

Agri-Food Statistics Update



Issue No: CR14-3

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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November Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta, 2014

On December 4, 2014, Statistics Canada released the November estimates of crop production for 2014.

Key Messages

- While this year's harvest was smaller than last year's bumper crop, Alberta's total production of principal field crops still exceeded the 10-year average.
- In 2014, the total production of selected principal field crops in Alberta declined 12.6 per cent from a year ago to 30.2 million tonnes, but still 5.9 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 fell 17.7 per cent to 8.4 million tonnes, due to lower yields and harvested area.
- Barley production decreased 25.5 per cent to 4.1 million tonnes, as yields and harvested area dropped by 12.0 per cent and 15.3 per cent, respectively.
- Canola production in the province was down 8.5 per cent to 5.5 million tonnes due to lower yields, but still second highest on record.
- Dry peas production reached a record 1.3 million tonnes, (marginally above 2013), and was due to an increase in harvested area.
- Compared to last year, production was up for winter wheat (4.2 per cent), but was down for spring wheat (17.7 per cent), durum wheat (18.8 per cent), and oats (9.7 per cent).

December 11, 2014

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Total 2014 Crop Production Decreased in Alberta

On December 4, 2014, Statistics Canada released its third and final estimates of crop production for Canada and provinces. Based on this report, total 2014 production of principal field crops in Alberta was estimated at 30.2 million tonnes, 12.6 per cent lower than last year, but still 5.9 per cent above the 10-year average for 2004-2013 (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). Crop quality was generally about average. In 2014, total seeded and harvested areas of principal field crops in the province declined 0.1 per cent and 0.5 per cent, respectively.

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	272.2	237.6	4.2%	14.6%
Spring Wheat	6,180.6	7,515.5	7,957.8	7,429.9	10,169.6	8,369.1	7,198.8	-17.7%	16.3%
Durum Wheat	993.4	421.8	620.5	732.1	870.9	707.6	804.7	-18.8%	-12.1%
All Wheat	7,440.7	8,201.3	8,839.6	8,368.8	11,301.8	9,348.9	8,241.1	-17.3%	13.4%
Oats	308.4	647.7	738.7	518.2	601.5	542.9	634.7	-9.7%	-14.5%
Barley	3,840.7	4,528.7	4,668.0	4,463.3	5,545.4	4,131.3	4,887.3	-25.5%	-15.5%
Fall Rye	38.1	50.8	54.0	34.3	36.3	30.9	51.2	-14.9%	-39.6%
Mixed Grains	23.0	24.5	79.6	10.5	13.3	12.9	35.7	-3.0%	-63.9%
Flaxseed	28.4	30.5	54.7	41.9	73.7	87.6	39.7	18.9%	120.7%
Canola	3,628.7	4,740.0	5,347.9	5,097.2	5,998.8	5,488.5	4,253.9	-8.5%	29.0%
Corn for Grain	43.2	-	35.6	35.6	66.0	91.4	30.0	38.5%	204.7%
Dry Beans	55.1	31.5	44.0	44.7	48.1	66.0	46.1	30.0%	43.2%
Fababeans	-	-	-	-	-	107.5	5.2	-	1,967.3%
Dry Peas	666.7	982.5	805.6	1,208.4	1,321.3	1,323.3	805.6	0.2%	64.3%
Lentils	33.4	82.0	76.0	68.1	104.4	84.4	48.7	-19.2%	73.3%
Mustard Seed	47.7	47.7	26.8	35.9	37.2	59.4	37.0	59.7%	60.5%
Triticale	12.7	38.1	21.6	19.1	16.9	17.5	22.0	3.6%	-20.5%
Tame Hay	4,935.1	8,223.6	7,937.9	7,711.1	7,588.6	7,257.5	7,858.5	-4.4%	-7.6%
Fodder Corn	1,102.2	680.4	1,388.0	784.7	1,179.3	943.5	845.9	-20.0%	11.5%
Sugar Beets	657.7	508.0	703.1	598.7	598.7	580.6	639.6	-3.0%	-9.2%
Total	22,861.8	28,817.3	30,821.1	29,040.5	34,531.3	30,174.1	28,482.2	-12.6%	5.9%

Production by Crop Type, Alberta

Total production of **spring wheat** in 2014 decreased 17.7 per cent from 2013, to 8.4 million tonnes, and was 16.3 per cent above the 10-year average. The lower production stems from a decline in yield and harvested area. Yield was down 11.8 per cent, while harvested area declined 6.8 per cent from 2013. The provincial average yield was 51.8 bushels per acre and harvested area at 5.9 million acres. For **durum wheat**, production was down 18.8 per cent, to 707,600 tonnes. Durum production dropped 12.1 per cent below the 10-year average. The decrease was due to harvested area falling 9.2 per cent to 540,000 acres, while average yield decreased 10.6 per cent to 48.1 bushels per acre. Overall, production of **all wheat** was 9.3 million tonnes, a decrease of 17.3 per cent from 2013.

