

CANADA: OUTLOOK FOR PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS*April 19, 2024*

Market Analysis Group / Crops and Horticulture Division
Sector Development and Analysis Directorate / Market and Industry Services Branch

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This report is an update of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) March outlook report for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 crop years, based on information available up to April 12, 2024. For most crops in Canada, the crop year starts on August 1 and ends on July 31, although for corn and soybeans, the crop year starts on September 1 and ends on August 31. Uncertainty in the world's grain markets remains above normal as a result of Russian aggression against Ukraine and other ongoing geopolitical risks.

For 2023-24, total field crop production declined significantly due to an overall reduction in yields for Western Canada as drought conditions were experienced across large parts of the region. As a result, carry-out stocks (ending-year inventories) for all principal field crops are expected to decrease marginally as the downturn in total production and supply offsets the decrease in total exports, an increase in imports, and a marginal decline in total domestic use. Prices for most crops other than pulses are projected to decrease from their 2022-23 levels, pressured by growth in world stock levels.

For 2024-25, assuming normal weather conditions during the growing season, production and supply for most crops is expected to rise and return to average levels with the assumption of a return to trend or near-trend yields. Currently, the most significant climate-related risk to realizing a return to trend yields is that dry conditions remain across most parts of Western Canada. In particular, conditions remain significantly drier than normal from Edmonton through the Peace River and across southwest Manitoba as reported in the [Canadian Drought Monitor](#) as of March 31, 2024. Meanwhile, conditions remain near-normal across Eastern Canada.

The next AAFC Outlook for Principal Field Crops is scheduled to be released on May 21, 2024. The next major Statistics Canada release is scheduled on May 7, 2024, reporting estimates of stocks of principal field crops in Canada as of March 31, 2024.

Canada: Principal Field Crops Supply and Disposition

	Area Seeded --- thousand hectares ---	Area Harvested	Yield t/ha	Production	Imports	Total Supply ----- thousand tonnes -----	Exports	Total Domestic Use	Carry-out Stocks
Total Grains And Oilseeds									
2022-2023	27,668	26,814	3.38	90,521	2,991	102,577	47,652	45,600	9,325
2023-2024f	28,255	27,253	3.11	84,654	3,942	97,920	42,847	45,612	9,461
2024-2025f	28,054	27,081	3.26	88,254	2,887	100,601	44,533	45,628	10,440
Total Pulse And Special Crops									
2022-2023	3,707	3,649	1.80	6,570	284	7,900	5,616	1,285	999
2023-2024f	3,376	3,309	1.55	5,137	337	6,473	4,885	998	590
2024-2025f	3,511	3,443	1.78	6,118	267	6,975	5,050	1,050	875
All Principal Field Crops									
2022-2023	31,376	30,462	3.19	97,091	3,276	110,476	53,268	46,885	10,324
2023-2024f	31,631	30,563	2.94	89,791	4,279	104,393	47,732	46,610	10,051
2024-2025f	31,566	30,524	3.09	94,372	3,154	107,576	49,583	46,678	11,315

Source: Statistics Canada (STC) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)

f: forecasts by AAFC except for area, yield, and production for 2023-24 and seeded area for 2024-25 which are STC

All Wheat

Durum

For 2023-24, Canadian durum production decreased by 30% to just over 4.0 million tonnes (Mt) due to low yields caused by dry conditions on the Prairies during the growing season. Total supply dropped by 30% to 4.5 Mt. Exports are forecast to drop 37% year-over-year to 3.2 Mt due to a reduction in supply and increased competition from other suppliers, particularly Turkey. According to Statistics Canada (STC), exports of durum for this crop year to the end of February 2024 are 1.9 Mt, 39% less than in 2022-23 and 22% below the previous five-year average. Total domestic use is pegged at average levels, that is 0.8 Mt, and carry-out stocks are expected to fall to 0.5 Mt, 10% more than in 2022-23 but 48% lower than average.

According to the International Grains Council (IGC), durum supply in 2023-24 is estimated at 38.9 Mt, down 7% compared to the previous year and 11% less than the five-year average. Global use is estimated at 34 Mt, down 1% year-over-year due to a reduction in food use. Total trade is expected to reach 9.1 Mt, just 0.1 Mt more than in 2022-23, due to an uptick in Turkish exports. Stocks are projected to close the year at 4.9 Mt, down 34% compared to opening levels.

The average Saskatchewan price for Canadian Western Amber Durum, No.1, 13% protein (CWAD 1, 13%) is lowered again this month on ongoing sluggish demand and competitive pressure from other suppliers. It has been reduced to \$450/tonne for 2023-24.

