

Agri-Food Statistics Update



Issue No: CR12-3

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)

Note to Users: The contents of this document may not be used or reproduced without properly accrediting Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Economics and Competitiveness Division, Statistics and Data Development Branch.



November Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta, 2012

On December 5, 2012, Statistics Canada released their November estimates of crop production for 2012. The November estimates are the third and final production estimates for 2012.

Key Messages

- Overall, provincial average yields were generally above average. However, the total production of principal field crops in Alberta for 2012 fell 6.9 per cent, to 28.7 million tonnes, largely due to lower yields.
- Spring wheat production declined 6.6 per cent, to 7.4 million tonnes and was the result of a lower seeded and harvested area, combined with reduced yields.
- Barley production fell 4.4 per cent, to 4.5 million tonnes, and yields decreased 10.0 per cent.
- Canola production in the province declined 8.4 per cent, from 5.3 million tonnes in 2011, to 4.9 million tonnes, due to lower yields.
- The production for dry peas increased 28.7 per cent over 2011 to 1.0 million tonnes, a new record. This was a result of increased seeded and harvested areas.
- Compared to the 10-year averages (2002-2011), production was up for spring wheat (19.3 per cent), canola (40.4 per cent), tame hay (6.0 per cent), and dry peas (66.2 per cent) but was down for oats (19.3 per cent), durum wheat (12.3 per cent), and barley (4.7 per cent).

December 12, 2012

(Please turn over)

November Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta, 2012

Agri-Food Statistics
Update No. CR12-3

Total 2012 Crop Production Declined in Alberta

On December 5, 2012, Statistics Canada released its third and final report for 2012 entitled "Production of Principal Field Crops, November 2012". Based on this report, total 2012 production of principal field crops in Alberta was estimated at 28.7 million tonnes, 6.9 per cent lower than last year, and 11.9 per cent above the 10-year average for 2002-2011 (see Table 1). The decrease in production was largely due to lower yields compared to 2011. Provincial average yields were mostly above their respective 10-year averages (see Table 2). Crop growing conditions in the province during 2012 were mainly favourable. Seeding was later than normal given a wet cool May, but the remainder of the season was hot and dry. These conditions provided producers with the opportunity to make good harvest with average crop quality. However, there was some crop damage due to adverse weather. Total seeded area of principal field crops in the province declined less than one-half per cent from 2011, while harvested acreage increased by just over one per cent.

Crops	2007r	2008r	2009r	2010r	2011r	2012p	10-year Average	% change 12 vs 11	% change 12 vs avg
Winter Wheat	175.5	386.5	266.7	264.0	261.3	206.8	208.2	-20.9%	-0.7%
Spring Wheat	5,230.6	7,272.0	6,180.6	7,515.5	7,957.8	7,429.9	6,226.1	-6.6%	19.3%
Durum Wheat	670.0	1,077.7	993.4	421.8	620.5	732.1	834.9	18.0%	-12.3%
All Wheat	6,076.1	8,736.2	7,440.7	8,201.3	8,839.6	8,368.8	7,269.2	-5.3%	15.1%
Oats	627.4	541.3	308.4	647.7	738.7	518.2	642.4	-29.8%	-19.3%
Barley	5,114.3	5,447.5	3,840.7	4,528.7	4,668.0	4,463.3	4,683.3	-4.4%	-4.7%
Fall Rye	36.8	57.2	38.1	50.8	54.0	34.3	53.2	-36.5%	-35.5%
Mixed Grains	24.1	30.6	23.0	24.5	79.6	10.5	39.1	-86.8%	-73.1%
Flaxseed	16.3	33.0	28.4	30.5	54.7	41.9	32.7	-23.4%	28.0%
Canola	3,401.9	4,322.7	3,628.7	4,740.0	5,347.9	4,898.8	3,489.0	-8.4%	40.4%
Corn for Grain	22.9	35.6	43.2	-	35.6	35.6	21.8	0.0%	63.0%
Dry Beans	54.4	34.9	55.1	31.5	44.0	44.7	46.0	1.6%	-2.8%
Dry Peas	527.5	731.4	666.7	982.5	805.6	1,036.8	623.9	28.7%	66.2%
Lentils	-	-	33.4	79.3	68.3	65.5	30.7	-4.1%	113.1%
Mustard Seed	29.5	37.2	47.7	47.7	26.8	35.9	35.5	34.0%	1.2%
Chick Peas	26.7	-	18.1	-	10.4	16.2	17.3	55.8%	-6.4%
Triticale	27.6	19.4	12.7	38.1	21.6	19.1	22.3	-11.6%	-14.2%
Tame Hay	9,071.8	8,826.9	4,935.1	8,223.6	7,937.9	7,711.1	7,272.0	-2.9%	6.0%
Fodder Corn	1,007.0	571.5	1,102.2	680.4	1,388.0	784.7	731.2	-43.5%	7.3%
Sugar Beets	762.0	344.7	657.7	508.0	703.1	598.7	622.3	-14.8%	-3.8%
Total	26,826.3	29,770.1	22,879.9	28,814.6	30,823.8	28,684.1	25,631.9	-6.9%	11.9%

Production by Crop Type, Alberta

Total production of **spring wheat** declined 6.6 per cent, to 7.4 million tonnes in 2012, but was 19.3 per cent above the 10-year average. The lower production was due to a decline in seeded and harvested areas and reduced yields. The provincial average yield was estimated at 47.6 bushels per acre, down 3.8 per cent from 2011, and harvested area dropped 2.9 per cent, to 5.7 million acres. For **durum wheat**, production increased 18.0 per cent, to 732,100 tonnes due to increases in seeded and harvested areas and yields. Regarding yields, the provincial average was estimated at 46.4 bushels per acre, up 7.9 per cent from 2011. Overall, total production of **all wheat** reached 8.4 million tonnes, a decrease of 5.3 per cent from 2011.

