

Agri-Food Statistics Update



Issue No: CR16-1

Collected from a variety of sources, the Statistics and Data Development Section 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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July 2016 Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta

On August 23, 2016, Statistics Canada released their July estimates of crop production for 2016.

Key Messages

- This year's crop season started with a dry spring, followed by frequent rains which provided enough moisture for an expected crop production higher than the 10-year average (2006-2015).
- In 2016, total production of selected principal field crops in Alberta is estimated at 23.5 million tonnes, up 13.4 per cent from a year ago, and 16.2 per cent above the 10-year average (2006-2015). The higher production stems mainly from increased yields.
- Spring wheat production in Alberta is expected to increase by 9.5 per cent to 7.9 million tonnes, due to an anticipated higher average yield, despite a decline in harvested area.
- Barley production is estimated at 4.5 million tonnes, up 4.5 per cent, as average yield is expected to increase by 7.1 per cent.
- Canola production in the province could remain relatively stable at 5.4 million tonnes, down one per cent from 2015, but still 13.7 per cent above the 10-year average.
- Dry peas production is expected to significantly increase by 69.2 per cent to 2.2 million tonnes, 132.0 per cent above the 10-year average. This is due to a higher expected average yield and harvested area.

Note: Final production estimates for 2016 will be released on December 6, 2016, by Statistics Canada. On September 20, 2016, Statistics Canada will release modelled yield and production estimates for field crops in Canada. This release replaces the September Farm Survey from Statistics Canada.

August 30, 2016

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Total Alberta Crop Production Expected to Decrease in 2016

On August 23, 2016, Statistics Canada released the July, 2016 estimates of crop production for Canada and provinces. The data is preliminary and is the first production estimate done for 2016 by Statistics Canada. Based on the estimates, total 2016 production of the reported principal field crops in Alberta could reach 23.5 million tonnes, up 13.4 per cent from last year, and 16.2 per cent above the 10-year average (see Table 1). The crop season in the province this year started with a dry spring, followed by frequent rains which provided enough moisture for higher than average expected yields. Provincial average yields are estimated to be above 2015 and the 10-year averages for most major crops (see Table 2). Just to note, the production estimates reflect yield potentials at the time the survey was conducted (July 21 to August 4, 2016), and therefore could change in subsequent report. Total seeded and harvested area of principal field crops in Alberta are estimated to be higher than in 2015.

Production by Crop Type, Alberta

Total production of **spring wheat** in 2016, is expected to increase 9.5 per cent, to 7.9 million tonnes. The higher production stems from an anticipated increase in average yield (up 16.3 per cent), compensating for the decline in harvested area (down 5.9 per cent). The provincial average yield is estimated at 54.9 bushels per acre, with harvested area at 5.3 million acres. For **durum wheat**, production could increase 67.0 per cent, to 1.4 million tonnes. The higher production is due to harvested area increasing 36.0 per cent to 1.1 million acres. Also, average yield is up 22.8 per cent from last year, to 45.8 bushels per acre. Overall, production of **all wheat** is expected to increase 15.4 per cent to 9.6 million tonnes in 2016.

Total **barley** production is expected to increase to 4.5 million tonnes, (up 4.5 per cent from last year). The provincial average yield is expected to improve 7.1 per cent to 73.5 bushels per acre, while harvested area is down slightly to 2.8 million acres (down 2.4 per cent).

Total **canola** production could remain relatively stable, down one per cent from 2015 to 5.4 million tonnes. This is attributed to a lower harvested area of 5.8 million acres (down 4.6 per cent), despite average yield increasing 3.8 per cent from 2015, to 41.2 bushels per acre.

In 2016, **dry peas** production is expected to significantly increase by 69.2 per cent to a record 2.2 million tonnes. This is due to higher yields and harvested area. Harvested area could increase 29.2 per cent to 1.8 million acres and average yield up 30.9 per cent to 44.5 bushels per acre.

Total **oats** production is expected to increase by 51.7 per cent, to 596,800 tonnes, which is attributed to an increase in both yield and harvested area. Harvested area is anticipated to increase 29.4 per cent to 440,000 acres, while average yield is up 17.3 per cent to 88.0 bushels per acre.

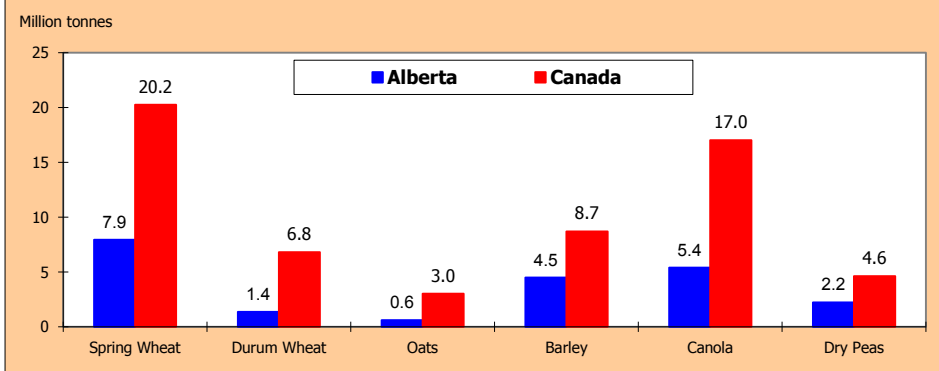
2016 Crop Production, Canada

The July estimates suggest that in 2016, production of most principal field crops in Canada could see an increase from last year. Estimates of Canadian production was 20.2 million tonnes for spring wheat, 6.8 million tonnes for durum, 8.7 million tonnes for barley, 3.0 million tonnes for oats, 17.0 million tonnes for canola, and 4.6 million tonnes for dry peas (see Figure 1).