For 2024-25, area seeded to durum in Canada is projected to increase 5% according to STC's seeding intentions survey released last month. Production is forecast to rise to 5.7 Mt on the assumption that trend yields will be realized. Total supply is currently projected up 37% to 6.1 Mt despite tight carry-in stocks. Over 82% of Canadian durum will be seeded in Saskatchewan.

Total domestic use is assumed at long-term average levels, that is 14% of total supply in Canada. Exports are pegged at 4.5 Mt, 41% more than in 2023-24, with an increase in demand from traditional markets.

This is just 2% more than average levels, however, there remains uncertainty due to the possibility of continued competition from Turkey whose role in international durum markets is yet unknown. The IGC estimates Turkey's durum crop to grow another 5% to 4.5 Mt in 2024. Canadian stocks are forecast to close the year at 0.8 Mt, 67% more than carry-in.

The IGC forecasts world durum production to increase 10% to 34.6 Mt with an increase in production in Canada, the US, the EU, and Turkey. Total supply is expected at 39.5 Mt, just 1% more year-on-year constrained by tight carry-in stocks. Total world use is forecast to grow 1% to 34.3 Mt, with an increase in food outweighing a reduction in feed. Trade is expected to remain stable at 9.1 Mt and stocks to increase to 5.2 Mt. Recently, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) prospective planting report puts 2024-25 seeded area to durum in the US at 0.8 million hectares, up 22% year-on-year.

The Saskatchewan price for CWAD 1, 13%, is forecast to decrease from current levels to \$350/tonne in the short term with upward pressure if Canadian and global supplies are not realized.

Wheat (excluding durum)

For 2023-24, Canadian wheat production dropped just 2% to 27.9 Mt despite a reduction in yields caused by dry weather across the Prairies. Total supply also decreased 2% to 31.1 Mt but is 1% above average. Total exports are forecast at 20.3 Mt and domestic use at 7.8 Mt. According to STC, exports of wheat from August 2023 to February 2024 were 12.6 Mt, 8% more than the same time period last year and 23% above average. Carry-out stocks are pegged at 3.1 Mt, relatively on par with the previous year, but 24% below average.

According to the USDA, world all wheat (including durum) production increased by 0.7 Mt to 787.4 Mt compared to last month's report but remains 2 Mt less than 2022 levels. Total wheat supply is estimated at 1,058.4 Mt, down 3.7 Mt year-on-year while total global use is expected to grow 9.1 Mt to

reach 800.1 Mt in 2023-24. Trade is estimated at 213.5 Mt, down 3% year-on-year and closing stocks are forecast to expand 5% from opening levels, that is 258.3 Mt.

US all wheat supply dropped marginally this month compared to last; it is now estimated at 68.6 Mt, remaining 2 Mt above the 2022 volume. Domestic use is estimated at 30.3 Mt, down 0.1 Mt versus the previous year, and trade at 19.3 Mt, down from 20.7 Mt in 2022-23. Closing inventories are currently pegged at just under 19 Mt, up 22% year-over-year.

The average 2023-24 Saskatchewan price for Canadian Western Red Spring Wheat No. 1, 13.5% protein (CWRS 1, 13.5) is reduced to \$325/tonne under continued pressure from large global supplies.

For 2024-25, Canadian area seeded to wheat is expected to decrease 1% from 2023-24, with a 1% decrease in the spring wheat area and a 4% decrease in the area seeded to winter wheat (mainly in Ontario), according to STC's seeding intentions report released last month. Area seeded to Canadian western red spring wheat, the most common class of wheat in Canada, is estimated at 6.8 million hectares, 86% of all spring wheat and 80% of all wheat (excluding durum) seeded in Canada.

Production is projected to rise 4% to 28.9 Mt and supply to rise by 3% to 32.1 Mt, assuming average yields. Domestic use is pegged at average levels, that is 8.4 Mt, with exports at 20.1 Mt, down 1% year-on-year due to increased international supplies and competition from other international exporters. Stocks are forecast to expand 18% from opening levels but remain below average.

The IGC for 2024-25 calls for an increase in production thanks to an increase in yields in major wheat producing nations. Production is expected at 799 Mt, up 1% year-on-year. Total supply, however, remains 0.4% less than the previous year, at 1,066 Mt, constrained by tight carry-in stocks. Total global consumption is forecast to increase marginally (+0.2%) to 804 Mt, with the increase in food use balanced by a decrease in feed. Total trade in 2024-25 is expected to reach 196 Mt, down 2% with a reduction in overall shipments to the EU and Asian markets, particularly China, Turkey, and Indonesia.

Closing stocks are pegged at 262 Mt, down 2% year-on-year and the smallest in six years. In their March seeding report, the USDA puts US total wheat (including durum) seeding in 2024-25 at 19.2 Mha, down 4% year-on-year, with winter wheat plantings at 13.8 Mha (-7%) and spring wheat planting at 4.6 Mha (+1%).

