date a year ago. Winter-killing of 14 per cent of the Ontario fall rye crop is also reported with lesser damage occurring in the Prairie Provinces. A net acreage of 571,000 acres to be harvested in 1943 is indicated. The condition of the fall rye crop at April 30, 1943 was 91 per cent of normal.

Hay and Clover.- Winter-killing of hay and clover averaged 7 per cent for all Canada during the winter of 1942-43 as compared with 3 per cent a year previously. The average condition of hay and clover meadows at April 30 was 94 per cent as compared with 98 per cent a year earlier.

Spring Seeding.- Spring came slightly earlier in the Prairie Provinces in 1943 than a year ago and by April 30, 18 per cent of the spring wheat crop had been seeded as compared with 15 per cent a year previously. In Manitoba 43 per cent of the wheat area had been seeded this year. In Ontario and British Columbia the spring was much later than usual and only 4 per cent of the spring wheat has been sown in Ontario and 34 per cent in British Columbia. Seeding of oats and barley is also below last year in Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta but more progress has been made in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

## GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

The spring season has been comparatively late in all provinces except Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Very little field work has been started in the Maritime Provinces and in Quebec and Ontario operations are from two to three weeks later than usual. Good progress has been made in the seeding of spring grains in Manitoba and Saskatchewan but in Alberta cold, wet weather retarded operations in many districts. In British Columbia also the season has been late but operations are now proceeding rapidly.

### Maritime Provinces

Winter in the Maritime Provinces was about normal although several severe spells of cold weather occurred. Snow cover was light in Nova Scotia and in the southern parts of New Brunswick. Spring has been late in coming and although it is too early to report definitely on winter-killing, the indications are that considerable damage occurred in Prince Edward Island. Hay and clover conditions were below normal at April 30 in all three provinces. Some field work has started in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia but there has been very little in other areas.

### Quebec

Spring is late in Quebec but as the soil was only lightly frozen, farmers will probably be able to make up for the lost time within the next few weeks. Pastures and meadows wintered very well under a heavy layer of snow. Live stock are in good condition despite the long winter but will not be put out to pasture for another ten days in the Montreal district and not before three weeks time in the Quebec district.

### Ontario

Seeding operations in Ontario have been delayed by the late spring and most districts are from one to three weeks later than normal. Very little grain has been sown to date. Winter-killing of hay and meadows was more severe than during the previous winter and this condition at April 30 was 12 per cent below normal.

### Manitoba

Good headway has been made with seeding operations in Manitoba and at April 30, 43 per cent of the wheat crop was reported in the ground. A good start has also been made with the seeding of oats and barley. Soil conditions are generally satisfactory with ample surface and sub-surface moisture. Soil drifting has caused very considerable alarm over a large portion of the province. The condition of meadows at April 30 was slightly below normal but only a minor percentage of winter-killing is reported.

### Saskatchewan

Precipitation during April in Saskatchewan was very light but soil moisture conditions are uniformly reported as good to very good. Fair progress has been made with the seeding of wheat although the weather has been cool and pasture growth slow. Soil drifting has taken place at a few points. Good progress was made



Saskatchewan (concluded)

with the spring threshing of 1942 crops but recent wet weather has delayed these operations. Grain wintering in the stook has turned out generally in good condition but there was considerable loss in some fields in the yield and quality of grain in the swath and standing uncut. Live stock appear to have come through the winter in generally good condition.

Alberta

Cool, wet weather in Alberta has delayed seeding operations and very little grain was in the ground by the first of May except in the south-east and in the Peace River district. Moisture conditions are generally satisfactory and warm, dry weather is needed to complete the seeding and to start germination. Considerable progress has been made with the threshing of grain left in the fields last fall. The condition of meadows is somewhat below normal but better than at the same time last year. Winter-killing was not severe in most districts.

British Columbia

The season is at least two weeks later than usual in British Columbia. Spring work, however, is now making good progress and seeding and planting will soon be in full sway. Soil moisture conditions are generally good. Hay and clover conditions are slightly below normal and winter-killing was more severe than a year ago.

