

Agri-Food Statistics Update



Issue No: CR10-4

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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**Government
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November Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta, 2010

On December 3, 2010, Statistics Canada released its report entitled "November Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada, 2010". The Alberta estimates were generated from a Statistics Canada survey of 8,659 farms in the province, during the period from October 25 to November 9, 2010.

Based on the Statistics Canada report, total 2010 production of principal field crops in Alberta was estimated at 29.5 million tonnes. This was 29 per cent higher than last year, and 23 per cent above the 10-year average (2000-2009), as a result of higher yields and an increase in harvested acreage.

In general, crop growing conditions in the province this year were mainly favourable. The exception was the Peace Region, where dry conditions persisted through much of the crop season. As well, there were some crops lost due to flooding, mainly in the Southern Region.

In general, estimated provincial average yields were higher than in 2009, and their 10-year averages. Regarding crop quality, grade estimates were below average, mainly as a result of cool, damp conditions in the fall.

Just to note, the November estimates are considered to be more accurate than the previously released September estimates, since the November survey was conducted during the latter part of the crop season. As well, the sample size for the November survey was much larger, compared to the September survey. The November estimates are the third and final production estimates for the year.

December 9, 2010

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Total 2010 Crop Production Increased in Alberta

On December 3, 2010, Statistics Canada released its report entitled "November Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada, 2010". Based on the report, total 2010 production of principal field crops in Alberta was estimated at 29.5 million tonnes, 29 per cent higher than last year, and 23 per cent above the 10-year average (see Table 1). This was due to a combination of higher yields and an increase in harvested area. Despite some adverse weather factors, crop growing conditions were mainly favorable in most areas of the province. In general, estimated provincial average yields were higher than in 2009, and their respective 10-year averages (see Table 2). Regarding crop quality, grade estimates were below average, mainly as a result of cool, damp conditions in the fall. Total seeded area of principal field crops in the province was relatively unchanged from 2009, while harvested acreage increased by nearly seven per cent. It is also worth noting that, total summerfallow area was estimated at 1.7 million acres, an increase of three per cent over 2009.

Crops	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009r	2010p	10-year Average	% change	
								10 vs 09	10 vs avg
Winter Wheat	190.5	167.4	175.5	386.5	266.7	264.0	167.1	-1%	58%
Spring Wheat	7,160.3	6,678.7	5,230.6	7,272.0	6,180.6	7,484.3	5,832.2	21%	28%
Durum Wheat	1,020.6	657.3	670.0	1,077.7	993.4	421.8	864.7	-58%	-51%
All Wheat	8,371.4	7,503.4	6,076.1	8,736.2	7,440.7	8,170.1	6,864.0	10%	19%
Oats	829.7	706.3	627.4	541.3	308.4	647.7	628.7	110%	3%
Barley	5,231.9	4,404.6	5,114.3	5,447.5	3,840.7	4,528.7	4,765.1	18%	-5%
Fall Rye	79.0	57.2	36.8	76.2	38.1	50.8	53.3	33%	-5%
Mixed Grains	40.8	65.9	24.1	30.6	23.0	24.5	40.0	7%	-39%
Flaxseed	53.3	36.3	16.3	33.0	28.4	30.5	28.0	7%	9%
Canola	3,651.4	3,424.6	3,401.9	4,322.7	3,470.0	4,490.6	2,848.8	29%	58%
Dry Beans	52.8	60.8	54.4	34.9	49.9	34.3	48.2	-31%	-29%
Dry Peas	617.5	552.6	527.5	731.4	666.7	937.6	557.8	41%	68%
Lentils	14.1	-	-	-	30.1	106.8	7.9	255%	1252%
Mustard Seed	31.1	25.6	28.1	37.1	47.7	52.5	30.2	10%	74%
Triticale	21.8	15.0	17.8	19.4	12.7	38.1	22.4	200%	70%
Tame Hay	8,754.3	8,142.0	9,276.0	9,344.0	5,352.4	9,162.6	6,756.3	71%	36%
Fodder Corn	453.6	952.5	839.1	571.5	938.9	680.4	581.0	-28%	17%
Sugar Beets	607.8	870.9	762.0	344.7	657.7	508.0	637.7	-23%	-20%
Total	28,810.5	26,817.7	26,801.8	30,270.5	22,905.4	29,463.2	23,869.5	29%	23%