The Saskatchewan average price for CWRS 1, 13.5% is forecast to continue its downward trend into 2024-25 pressured by large global supplies and overall weakness in the grains complex. The average price is currently projected to be \$310/tonne.

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Coarse Grains

Barley

For 2023-24, Canadian barley supply is estimated at 9.7 million tonnes (Mt), down 8% year-over-year and 6% below the previous five-year average. Total domestic use is forecast at 5.9 Mt, down slightly year-over-year and 4% below the average, as a result of a decline in feed use. Total exports are predicted at 2.8 Mt, down noticeably from last year and the average, primarily reflecting lower expected exports of barley grain, with China, the US, Japan, and Mexico as the main destinations. Carry-out stocks are projected at 1.0 Mt, up sharply from 2022-23's low of 0.7 Mt and the average of 0.8 Mt.

The feed barley cash price in the Lethbridge, Alberta, feedlot region increased by almost \$20/tonne (/t) in March after falling to a more than three-year low earlier in the month. At the end of March, the price averaged above \$295/t. Consequently, this has brought the crop year-to-date average to above \$325/t but remaining below last year. For the entire crop year, feed cash barley price is forecast at \$315/t, up 5\$ from last month's projection but down notably 24% from 2022-23.

Worldwide, global barley supply for 2023-24 will be the lowest in five years, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Global demand for animal feed is also expected to fall to a five-year low, but demand for food, seed, and industrial (FSI) use will rebound year-over-year and be slightly above the five-year average, a record high. World ending stocks are projected to close to an all-time low. Compared to the March projections, the USDA's April projections include larger supply and demand and lower ending stocks.

For 2024-25, Canadian barley production is projected at 9.5 Mt, up 7% year-over-year, supported by an assumed return to normal yields despite an expected smaller seeded area. Supply is projected at 10.5 Mt, up 9% year-over-year and 2% above average, due to expected increases in production and carry-in stocks more than offsetting lower imports. Total domestic use is forecast to rise due to increased supply and higher feed use. Exports are projected to remain stable due to strong competition from major barley exporting countries despite larger domestic supplies.

Carry-out stocks are projected at 1.3 Mt, up 30% year-over-year and 66% above the average.

The Lethbridge cash feed barley price is forecast at \$295/t, down \$20/t year-over-year and the lowest level in four years.

Worldwide, the International Grains Council (IGC) predicts a recovery in global barley production for 2024-25. Pegged at 152 Mt, the IGC's 2024-25 global barley production forecast is up by 6 Mt from 2023-24, with higher year-over-year forecasts for the EU, Australia, and Canada, and lower forecasts for Russia, Ukraine, and the US. Total supply is projected at 175 Mt, up 4 Mt year-over-year due to expected lower beginning stocks. Total use, global trade, and ending stocks in 2024-25 are also projected to rebound year-over-year.

Corn

For 2023-24, Canadian corn supply is projected at 19.7 Mt, up 1% from last year and 2% above the previous five-year average, due to increased production and larger imports, despite a sharp decrease in carry-in stocks. Because of an expected increase in domestic animal feed consumption, as well as human food and industrial use, total domestic use is forecast at 16.0 Mt, up 6% year-over-year and 4% above the average. Given ample global corn supplies, exports are projected at 1.85 Mt, decreasing significantly year-over-year but remaining above the five-year average, with Ireland, the US, the United Kingdom, and Spain as the main destinations. Carry-out stocks are projected at 1.9 Mt, up 17% from 2022-23's low but significantly below the average.

The Chatham corn spot price rose in March after falling to its lowest level in more than three years and averaged slightly above \$195/t at the end of the month, still nearing the lowest in more than three years. This has consequently brought the crop year-to-date average price down to below \$220/t. For the entire crop year, average corn price is forecast to fall sharply 30% to \$210/t from 2022-23.

The 2023-24 US corn supply and demand feature ample supply, rebounding exports, and record high domestic demand, according to the USDA. Ending

stocks will reach 54 Mt, up sharply from 35 Mt last year and 42 Mt for the five-year average, which is the highest in five years. Compared to the March projections, the USDA's April projections increased the forecast for domestic demand and decreased the ending stock forecast by the same amount. The average farm price for 2023-24 is projected at US\$4.70/bushel (bu) (US\$185/t), down slightly from the March projection of US\$4.75/bu (US\$187/t) and down sharply from 2022-23 and 2021-22, but higher than from 2013-14 to 2020-21.

The 2023-24 world corn supply and demand feature record high levels of production, supply, animal feed use, and FSI use. Compared to the March projections, the USDA's April projections show a downward global production forecast, primarily due to reduced production forecasts for Argentina, Mexico, and South Africa despite an increased production forecast for the EU. Global feed consumption forecast is lower than March forecast, while FSI consumption is higher. World ending stocks are projected at 319 Mt, down more than 1.0 Mt from the March projection, but up nearly 16 Mt (5%) from last year and the highest in five years.