Crops	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016p	10-year Average	% change	
								16 vs 15	16 vs Avg
Winter Wheat	261.3	206.8	261.3	272.2	225.9	272.2	248.8	20.5%	9.4%
Spring Wheat	7,957.8	7,429.9	10,169.6	8,369.1	7,247.6	7,933.3	7,405.1	9.5%	7.1%
Durum Wheat	620.5	732.1	870.9	707.6	816.5	1,363.5	756.8	67.0%	80.2%
All Wheat	8,839.6	8,368.8	11,301.8	9,348.9	8,290.0	9,569.0	8,410.7	15.4%	13.8%
Oats	738.7	518.2	601.5	542.9	393.3	596.8	562.6	51.7%	6.1%
Barley	4,668.0	4,463.3	5,545.4	4,131.3	4,289.2	4,482.9	4,643.3	4.5%	-3.5%
Fall Rye	54.0	34.3	36.3	30.9	33.0	54.1	42.9	63.9%	26.2%
Flaxseed	54.7	41.9	73.7	87.6	83.8	45.7	48.6	-45.5%	-6.0%
Canola	5,347.9	5,097.2	6,168.9	5,796.9	5,443.1	5,386.4	4,737.2	-1.0%	13.7%
Corn for Grain	35.6	35.6	66.0	91.4	87.6	-	42.8	-	-
Dry Beans	44.0	44.7	48.1	66.0	47.9	52.4	48.7	9.4%	7.5%
Fababeans	0.0	0.0	0.0	107.5	81.6	72.6	19.4	-11.0%	274.4%
Dry Peas	805.6	1,208.4	1,321.3	1,475.1	1,314.5	2,223.5	958.6	69.2%	132.0%
Lentils	76.0	68.1	110.3	84.4	138.0	432.7	59.2	213.6%	630.7%
Mustard Seed	26.8	35.9	37.2	59.4	31.9	67.6	37.9	111.9%	78.4%
Sugar Beets	703.1	598.7	598.7	580.6	503.5	526.2	612.8	4.5%	-14.1%
Total	21,394.0	20,515.1	25,909.2	22,402.9	20,737.4	23,509.9	20,224.6	13.4%	16.2%

Crops	2015 Seeded	2016p Seeded	2015 Harvested	2016p Harvested	2015 Yield	2016p Yield	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change	
								16 vs 15	16 vs Avg
	('000 acres)				(bu/acre)				
Winter Wheat	150.0	185.0	150.0	180.0	55.3	55.6	53.8	0.5%	3.3%
Spring Wheat	5,860.0	5,360.0	5,640.0	5,305.0	47.2	54.9	47.4	16.3%	15.8%
Durum Wheat	820.0	1,100.0	805.0	1,095.0	37.3	45.8	43.2	22.8%	6.0%
All Wheat	6,850.0	6,660.0	6,595.0	6,580.0	46.2	53.4	47.1	15.6%	13.4%
Oats	670.0	720.0	340.0	440.0	75.0	88.0	75.6	17.3%	16.4%
Barley	3,350.0	3,215.0	2,870.0	2,800.0	68.6	73.5	64.6	7.1%	13.8%
Fall Rye	45.0	65.0	30.0	45.0	43.3	47.3	42.3	9.2%	11.8%
Flaxseed	115.0	60.0	115.0	60.0	28.7	30.0	29.1	4.5%	3.1%
Canola	6,100.0	5,840.0	6,050.0	5,770.0	39.7	41.2	36.7	3.8%	12.3%
Corn for Grain	40.0	25.0	30.0	-	115.0	-	101.7	-	-
Dry Beans	40.0	45.0	38.0	45.0	46.3	42.8	38.8	-7.6%	10.3%
Fababeans	80.0	50.0	77.0	47.0	39.0	56.7	45.2	45.3%	25.5%
Dry Peas	1,445.0	1,860.0	1,420.0	1,835.0	34.0	44.5	38.8	30.9%	14.7%
Lentils	250.0	565.0	246.0	560.0	20.6	28.4	20.5	37.8%	38.6%
Mustard Seed	90.0	135.0	88.0	132.0	16.0	22.6	16.1	41.1%	40.6%
					(tons/acre)				
Sugar Beets	18.0	20.0	18.0	20.0	31.0	29.0	26.5	-6.5%	9.4%
Total	19,093.0	19,260.0	17,917.0	18,334.0	---	---	---	---	---

Figure 1: Production of Selected Principal Field Crops, 2016, Alberta and Canada



Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding. 10-year average refers to 2006 to 2015.

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

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