

Agri-Food Statistics Update



Issue No: CR14-2

Collected from a variety of sources, the Statistics and Data Development Branch monitors statistical indicators of agri-food activity for Alberta. The Agri-Food Statistics Update is designed to provide users with commentary on current issues, trends and new developments related to agriculture and the food and beverage processing industries. Up-to-date statistics are supplemented with informative charts and diagrams. To gauge Alberta's performance, comparative data and information are often available for Canada and the provinces.

Please visit the following website for a complete listing of Agri-Food Statistics Update releases:

[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/sdd5270](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/sdd5270)

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September 2014 Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta

On October 3, 2014, Statistics Canada released the September estimates of crop production for 2014.

Key Messages

- While this year's harvest is expected to be smaller than last year's bumper crop, Alberta's total production of principal field crops is still estimated to exceed the 10-year average.
- In 2014, the total production of selected principal field crops in Alberta is anticipated to decline 20.3 per cent from a year ago to 21.5 million tonnes, but still 4.2 per cent above the 10-year average (2004-2013). Crop production in 2014 reflects a return to average yields compared to 2013, when records were achieved.
- Spring wheat production in Alberta is estimated to decrease by 24.6 per cent to 7.7 million tonnes, due to anticipated lower yields and harvested area.
- Barley production is estimated to fall 25.4 per cent to 4.1 million tonnes, as yields and harvested area are expected to decrease by 14.9 per cent and 12.5 per cent, respectively.
- Canola production in the province is estimated to drop 17.8 per cent to 4.9 million tonnes, but still remain 16.0 per cent above the 10-year average.
- Dry peas production is expected to increase 8.1 per cent to 1.4 million tonnes, and would set a new record if realized. The high production is driven by an increase in harvested area.

Note: This is the second of three crop production estimates that will be done by Statistics Canada. The final release is scheduled for release on December 4, 2014 (November estimates).

October 9, 2014

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Total Alberta Crop Production Expected to Decrease in 2014

On October 3, 2014, Statistics Canada released their September, 2014 estimates of crop production for Canada and provinces. The September estimate is preliminary and is the second of three production estimates done by Statistics Canada. Based on the estimates, total 2014 production of the reported principal field crops in Alberta could reach 21.5 million tonnes, or 20.3 per cent lower than last year, but still 4.2 per cent above the 10-year average (see Table 1). Crop growing conditions in the province this year have been mainly favorable, despite the hot and dry weather in July and August, and heavy snow and frost in early September, in some parts of the province. Provincial average yields are estimated to be below last year, but still remain above their 10-year averages for most major crops (see Table 2). Total seeded area and harvested area of principal field crops in the province is estimated to be lower than in 2013. Just to caution, these production estimates reflect yield potentials at the time the survey was conducted (September 4 to September 14, 2014) and therefore could change from the final estimates scheduled for release on December 4, 2014.

Crops	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013r	2014p	10-year Average	% change	
								14 vs 13	14 vs Avg
Winter Wheat	266.7	264.0	261.3	206.8	261.3	244.9	237.6	-6.3%	3.1%
Spring Wheat	6,180.6	7,515.5	7,957.8	7,429.9	10,169.6	7,668.2	7,198.8	-24.6%	6.5%
Durum Wheat	993.4	421.8	620.5	732.1	870.9	673.6	804.7	-22.7%	-16.3%
All Wheat	7,440.7	8,201.3	8,839.6	8,368.8	11,301.8	8,586.7	8,241.1	-24.0%	4.2%
Oats	308.4	647.7	738.7	518.2	601.5	533.6	634.7	-11.3%	-15.9%
Barley	3,840.7	4,528.7	4,668.0	4,463.3	5,545.4	4,134.6	4,887.3	-25.4%	-15.4%
Fall Rye	38.1	50.8	54.0	34.3	36.3	26.7	51.2	-26.4%	-47.9%
Flaxseed	28.4	30.5	54.7	41.9	73.7	109.2	39.7	48.2%	174.9%
Canola	3,628.7	4,740.0	5,347.9	5,097.2	5,998.8	4,932.8	4,253.9	-17.8%	16.0%
Corn for Grain	43.2	-	35.6	35.6	66.0	50.2	30.0	-23.9%	67.1%
Dry Beans	55.1	31.5	44.0	44.7	48.1	54.2	46.1	12.7%	17.7%
Dry Peas	666.7	982.5	805.6	1,208.4	1,321.3	1,428.8	805.6	8.1%	77.4%
Lentils	33.4	82.0	76.0	68.1	104.4	85.6	48.7	-18.0%	75.9%
Mustard Seed	47.7	47.7	26.8	35.9	37.2	58.5	37.0	57.3%	58.2%
Triticale	12.7	38.1	21.6	19.1	16.9	22.9	22.0	35.5%	4.0%
Fodder Corn	1,102.2	680.4	1,388.0	784.7	1,179.3	907.2	845.9	-23.1%	7.2%
Sugar Beets	657.7	508.0	703.1	598.7	598.7	521.6	639.6	-12.9%	-18.4%
Total	17,903.7	20,569.2	22,803.6	21,318.9	26,929.4	21,452.6	20,582.7	-20.3%	4.2%

Production by Crop Type, Alberta

Total production of **spring wheat** in 2014, is expected to decrease 24.6 per cent, to 7.7 million tonnes. The lower production stems from an anticipated decline in yields and harvested area (down 18.2 per cent and 7.8 per cent, respectively). The provincial average yield is estimated at 48.0 bushels per acre and harvested area at 5.9 million acres. For **durum wheat**, production could drop 22.7 per cent, to 673,600 tonnes. The lower production is due to harvested area declining 7.6 per cent to 550,000 acres and average yield, falling 16.4 per cent from last year, to 45.0 bushels per acre. Overall, total production of **all wheat** reached 8.6 million tonnes, a decrease of 24.0 per cent from 2013.