For 2024-25, Canadian corn production is projected at 14.9 Mt, down slightly year-over-year, based on projected average yields, despite an expected increase in acreage. Supply is projected at 19.0 Mt, down 4% year-over-year, due to an expected decline in production and imports in spite of an expected increase in carry-in stocks. Total domestic use is forecast to decline, reflecting lower feed use. Exports are projected to decline year-over-year on expected ample global corn output. Carry-out stocks are projected at 2.2 Mt, up significantly year-over-year but in line with the average.

The Chatham corn price for 2024-25 is projected at \$225/t, up \$15/t year-over-year but under pressure primarily from the expected decline in 2024-25 US corn prices.

For the US, the USDA's March crop acreage intention report confirmed a year-over-year decrease in US corn area for 2024. Estimated at 36.4 million hectares (Mha), area is expected to decrease by 5% year-over-year and be 1% below the previous five-year average. 2024 corn area in the top corn-growing states was also estimated to decline year-over-year.

Compared to the USDA's acreage projection issued at the February Agricultural Outlook Forum, the March acreage forecast is down by 1%. Given the smaller area expected to be seeded, US corn production is expected to decline in 2024-25. Nevertheless, total supply will likely remain plentiful in 2024-25 as the expected larger beginning stocks will more than offset the decline in production.

Global corn production in 2024-25 will grow for the second year and reach a new all-time peak, according to the IGC. Pegged at 1,233 Mt, the IGC's 2024-25 global corn production forecast is up by 6 Mt from 2023-24, with lower year-over-year forecasts for the US, Argentina, and Ukraine and higher forecasts for the EU, Brazil, China, and Mexico. The increase in production, along with expected larger beginning stocks, will bring total supply in 2024-25 to 1,527 Mt, up 21 Mt year-over-year. Total use and ending stocks in 2024-25 are also projected to grow for the second year, with global trade going down slightly year-over-year.

Oats

For 2023-24, Canadian oat supply is estimated at 3.94 Mt, down sharply from last year and the previous five-year average, due to a significant decline in production more than offsetting plentiful carry-in stocks. Domestic use, the majority of which is for animal feed, is projected at 1.09 Mt, declining significantly year-over-year following sharply decreased supply. Total exports are projected at 2.45 Mt, vs 2.67 Mt last year and 2.61 Mt for the five-year average, with the US, Mexico, Chile, Peru, and Japan as the main destinations. Carry-out stocks are projected at 0.40 Mt, down sharply year-over-year and significantly below average.

The Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) oat nearby futures experienced an overall decline in March and averaged slightly below CAN\$335/t at the end of March, down from around CAN\$350/t a year ago. The crop year to-date average has reached about \$365/t vs \$350/t last year. In comparison, the average oat cash price on the Prairies at the end of March was around \$300/t, vs \$270/t a year ago. The crop year-to-date average was about \$305/t vs less than \$275/t last year. For 2023-24 as a whole, the average CBOT oat futures price is forecast at \$355/t, up slightly from last year.

For 2024-25, Canadian oat production is projected at 3.51 Mt, up 33% year-over-year, due to the expected increase in seeded area and the assumption of a return to normal yields. Supply is projected at 3.93 Mt, down slightly year-over-year, as the increase in production is expected to be largely offset by the sharp decline in carry-in stocks. If realized, 2024-25 oat supply will be 14% below average. Projections for total domestic use, exports and carry-out stocks remain steady year-over-year. If this happens, the 2024-25 oat carry-out stocks will be 35% below average.

The average CBOT oat futures value is projected at CAN\$320/t, down CAN \$35/t year-over-year and the lowest in four years.

Worldwide, the IGC expects global oat production in 2024-25 to rebound significantly from 2023-24's low. Pegged at 22.5 Mt, the IGC's 2024-25 global oat production forecast is up 2.8 Mt year-over-year, with higher production forecasts for major oat exporting countries, including Canada, certain European countries, Australia, and Russia. Total supply is projected at 25.1 Mt, up 1.4 Mt year-over-year due to expected lower beginning stocks. Total use, world trade, and ending stocks in 2024-25 are also projected to grow year-over-year.

Rye

For 2023-24, Canadian all rye supply is pegged at 464 thousand tonnes (Kt), down 23% year-over-year, due to a sharp decline in production more than offsetting large carry-in stocks. Nevertheless, this is only slightly below the five-year average. Domestic feed consumption is projected at 140 Kt, falling

sharply year-over-year following smaller supply. Exports are expected to stay stable year-over-year at slightly below 200 Kt, with almost all exports going to the US. Carry-out stocks are projected at 70 Kt, down sharply year-over-year but in-line with the five-year average.