INTENDED ACREAGES OF PRINCIPAL CROPS AND SUMMER-FALLOW

For all Canada, the intended acreages for 1943 as reported at April 30, are as follows, with the 1942 acreages within brackets: Spring wheat 16,486,100 (20,829,500); oats 15,529,200 (13,782,300); barley 8,087,100 (6,972,900); spring rye 226,800 (324,100); flaxseed 2,516,300 (1,492,200); mixed grains 1,689,200 (1,680,700); potatoes 526,100 (505,900); summer-fallow 20,637,000 (19,979,000).

Corresponding figures for the Prairie Provinces are as follows:  
Three Provinces - Spring wheat 16,320,000 (20,653,000); oats 11,513,000 (9,666,000); barley 7,541,000 (6,414,000); spring rye 213,500 (311,000); flaxseed 2,491,000 (1,466,000); summer-fallow 20,637,000 (19,979,000). Manitoba - Spring wheat 1,660,000 (1,930,000); oats 1,658,000 (1,480,000); barley 2,223,000 (2,021,000); spring rye 19,500 (39,000); flaxseed 306,000 (227,000); summer-fallow 2,313,000 (2,360,000). Saskatchewan - Spring wheat 9,882,000 (12,353,000); oats 5,980,000 (4,902,000); barley 3,085,000 (2,468,000); spring rye 138,000 (197,000); flaxseed 1,901,000 (1,056,000); summer-fallow 11,979,000 (11,744,000). Alberta - Spring wheat 4,778,000 (6,370,000); oats 3,875,000 (3,284,000); barley 2,233,000 (1,925,000); spring rye 56,000 (75,000); flaxseed 284,000 (183,000); summer-fallow 6,345,000 (5,875,000).

### 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 43 (13); Saskatchewan 16 (11); Alberta 13 (22); Prairie Provinces 18 (15); Ontario 4 (52); British Columbia 34 (65). Oats - Manitoba 8 (2); Saskatchewan 3 (3); Alberta 7 (11); Prairie Provinces 5 (6); Ontario 6 (54); British Columbia 23 (47). Barley - Manitoba 11 (2); Saskatchewan 3 (2); Alberta 6 (9); Prairie Provinces 6 (4); Ontario 5 (53); British Columbia 14 (28).

### 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 106,000 acres or 15 per cent of the area sown in the autumn of 1942 were winter-killed, leaving 601,000 acres for harvest in 1943 as compared with 757,000 acres in 1942.

In all Canada, where the area seeded to fall rye in the autumn of 1942 amounted to 628,000 acres, 57,000 acres or 9 per cent were winter-killed, leaving for harvest 571,000 acres as compared with 1,013,600 acres harvested in 1942. By provinces the acreages winter-killed and left for harvest are estimated as follows: Ontario 11,000, 64,000; Manitoba 5,000, 101,000; Saskatchewan 31,000, 308,000; Alberta 10,000, 98,000.

During the winter of 1942-43, 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 7 (3); Prince Edward Island 25 (4); Nova Scotia 4 (2); New Brunswick 9 (3); Quebec 2 (3); Ontario 12 (6); Manitoba 3 (3); Saskatchewan 2 (3); Alberta 4 (6); British Columbia 5 (2).

The condition of fall wheat, fall rye and hay and clover meadows at the end of April, 1943, expressed in percentages of the long-time average yields per acre is as follows, with the condition at April 30, 1942, within brackets: Fall wheat - Ontario 83 (102). Fall rye - Canada 91 (98); Ontario 91 (101); Manitoba 94 (97); Saskatchewan 90 (99); Alberta 89 (95). Hay and clover - Canada 94 (98); Prince Edward Island 80 (103); Nova Scotia 92 (100); New Brunswick 89 (101); Quebec 100 (98); Ontario 88 (96); Manitoba 96 (99); Saskatchewan 98 (97); Alberta 95 (92); British Columbia 95 (98).