Total **barley** production is expected to decline to 4.1 million tonnes, (down 25.4 per cent from last year). The provincial average yield is expected to decrease 14.9 per cent to 65.1 bushels per acre and harvested area down 12.5 per cent to 2.9 million acres.

Total **canola** production could decrease from last year's record by 17.8 per cent to 4.9 million tonnes. This is attributed to a lower expected yield of 35.3 bushels per acre (down 19.2 per cent), despite harvested area increasing by 2.0 per cent from 2013, to 6.2 million acres (second highest on record).

In 2014, **dry peas** production is expected to increase 8.1 per cent to a record 1.4 million tonnes. This is due to higher harvested area, while yields are expected to fall. Harvested area could jump by 26.6 per cent to 1.3 million acres, while yields could drop 14.5 per cent to 41.7 bushels per acre.

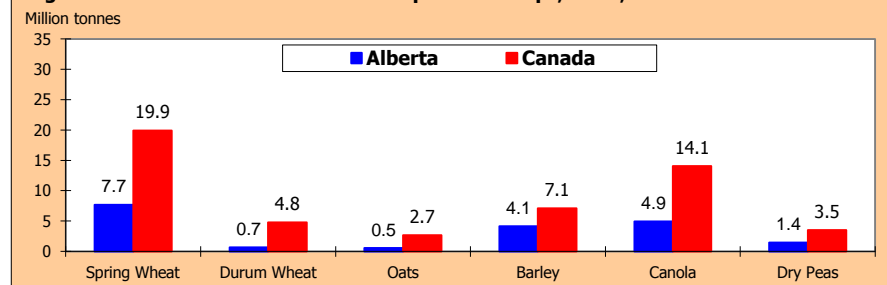
Total **oat** production is expected to decline by 11.3 per cent, to 533,600 tonnes, and is attributed to a drop in yield, despite harvested area increasing. Harvested area is anticipated to rise 9.8 per cent to 450,000 acres, while yield is down 19.1 per cent to 76.9 bushels per acre.

2014 Crop Production, Canada

The September estimates suggest that in 2014, production for all major principal field crops in Canada could see a decrease from last year. Estimates of Canadian production are at 19.9 million tonnes for spring wheat, 4.8 million tonnes for durum wheat, 2.7 million tonnes for oats, 7.1 million tonnes for barley, 14.1 million tonnes for canola, and 3.5 million tonnes for dry peas (see Figure 1).

Crops	2013r Seeded	2013r Harvested	2013r Yield	2014p Seeded	2014p Harvested	2014p Yield	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change	
								14 vs 13	14 vs Avg
	(⁰⁰⁰ acres)	(⁰⁰⁰ acres)	(bu/acre)	(⁰⁰⁰ acres)	(⁰⁰⁰ acres)	(bu/acre)			
Winter Wheat	155.0	140.0	68.6	165.0	160.0	56.3	52.8	-17.9%	6.6%
Spring Wheat	6,415.0	6,365.0	58.7	6,045.0	5,870.0	48.0	46.9	-18.2%	2.3%
Durum Wheat	600.0	595.0	53.8	575.0	550.0	45.0	43.2	-16.4%	4.2%
All Wheat	7,180.0	7,100.0	58.5	6,815.0	6,580.0	47.9	46.6	-18.1%	2.8%
Oats	580.0	410.0	95.1	670.0	450.0	76.9	76.0	-19.1%	1.2%
Barley	3,650.0	3,330.0	76.5	3,300.0	2,915.0	65.1	64.2	-14.9%	1.4%
Fall Rye	30.0	30.0	47.7	30.0	30.0	35.0	42.5	-26.6%	-17.6%
Flaxseed	90.0	90.0	32.2	130.0	130.0	33.1	28.6	2.8%	15.7%
Canola	6,080.0	6,050.0	43.7	6,275.0	6,170.0	35.3	36.1	-19.2%	-2.2%
Corn for Grain	25.0	20.0	130.0	40.0	20.0	98.8	105.6	-24.0%	-6.4%
Dry Beans	40.0	40.0	44.2	50.0	50.0	39.8	36.8	-9.8%	8.1%
Dry Peas	1,000.0	995.0	48.8	1,300.0	1,260.0	41.7	39.4	-14.5%	5.8%
Lentils	95.0	90.0	42.6	120.0	100.0	31.4	29.2	-26.3%	7.6%
Mustard Seed	95.0	92.0	17.8	135.0	125.0	20.6	17.9	15.5%	15.3%
Triticale	25.0	13.0	51.2	25.0	15.0	60.0	47.2	17.2%	27.1%
			(tons/acre)			(tons/acre)			
Fodder Corn	80.0	65.0	20.0	75.0	60.0	16.7	17.4	-16.5%	-4.0%
Sugar Beets	22.0	22.0	30.0	20.0	20.0	28.8	24.6	-4.0%	17.1%
Total	18,992.0	18,347.0	---	18,985.0	17,925.0	---	---	---	---

Figure 1: Production of Selected Principal Field Crops, 2014, Alberta and Canada



Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding. 10-year average refers to 2004 to 2013.

Source: Statistics Canada p - Preliminary r - Revised - Not available --- Not applicable bu - Bushels Avg - Average Yld - Yield

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