The 2023-24 average rye price on the Canadian Prairies is projected at \$220/t, down year-over-year due to lower row crop prices predicted for the year.

For 2024-25, Canadian rye production is projected at 350 Kt, down 2% year-over-year, assuming average abandonment rates and yields, despite larger seeded area. Supply is projected at 422 Kt, down 9% year-over-year and 14% below average, due to expected lower carry-in stocks and production. The smaller supply is anticipated to result in lower domestic feed use, exports, and carry-out stocks.

The 2024-25 average rye price on the Canadian Prairies is projected at \$210/t, down \$10/t from 2023-24, based on lower row crop prices predicted for the crop year.

Global rye output in 2024-25 is projected by IGC to rebound from last season to 12.5 Mt, with the increase in production forecast for the EU offsetting a decline in the production forecasts for other major rye exporting countries. Total supply is projected at 13.8 Mt, up year-over-year only slightly due to expected lower beginning stocks. Total use and world ending stocks in 2024-25 are also projected to rise year-over-year, with trade to contract.

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Oilseeds

Canola

For 2023-24, supplies for the crop year are estimated at 20.1 million tonnes (Mt), down marginally from 20.2 Mt for 2022-23 and the five-year average of 21.5 Mt, as a slight increase in both carry-in stocks and imports moderates the decline in production. Imports are estimated at a 20-year high of 0.25 Mt. Production is estimated at 18.3 Mt, down slightly from the 18.7 Mt grown in 2022-23.

Total domestic use of canola is estimated up by 3% on an expected record canola crush of 10.5 Mt as the sector expands to serve US demand for renewable energy. The oil content of the domestic canola crush is averaging 42.2% for the crop year to end-of-March, based on Statistic Canada's processing data. Compared to previous years, loss in handling and seed use are forecast steady at minor volumes, while feed, waste, and dockage declines.

Exports for 2023-24 are scaled back from previous crop years to 7.0 Mt in response to growing domestic crush and competition from large world supplies of soybeans and palm oil. Exports are concentrated in a few key markets with China accounting for almost two-thirds of out-of-Canada shipments to the end of February, followed distantly by Japan and Mexico at 16% and 8%, respectively.

Carry-out stocks are estimated at 2.0 Mt, up sharply from last year but below the five-year average, which is expected to support a strong early season crush pace for the 2024-25 crop year. The simple average price, No. 1, track Vancouver, is estimated at \$705/tonne (/t) (versus \$857/t in 2022-23 and the five-year average of \$729/t), under pressure from declining world soybean oil prices.

For 2024-25, the area seeded to canola is forecast to drop slightly to 8.7 million hectares (Mha) due to declining prices, steady input costs, low late-fall soil moisture, and competitive wheat prices. Normal yields are assumed, supporting the forecast for a slightly lower canola output of 18.1 Mt. Supplies are forecast to rise marginally to 20.2 Mt as higher carry-in more than offsets the drop in output and smaller imports.

Total demand is forecast to remain stable with domestic crush predicted at a conservative 10.5 Mt. This forecast may be revised significantly higher depending on how fast crush plants currently under construction become operational. Exports are projected to rise to 7.7 Mt with the projection highly sensitive to the size of the domestic canola crop, the strength of domestic crush demand, and competition from world supplies of oilseeds and vegetable oils. Carry-out stocks are forecast to fall slightly to 1.65 Mt vs 2.0 Mt for 2023-24 and the five-year average of 2.50 Mt. The simple average price, No.1 track Vancouver is forecast lower at \$675/t for the upcoming crop year.

Factors to watch are: (i) Canadian early spring temperature and moisture forecasts, (ii) US weather conditions and planting progress, (iii) Brazil harvest and export pace, (iv) strength of Chinese, Japanese, and Mexican buying, (v) domestic crush and export pace.

Flaxseed

For 2023-24, total supplies are estimated at 502 thousand tonnes (Kt) (versus 567 Kt for 2022-23 and the 568 Kt average over the previous five years), as lower output was moderated by sharply higher carry-in stocks. Production is estimated at 273 Kt, down 42% from 473 Kt in 2022-23 and the lowest since 1967-68, due to lower seeded area and reduced yields.

Total domestic use is predicted marginally lower on a decline in feed, waste, and dockage, and stable other usage. Exports are forecast to increase to 0.25 Mt on stronger world demand and lower prices. Carry-out stocks are forecast to fall to 120 Kt for a stocks-to-use ratio of 31%. The simple average price for flaxseed No.1, in-store, Saskatoon cash is forecast at \$565/t versus \$635/t for 2022-23 and the five-year average of \$710/t.

