

Agri-Food Statistics Update



Issue No: CR14-1

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.

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[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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July 2014 Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta

On August 21, 2014, Statistics Canada released their July estimates of crop production for 2014.

Key Messages

- While this year's harvest is currently 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, total production of principal field crops in Alberta is anticipated to be 20.2 million tonnes, down 19.1 per cent from last year's record, but still 6.3 per cent above the 10-year average (2004-2013). The lower production stems mainly from lower yields.
- Spring wheat production in Alberta is expected to decrease by 22.1 per cent to 7.9 million tonnes, due to anticipated lower yields and harvested area.
- Barley production is estimated at 4.2 million tonnes, down 24.1 per cent, as yields and harvested area are expected to decrease by 11.9 per cent and 13.8 per cent, respectively.
- Canola production in the province could drop 16.8 per cent to 5.0 million tonnes, due to lower yields more than offsetting an increase in harvested area.
- Dry peas production is expected to increase 2.2 per cent to 1.4 million tonnes, and would set a new record if realized. The record production is driven by an increase in harvested area.

Note: This is the first of three crop production estimates that will be done by Statistics Canada. The second is scheduled for release on October 3, 2014 (September estimates), followed by the final release (November estimates) on December 4, 2014.

August 28, 2014

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Total Alberta Crop Production Expected to Decrease in 2014

On August 21, 2014, Statistics Canada released their July, 2014 estimates of crop production for Canada and provinces. The July estimate is preliminary and is the first 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 20.2 million tonnes, or 19.1 per cent lower than last year, but still 6.3 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 the Peace Region. 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). Just to caution, these production estimates reflect yield potentials at the time the survey was conducted (July 23 to August 4, 2014) and therefore could change in subsequent reports. Total seeded area and harvested area of principal field crops in the province is estimated to be lower than in 2013.

Table 1: Alberta Crop Production ('000 tonnes)

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	232.7	237.6	-10.9%	-2.1%
Spring Wheat	6,180.6	7,515.5	7,957.8	7,429.9	10,169.6	7,922.5	7,198.8	-22.1%	10.1%
Durum Wheat	993.4	421.8	620.5	732.1	870.9	694.0	804.7	-20.3%	-13.8%
All Wheat	7,440.7	8,201.3	8,839.6	8,368.8	11,301.8	8,849.2	8,241.1	-21.7%	7.4%
Oats	308.4	647.7	738.7	518.2	601.5	522.8	634.7	-13.1%	-17.6%
Barley	3,840.7	4,528.7	4,668.0	4,463.3	5,545.4	4,208.6	4,887.3	-24.1%	-13.9%
Fall Rye	38.1	50.8	54.0	34.3	36.3	33.0	51.2	-9.1%	-35.6%
Flaxseed	28.4	30.5	54.7	41.9	73.7	108.0	39.7	46.5%	171.8%
Canola	3,628.7	4,740.0	5,347.9	5,097.2	5,998.8	4,989.5	4,253.9	-16.8%	17.3%
Mixed Grains	23.0	24.5	79.6	10.5	13.3	-	35.7	-	-
Dry Peas	666.7	982.5	805.6	1,208.4	1,321.3	1,350.5	805.6	2.2%	67.6%
Lentils	33.4	82.0	76.0	68.1	77.8	94.9	45.3	22.0%	109.3%
Mustard Seed	47.7	47.7	26.8	35.9	37.2	68.2	37.0	83.3%	84.4%
Total	16,055.8	19,335.7	20,690.9	19,846.6	25,007.1	20,224.7	19,031.5	-19.1%	6.3%

Production by Crop Type, Alberta

Total production of **spring wheat** in 2014, is expected to decrease 22.1 per cent, to 7.9 million tonnes. The lower production stems from an anticipated decrease in yields and harvested area, down 16.4 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively. The provincial average yield is estimated at 49.1 bushels per acre, and harvested area at 5.9 million acres. For **durum wheat**, production could drop 20.3 per cent, to 694,000 tonnes. The lower production is due to harvested area declining 4.2 per cent to 570,000 acres and average yield, falling 16.9 per cent from last year to 44.7 bushels per acre. **Winter wheat** production is estimated at 232,700 tonnes, down 10.9 per cent from 2013, and 2.1 per cent below the 10-year average. The decrease is expected due to lower yields. Overall, total production of all wheat could reach 8.8 million tonnes, down 21.7 per cent from last year, but still 7.4 per cent above the 10-year average.