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Intended Acreages of Principal Crops and Summer-Fallow  
at April 30, 1943, as compared with Acreages in 1942

Crop and Province	Area 1942	Intentions		Crop and Province	Area 1942	Intentions	
		p.c. of 1942	Area 1943			p.c. of 1942	Area 1943
	acres	p.c.	acres		acres	p.c.	acres
<u>CANADA -</u>				<u>MANITOBA -</u>			
Fall wheat 1/	757,000	79	601,000	Spring wheat	1,930,000	86	1,660,000
Spring wheat	20,829,500	79	16,486,100	Oats	1,480,000	112	1,658,000
All wheat	21,586,500	79	17,087,100	Barley	2,021,000	110	2,223,000
Oats	13,782,300	113	15,529,200	Fall rye 1/	145,000	70	101,000
Barley	6,972,900	116	8,087,100	Spring rye	39,000	50	19,500
Fall rye 1/	1,013,600	56	571,000	All rye	184,000	65	120,500
Spring rye	324,100	70	226,800	Flaxseed	227,000	135	306,000
All rye	1,337,700	60	797,800	Mixed grains	39,200	102	40,000
Flaxseed	1,492,200	169	2,516,300	Potatoes	29,000	103	30,000
Mixed grains	1,680,700	101	1,689,200	Summer-fallow	2,360,000	98	2,313,000
Potatoes	505,900	104	526,100				
Summer-fallow	19,979,000	103	20,637,000				
<u>P. E. ISLAND -</u>				<u>SASKATCHEWAN -</u>			
Spring wheat	9,000	90	8,000	Spring wheat	12,353,000	80	9,882,000
Oats	125,000	103	129,000	Oats	4,902,000	122	5,980,000
Barley	13,000	100	13,000	Barley	2,468,000	125	3,085,000
Mixed grains	45,000	115	52,000	Fall rye 1/	650,000	47	308,000
Potatoes	37,000	106	39,000	Spring rye	197,000	70	138,000
<u>NOVA SCOTIA -</u>				All rye	847,000	53	446,000
Spring wheat	2,500	100	2,500	Flaxseed	1,056,000	180	1,901,000
Oats	69,000	110	76,000	Mixed grains	75,000	105	78,800
Barley	13,000	108	14,000	Potatoes	46,000	103	47,400
Mixed grains	6,300	100	6,300	Summer-fallow	11,744,000	102	11,979,000
Potatoes	20,800	110	23,000				
<u>NEW BRUNSWICK -</u>				<u>ALBERTA -</u>			
Spring wheat	3,800	110	4,200	Spring wheat	6,370,000	75	4,778,000
Oats	197,000	95	187,000	Oats	3,284,000	118	3,875,000
Barley	18,400	105	19,300	Barley	1,925,000	116	2,233,000
Mixed grains	13,000	115	15,000	Fall rye 1/	140,000	70	98,000
Potatoes	50,500	110	55,600	Spring rye	75,000	75	56,000
<u>QUEBEC -</u>				All rye	215,000	72	154,000
Spring wheat	28,700	98	28,100	Flaxseed	183,000	155	284,000
Oats	1,686,000	102	1,720,000	Mixed grains	73,000	130	95,000
Barley	138,600	103	142,800	Potatoes	28,500	120	34,200
Spring rye	11,100	102	11,300	Summer-fallow	5,875,000	108	6,345,000
Mixed grains	272,000	107	291,000				
Potatoes	157,000	111	174,000				
<u>ONTARIO -</u>				<u>BRITISH COLUMBIA -</u>			
Fall wheat 1/	757,000	79	601,000	Spring wheat	90,500	92	83,300
Spring wheat	42,000	95	40,000	Oats	73,300	104	76,200
All wheat	799,000	80	641,000	Barley	22,900	96	22,000
Oats	1,966,000	93	1,828,000	Spring rye	2,000	100	2,000
Barley	353,000	95	335,000	Flaxseed	2,200	106	2,300
Fall rye 1/	78,600	81	64,000	Mixed grains	6,200	98	6,100
Flaxseed	24,000	96	23,000	Potatoes	15,100	112	16,900
Mixed grains	1,151,000	96	1,105,000				
Potatoes	122,000	87	106,000				

1/ Harvested area 1942 and area for harvest 1943.

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