For 2024-25, the area seeded to flaxseed is forecast to fall to 0.21 Mha, down 16% from the previous year, with a harvested area of about 0.20 Mha. Production is projected at 260 Kt, only slightly below last year, as the drop in seeded area is partly

offset by higher yields. Supplies are forecast to fall sharply to 390 Kt on a combination of lower carry-in and lower production.

Total domestic use is forecast to decline to 90 Kt while exports are estimated unchanged at 250 Kt. Carry-out stocks are projected to fall to 50 Kt for a stock-to-use ratio of 15%. The simple average price for flaxseed No.1 in-store Saskatoon cash is forecast at \$575/t, up from 2023-24 but below the five-year average of \$710/t.

Soybeans

For 2023-24, total supplies are estimated up 7% from last year to 7.8 Mt and 2% above the five-year average of 7.62 Mt, as larger carry-in and stable imports support the rise in output. Production is estimated at 7.0 Mt, up 0.4 Mt from last year and the five-year average output of 6.5 Mt.

Total domestic use is forecast to fall slightly on a decrease in crush to 1.75 Mt and a drop in feed, waste, and dockage to about 0.53 Mt. Exports are up 16% from 2022-23 to 4.90 Mt and are 10% above the five-year average. Carry-out stocks are forecast at 0.42 Mt for a stocks-to-use ratio of 6%. The Canadian simple average price for soybeans, track Chatham, is forecast to fall by \$116/t from last year to \$585/t, versus the five-year average of \$562/t.

For April 2024, the United States Department of Agriculture strengthened its bearish outlook for the American soybean market, with ending stocks rising 8% to 9.3 Mt while farm-gate prices fall by US\$3.67/t to US\$461/t. For the current crop year, domestic crush remains strong at 62.6 Mt, a rise of

2.4 Mt from 2022-23 while exports fall 8.0 Mt year-on-year to 46.3 Mt.

The US situation mirrors the world oilseed market as total production fell by 0.2 Mt from last month on a downward revision to European soybean output to 658.5 Mt vs 637.5 Mt for 2022-23. World oilseed usage is estimated at 542 Mt in contrast to the 525 Mt consumed in 2022-23 while world ending stocks are estimated at 130.6 Mt compared to the March prediction of 131.4 Mt and the 119.9 Mt ending inventory for 2022-23.

For 2024-25, soybean area in Canada is forecast to decline marginally to 2.26 Mha as support from steady crusher and export buying, lower corn prices, and good soil moisture offsets lower prices. Assuming average yields, production is projected to fall slightly to 6.90 Mt while supplies decrease to 7.77 Mt, but remain the fourth highest on record, on slightly higher carry-in.

Total domestic use is forecast to fall marginally on a projected drop in feed, waste, and dockage to 0.35 Mt. Domestic crush is optimistically projected at 1.9 Mt on steady demand for food and fuel. Exports are forecast to rise slightly to 4.95 Mt, the third highest on record compared to the 5.64 Mt shipped out of the country in 2018-19. Carry-out is forecast to fall to 0.38 Mt for a stocks-to-use ratio of 5%. The Canadian simple average price for soybeans, track Chatham, is forecast to fall by \$20/t from last year to \$565/t, similar to the five-year average of \$562/t.

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Pulse and Special Crops

Dry Peas

For 2023-24, exports are forecast to decrease marginally to 2.5 million tonnes (Mt). China and India are the two main markets for Canadian dry peas. Carry-out stocks are forecast to decrease, despite lower export demand, largely due to a 0.6 Mt fall in supply. The average price is expected to rise from 2022-23, with higher prices for all dry pea types.

Monthly exports of dry peas between August and February have been lower than the five-year average for every month, except December, January, and February. The rise in demand in the last three months can be attributed to tariff-free exports to India. There has been decreased export demand to the US and Bangladesh when compared to the five-year average. Production of the winter pulse crop in India is forecast by the Government of India at 16.3 Mt, down 12% from the previous year. If this level of production is realized, it would be the lowest winter crop since 2019-20. Canadian dry pea export demand to China is expected to decrease for the remainder of the crop year.

During the month of March, the on-farm price of yellow and green peas in Saskatchewan have been unchanged. Green pea prices have been at a \$170/tonne (/t) premium to yellow pea prices in the month of March. For the entire crop year, green dry pea prices are expected to be at a \$190/t premium to yellow pea prices, compared to a green pea premium of \$65/t to yellow types in 2022-23.

For 2024-25, seeded area is expected to be marginally higher than the previous year at 1.26 million hectares (Mha) due to good returns relative to other crops. However, with average yields, production is forecast to increase notably to 3.0 Mt with total supply rising marginally to 3.2 Mt. Exports are expected to be unchanged at 2.5 Mt and carry-out stocks are expected to rise. The average price is expected to fall from 2023-24, due to expectations for larger world supply.