Barley production is estimated at 4.2 million tonnes, down 24.1 per cent, as the provincial average yield is expected to decrease 11.9 per cent to 67.4 bushels per acre and harvested area is anticipated to drop by 13.8 per cent to 2.9 million acres.

Total **oat** production is expected to decline by 13.1 per cent, to 522,800 tonnes, and is attributed to a drop in yield, despite harvested area increasing. Harvested area is anticipated to rise 2.4 per cent to 420,000 acres, while yield is down 15.1 per cent to 80.7 bushels per acre.

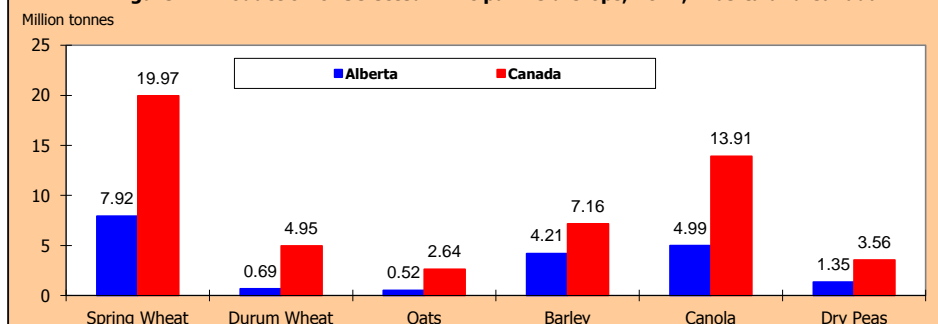
Total **canola** production could decrease from 2013 record crop by 16.8 per cent to 5.0 million tonnes. This is attributed to lower expected yield of 35.5 bushels per acre (down 18.8 per cent), despite harvested area increasing by 2.5 per cent from 2013 to 6.2 million acres (second highest on record).

Dry peas production is expected to increase 2.2 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 increase by 26.6 per cent to 1.3 million acres, while yields could drop 19.3 per cent to 39.4 bushels per acre.

Table 2: Alberta Crop Area and Yield

Crops	2013r		2014p		2014p	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change		
	Seeded	Harvested	Yield	Seeded			Harvested	14 vs 13	14 vs Avg
	('000 acres)		(bu/acre)		('000 acres)		(bu/acre)		
Winter Wheat	155.0	140.0	68.6	165.0	165.0	51.8	52.8	-24.5%	-1.9%
Spring Wheat	6,415.0	6,365.0	58.7	6,045.0	5,930.0	49.1	46.9	-16.4%	4.7%
Durum Wheat	600.0	595.0	53.8	575.0	570.0	44.7	43.2	-16.9%	3.5%
All Wheat	7,180.0	7,100.0	58.5	6,815.0	6,665.0	48.8	46.6	-16.6%	4.7%
Oats	580.0	410.0	95.1	670.0	420.0	80.7	76.0	-15.1%	6.2%
Barley	3,650.0	3,330.0	76.5	3,300.0	2,870.0	67.4	64.2	-11.9%	5.0%
Fall Rye	30.0	30.0	47.7	30.0	30.0	43.3	42.5	-9.2%	1.9%
Flaxseed	90.0	90.0	32.2	130.0	130.0	32.7	28.6	1.6%	14.3%
Canola	6,080.0	6,050.0	43.7	6,275.0	6,200.0	35.5	36.1	-18.8%	-1.7%
Mixed Grains	90.0	10.0	65.0	90.0	-	-	59.6	-	-
Dry Peas	1,000.0	995.0	48.8	1,300.0	1,260.0	39.4	39.4	-19.3%	0.0%
Lentils	83.0	78.0	36.6	120.0	120.0	29.1	24.8	-20.6%	17.1%
Mustard Seed	95.0	92.0	17.8	135.0	135.0	22.3	17.9	24.8%	24.6%
Total	18,878.0	18,185.0	---	18,865.0	17,830.0	---	---	---	---

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



2014 Crop Production, Canada

The July 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 19.97 million tonnes for spring wheat, 4.95 million tonnes for durum wheat, 2.64 million tonnes for oats, 7.16 million tonnes for barley, 13.91 million tonnes for canola, and 3.56 million tonnes for dry peas (see Figure 1).

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 applicable bu - Bushels Avg - Average Yld - Yield - Not available
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August 28, 2014