In 2012, **total barley** production was 4.5 million tonnes, down 4.4 cent from last year as a result of lower yields. The provincial average yield was 60.3 bushels per acre, 10.0 per cent lower than in 2011. Seeded and harvested areas were up 4.4 and 6.3 per cent, respectively.

Total **canola** production fell 8.4 per cent to 4.9 million tonnes, but was 40.4 per cent above the 10-year average. The lower 2012 production was attributed to reduced yields, down 14.9 per cent to 33.6 bushels per acre, but still above the 10-year average. For 2012, seeded and harvested acreage was estimated at 6.5 million acres and 6.4 million acres, respectively (both record highs).

Total production of **dry peas** increased 28.7 per cent, to a record 1.0 million tonnes, due to substantial increases in seeded and harvested areas. The provincial average yield was estimated at 40.7 bushels per acre, 4.5 per cent lower than in 2011, but still above the 10-year average.

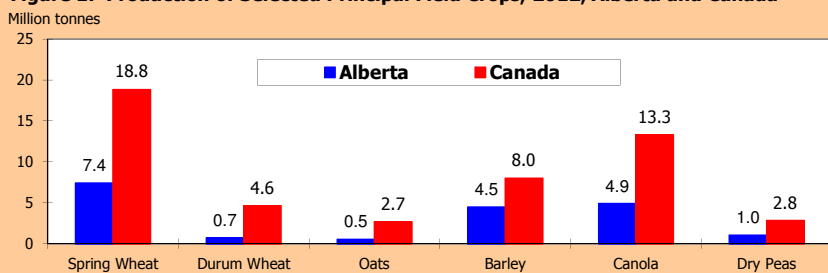
Total **oats** production was estimated to be 518,200 tonnes, a decrease of 29.8 per cent from 2011. This was mainly attributed to substantial reductions in seeded and harvested areas as well as lower yields. The provincial average yield was 80.0 bushels per acre, down 2.3 per cent, but still well above the 10-year average.

2012 Crop Production, Canada

Based on the November estimates, total 2012 Canadian production was 18.9 million tonnes for spring wheat, 4.6 million tonnes for durum, 8.0 million tonnes for barley, 2.7 million tonnes for oats, 13.3 million tonnes for canola, and 2.8 million tonnes for dry peas (see Figure 1).

Crops	2011r Seeded	2011r Harvested	2011r Yield	2012p Seeded	2012p Harvested	2012p Yield	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change 12 vs 11	% change 12 vs Avg
	('000 acres)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	('000 acres)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)			
Winter Wheat	196.3	180.0	53.3	130.0	130.0	58.5	49.3	9.8%	18.8%
Spring Wheat	5,971.6	5,907.0	49.5	5,800.0	5,735.0	47.6	42.8	-3.8%	11.2%
Durum Wheat	536.0	530.0	43.0	580.0	580.0	46.4	40.1	7.9%	15.6%
All Wheat	6,727.6	6,617.0	49.1	6,525.0	6,445.0	47.7	42.7	-2.9%	11.8%
Oats	891.6	585.0	81.9	640.0	420.0	80.0	70.4	-2.3%	13.7%
Barley	3,610.1	3,200.0	67.0	3,770.0	3,400.0	60.3	60.4	-10.0%	-0.1%
Fall Rye	50.6	50.0	42.5	30.0	30.0	45.0	39.8	5.9%	13.1%
Mixed Grains	201.5	50.0	78.0	80.0	10.0	51.5	58.6	-34.0%	-12.1%
Flaxseed	69.7	68.0	31.7	50.0	50.0	33.0	26.1	4.1%	26.4%
Canola	6,071.7	5,970.0	39.5	6,500.0	6,430.0	33.6	33.4	-14.9%	0.5%
Dry Beans	45.3	41.0	23.7	45.0	43.0	22.9	21.5	-3.4%	6.5%
Dry Peas	706.7	695.0	42.6	960.0	935.0	40.7	35.3	-4.5%	15.4%
Lentils	97.8	95.0	26.5	85.0	81.0	29.7	16.2	12.4%	83.1%
Mustard Seed	63.0	62.5	18.8	95.0	93.0	17.0	17.0	-9.8%	0.0%
Triticale	40.8	18.0	47.2	25.0	17.0	44.1	44.3	-6.6%	-0.5%
		(tons/acre)	(tons/acre)		(tons/acre)	(tons/acre)			
Tame Hay	5,245.6	4,750.0	1.8	4,950.0	4,600.0	1.8	1.5	0.0%	20.8%
Fodder Corn	95.9	85.0	18.0	70.0	50.0	17.3	16.7	-3.9%	3.7%
Sugar Beets	33.3	30.0	25.8	25.0	25.0	26.4	23.0	2.3%	15.0%
Total	23,951.1	22,316.5	---	23,850.0	22,629.0	---	---	---	---

Figure 1: Production of Selected Principal Field Crops, 2012, Alberta and Canada



Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding. 10-year average refers to 2002 to 2011.

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

Prepared by: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Economics and Competitiveness Division, Statistics and Data Development Branch

Email: lukas.matejovsky@gov.ab.ca Telephone: 780-422-2887

December 12, 2012