Total **barley** production declined to 4.1 million tonnes, down 25.5 per cent from last year. The lower production was attributed to a 12.0 per cent lower yield of 67.3 bushels per acre, and a 15.3 per cent decline in harvested area at 2.8 million acres. Barley production dropped 15.5 per cent below the 10-year average.

Total **canola** production decreased from last year's all time high by 8.5 per cent to 5.5 million tonnes. This was still the second highest production on record, and remained 29.0 per cent above the 10-year average. The decrease was due to lower yield, down 14.2 per cent to 37.5 bushels per acre. Yield was only 3.9 per cent above the 10-year average. The decrease in yield more than offset a 6.7 per cent increase in harvested area at 6.5 million acres. The total harvested acres in 2014 are the second highest on record.

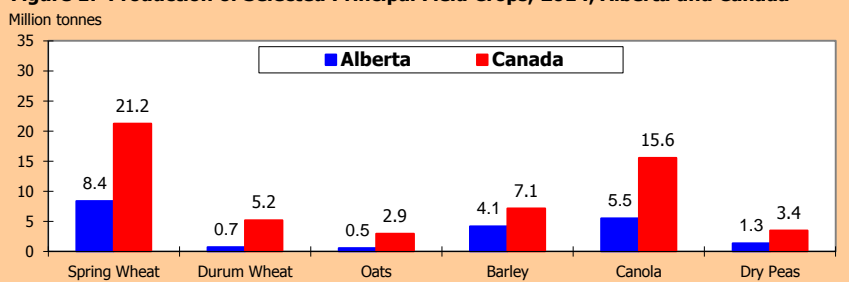
Dry peas production rose marginally to a record 1.3 million tonnes. Harvested area was up 17.1 per cent to 1.2 million acres, while yield fell 14.5 per cent to 41.7 bushels per acre.

Total **oat** production fell 9.7 per cent to 542,900 tonnes, and was 14.5 per cent below the 10-year average. The decline was attributed to a drop in yield. The average yield declined 18.6 per cent to 77.4 bushels per acre. This could not be compensated for by harvested area increasing 11 per cent to 455,000 acres.

Table 2: Alberta Crop Area and Yield

Crops	2013r	2013r	2013r	2014p	2014p	2014p	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change	
	Seeded	Harvested	Yield	Seeded	Harvested			Yield	14 vs 13
	('000 acres)	('000 acres)	(bu/acre)	('000 acres)	('000 acres)	(bu/acre)			
Winter Wheat	155.0	140.0	68.6	170.0	170.0	58.8	52.8	-14.3%	11.4%
Spring Wheat	6,415.0	6,365.0	58.7	6,045.0	5,935.0	51.8	46.9	-11.8%	10.4%
Durum Wheat	600.0	595.0	53.8	550.0	540.0	48.1	43.2	-10.6%	11.3%
All Wheat	7,180.0	7,100.0	58.5	6,790.0	6,645.0	51.7	46.6	-11.6%	10.9%
Oats	580.0	410.0	95.1	670.0	455.0	77.4	76.0	-18.6%	1.8%
Barley	3,650.0	3,330.0	76.5	3,200.0	2,820.0	67.3	64.2	-12.0%	4.8%
Fall Rye	30.0	30.0	47.7	30.0	30.0	40.5	42.5	-15.1%	-4.7%
Mixed Grains	90.0	10.0	65.0	100.0	10.0	63.0	59.6	-3.1%	5.7%
Flaxseed	90.0	90.0	32.2	115.0	115.0	30.0	28.6	-6.8%	4.9%
Canola	6,080.0	6,050.0	43.7	6,500.0	6,455.0	37.5	36.1	-14.2%	3.9%
Dry Beans	40.0	40.0	44.2	55.0	53.0	45.8	36.8	3.8%	24.4%
Fababeans	-	-	-	75.0	75.0	52.7	44.3	-	18.8%
Dry Peas	1,000.0	995.0	48.8	1,200.0	1,165.0	41.7	39.4	-14.5%	5.8%
Lentils	95.0	90.0	42.6	110.0	108.0	28.7	25.6	-32.6%	12.5%
Mustard Seed	95.0	92.0	17.8	135.0	133.0	19.7	17.9	10.4%	10.3%
Triticale	25.0	13.0	51.2	30.0	15.0	46.0	47.2	-10.2%	-2.5%
Tame Hay	4,975.0	4,520.0	1.9	4,900.0	4,595.0	1.7	1.2	-10.5%	41.7%
Fodder Corn	80.0	65.0	20.0	80.0	60.0	17.3	17.4	-13.5%	-0.6%
Sugar Beets	22.0	22.0	30.0	20.0	20.0	32.0	24.6	6.7%	30.1%
Total	24,032.0	22,857.0	---	24,010.0	22,754.0	---	---	---	---

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



2014 Crop Production, Canada

Based on the November estimates, total 2014 Canadian production was 21.2 million tonnes for spring wheat, 5.2 million tonnes for durum, 7.1 million tonnes for barley, 2.9 million tonnes for oats, 15.6 million tonnes for canola, and 3.4 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 available --- Not applicable bu - Bushels Avg - Average Yld - Yield
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