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) March Prospective Plantings report showed that US area seeded to dry peas for 2024-25 is

forecast at 0.97 million acres (Mac) (0.39 Mha), marginally higher than 2023-24. This is largely due to an expected increase in the North Dakota area.

Lentils

For 2023-24, Canadian lentil exports (August-February) totaled about 0.3 Mt, lower than the same time period in 2022-23. Crop year exports are forecast at 1.6 Mt with Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and India currently the top export markets. Carry-out stocks are forecast to fall due to the sharply lower supply. The overall average price is forecast to rise to a record \$1,010/t due to higher prices for nearly all types on lower world supply and carry-out stocks.

During the month of March, the on-farm price of large green lentils in Saskatchewan rose \$90/t and red lentils fell \$20/t. The average price for large green lentils is forecast to maintain a record \$735/t premium over red lentil prices, compared to \$400/t in 2022-23.

For 2024-25, area seeded in Canada is expected to be 4% higher at 1.55 Mha, due to higher expected returns compared to other crops. With trend yields, production is forecast to rise to 2.13 Mt and supply is expected to increase to 2.3 Mt despite a fall in carry-in stocks. Exports are forecast to be higher at 1.8 Mt. Carry-out stocks are expected to rise, which will pressure prices. The average price for all grades is forecast to fall from 2023-24 to \$800/t with increased world supply.

The USDA's March Prospective Plantings report showed that US area seeded to lentils is expected to increase 40% from last year to 0.76 Mac (0.31 Mha). Area seeded is expected to rise sharply in North Dakota and in Montana.

Dry Beans

For 2023-24, despite lower domestic supply, exports are expected to rise to 390 thousand tonnes (Kt). The US and the EU remain the top two markets for Canadian dry beans, with smaller volumes exported to Mexico and Japan. Carry-out stocks are expected to fall sharply. The average Canadian dry

bean price is forecast to increase to record levels due to lower North American supply. To-date (August-March), white pea bean prices are 4% lower, pinto bean prices are 9% higher, and black bean prices are 3% higher than in 2022-23.

For 2024-25, the area seeded is forecast to rise by 13% from 2023-24 to 145 thousand hectares (Kha) because of competitive potential returns compared to other crops. Production is expected to rise to 355 Kt due a higher expected area. Supply is expected to fall with lower carry-in stocks. Exports are forecast to decrease with lower demand from the US and the EU. Carry-out stocks are expected to rise. The average price of dry beans is forecast to fall compared to the previous year but remain historically high.

The USDA's March Prospective Plantings report indicated that the intended US area seeded to dry beans (excluding chickpeas) is forecast to increase by 12% to 1.32 Mac (0.53 Mha), largely due to higher seeded area in North Dakota, Nebraska, and Minnesota.

Chickpeas

For 2023-24, a fall in demand from the US, Pakistan, and the EU has resulted in a decrease in the forecast for Canadian exports. Carry-out stocks are expected to fall sharply due to lower supply. The average price is forecast to rise to a record \$1,065/t with average export demand and lower North American stocks.

For 2024-25, seeded area is forecast to rise by 27% from 2023-24 because of lower carry-in stocks and the potential for good returns relative to other crops. As a result, production is expected to increase to 225 Kt. Supply is forecast to increase from last year despite the lower carry-in stocks. Exports are forecast to be unchanged and carry-out stocks are expected to increase. The average price is forecast to be lower, with expectations for higher world supply.

The area seeded to chickpeas in the US is estimated by the USDA to rise to 0.43 Mac (0.17 Mha), up 15% from 2023-24. This is due largely to an increase in area seeded in Idaho and Washington.

Mustard Seed

For 2023-24, exports are expected to be similar to last year at 110 Kt. Carry-out stocks are forecast to rise sharply due to the larger supply. The US and the EU are the main export markets for Canadian mustard seed. The average price is forecast to fall below the levels of 2022-23 due to the larger domestic supply and an increase in carry-out stocks.

For 2024-25, the area seeded is expected to be 7% lower than the previous year due to lower returns compared to other crops. Production is forecast to increase to 180 Kt with a return to trend yields. Supply is expected to rise from the previous year, due to the increase in production and higher carry-in stocks. Exports are expected to be unchanged from the previous year at 110 Kt and carry-out stocks are forecast to continue to rise. The average price is forecast to fall from 2023-24, due to the higher supply and burdensome carry-out stocks.

Canary Seed

For 2023-24, exports are expected to be lower than last year at 125 Kt. Supply is estimated to be down from 2022-23, causing carry-out stocks to tighten. The average price is forecast to rise from 2022-23 to \$925/t.

For 2024-25, the area seeded is forecast to rise by 13% due to good returns relative to other crops. Production is expected to increase sharply with a return to trend yields. Supply is forecast to increase to 185 Kt. Exports are expected to rise with the increase in supply and carry-out stocks are expected to rise. The average price is forecast to be lower than the 2023-24 level.

Sunflower Seed

For 2023-24, exports are forecast to be higher than 2022-23 but carry-out stocks are forecast to rise from the previous year. The US remains Canada's main export market for sunflower seed. The average price is forecast to decrease sharply from 2022-23, due to lower prices for both oilseed and confectionary types. Sunflower seed prices have been pressured by expectations for higher North American carry-out stocks.

For 2024-25, area seeded is expected to be 16% lower than in 2023-24 due to lower potential returns.

Production is forecast to decrease to 73 Kt, assuming a return to average yields. Supply, however, is expected to increase to 288 Kt and exports are expected to rise to 35 Kt but carry-out stocks are forecast to increase due to the higher supply. The average price is forecast to rise from 2023-24, due to similar confectionary type prices in the US and Canada, but higher oil type prices.

The prospective planting of sunflower seed in the US for 2024-25 is forecast by the USDA at 0.96 Mac (0.39 Mha), down 27% from 2023-24. This is largely due to an expected sharp fall in area seeded in North and South Dakota. The area seeded to the oil type varieties of sunflower seed is

expected to decrease to 0.8 Mac (0.32 Mha) while the area allocated to confectionary type varieties is forecast to be unchanged at 0.15 Mac (0.06 Mha).

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CANADA: PULSE AND SPECIAL CROPS SUPPLY AND DISPOSITION

Unclassified / Non classifié

April 19, 2024

Grain and Crop Year (a)	Area Seeded ----- thousand ha -----	Area Harvested ----- t/ha -----	Yield t/ha	Production	Imports (b)	Total Supply ----- thousand metric tonnes -----	Exports (b)	Total		Stocks-to- Use Ratio %	Average Price (d) \$/t
								Domestic Use (c)	Carry-out Stocks		
Dry Peas											
2022-2023	1,363	1,348	2.54	3,423	35	3,797	2,563	737	498	15%	440
2023-2024f	1,233	1,200	2.17	2,609	80	3,186	2,500	511	175	6%	460
2024-2025f	1,264	1,235	2.43	3,000	30	3,205	2,500	515	190	6%	400
Lentils											
2022-2023	1,749	1,715	1.34	2,301	87	2,610	2,209	255	147	6%	820
2023-2024f	1,485	1,460	1.14	1,671	95	1,913	1,600	213	100	6%	1,010
2024-2025f	1,550	1,525	1.40	2,130	75	2,305	1,800	265	240	12%	800
Dry Beans											
2022-2023	120	117	2.67	313	70	523	368	75	80	18%	1,165
2023-2024f	129	129	2.63	339	75	494	390	74	30	6%	1,220
2024-2025f	145	142	2.50	355	75	460	335	75	50	12%	1,140
Chickpeas											
2022-2023	95	95	1.35	128	42	325	198	99	28	9%	1,000
2023-2024f	128	127	1.12	142	45	215	135	75	5	2%	1,065
2024-2025f	162	160	1.41	225	45	275	135	75	65	31%	900
Mustard Seed											
2022-2023	225	219	0.74	162	11	189	110	40	40	26%	2,140
2023-2024f	258	251	0.68	171	12	222	110	42	70	46%	1,300
2024-2025f	240	232	0.78	180	7	257	110	42	105	69%	930
Canary Seed											
2022-2023	118	117	1.36	159	0	213	147	9	57	36%	900
2023-2024f	104	103	1.09	112	0	169	125	14	30	22%	925
2024-2025f	118	116	1.34	155	0	185	135	10	40	28%	770
Sunflower Seed											
2022-2023	38	38	2.24	84	40	242	22	70	151	165%	800
2023-2024f	40	40	2.32	92	30	273	25	68	180	193%	535
2024-2025f	34	33	2.21	73	35	288	35	68	185	180%	630
Total Pulse And Special Crops (c)											
2022-2023	3,707	3,649	1.80	6,570	284	7,900	5,616	1,285	999		
2023-2024f	3,376	3,309	1.55	5,137	337	6,473	4,885	998	590		
2024-2025f	3,511	3,443	1.78	6,118	267	6,975	5,050	1,050	875		

(a) Crop year is August-July. Grains Include pulses (dry peas, lentils, dry beans, chick peas) and special crops (mustard seed, canary seed, sunflower seed).

(b) Imports and exports exclude products.

(c) Total Domestic Use = Food and Industrial Use + Feed Waste & Dockage + Seed Use + Loss in Handling

(d) Producer price, FOB plant, averages over all types, grades and markets.

Source: Statistics Canada (STC) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)

f: forecasts by AAFC except for area, yield and production for 2023-24 and seeded area for 2024-25 which are STC