Production by Crop Type, Alberta

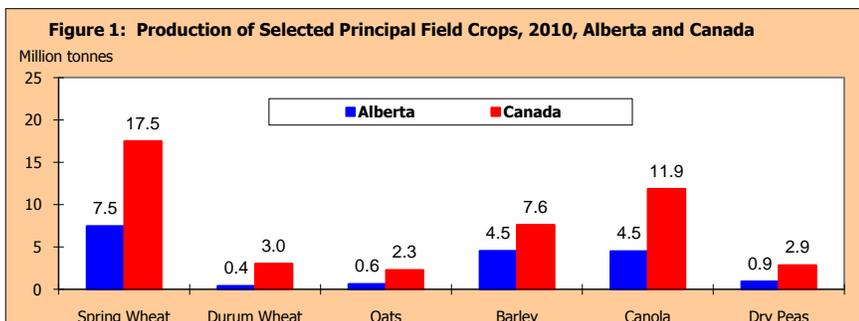
Total production of spring wheat increased 21 per cent, to 7.5 million tonnes. This stemmed from higher yields, and to a lesser extent, an increase in harvested area. The provincial average yield was estimated at 46.7 bushels per acre, up 14 per cent from 2009, while harvested area increased seven per cent, to 5.9 million acres. For durum wheat, production declined 58 per cent, to 421,800 tonnes, as a result of a marked reduction (61 per cent) in harvested area. Regarding yields, the provincial average was estimated at 44.3 bushels per acre, up nine per cent from 2009. Overall, total production of all wheat reached 8.2 million tonnes, an increase of ten per cent over 2009.

In 2010, total barley production rose 18 per cent, to 4.5 million tonnes. The provincial average yield for barley was 66.6 bushels per acre, or 14 per cent higher than in 2009, while harvested area increased three per cent. For oats, total production more than doubled from last year and reached 647,700 tonnes. This was due to higher yields and an increase in harvested acreage. The provincial average yield was estimated at 79.2 bushels per acre, or 19 per cent higher than in 2009, while the harvested area was up 77 per cent.

Total canola production increased 29 per cent from 2009, to a record 4.5 million tonnes. This was attributed to a combination of higher yields and a larger harvested area. In 2010, seeded and harvested acreage was estimated to be 5.5 million acres and 5.4 million acres, respectively (both record highs). Regarding yields, the provincial average was estimated at 36.7 bushels per acre, or 18 per cent above 2009.

In 2010, total production of dry peas increased 41 per cent, to a record 937,600 tonnes. This stemmed from higher yields and a record harvested area. The provincial average yield was estimated at 38.5 bushels per acre, or 18 per cent higher than in 2009, while harvested area increased by 19 per cent.

Crops	2009r	2009r	2009r	2010p	2010p	2010p	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change	
	Seeded	Harvested	Yield	Seeded	Harvested	Yield		10 vs 09	10 vs avg
	('000 acres)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	('000 acres)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)			
Winter Wheat	260.0	260.0	37.7	175.0	175.0	55.4	45.1	47%	23%
Spring Wheat	5,875.0	5,525.0	41.1	6,000.0	5,885.0	46.7	40.6	14%	15%
Durum Wheat	930.0	900.0	40.6	360.0	350.0	44.3	36.5	9%	22%
All Wheat	7,065.0	6,685.0	40.9	6,535.0	6,410.0	46.8	40.2	14%	17%
Oats	835.0	300.0	66.7	950.0	530.0	79.2	67.8	19%	17%
Barley	3,960.0	3,030.0	58.2	3,750.0	3,125.0	66.6	58.1	14%	15%
Fall Rye	40.0	40.0	37.5	45.0	45.0	44.4	37.3	18%	19%
Mixed Grains	185.0	20.0	56.3	180.0	20.0	60.0	54.7	7%	10%
Flaxseed	50.0	40.0	28.0	40.0	38.0	31.6	24.1	13%	31%
Canola	5,000.0	4,900.0	31.2	5,460.0	5,400.0	36.7	30.9	18%	19%
Dry Beans	55.0	53.0	34.7	50.0	43.0	29.3	36.2	-15%	-19%
Dry Peas	800.0	750.0	32.7	910.0	895.0	38.5	33.9	18%	13%
Lentils	45.0	45.0	24.5	140.0	135.0	29.1	17.9	19%	62%
Mustard Seed	120.0	115.0	18.3	110.0	110.0	21.0	14.8	15%	42%
Triticale	40.0	10.0	50.0	40.0	25.0	60.0	41.4	20%	45%
Tame Hay	6,200.0	5,015.0	1.2	6,175.0	5,640.0	1.8	1.3	50%	34%
Fodder Corn	90.0	60.0	17.3	85.0	50.0	15.0	16.7	-13%	-10%
Sugar Beets	30.0	27.0	26.9	30.0	28.0	20.0	22.7	-26%	-12%
Total	24,515.0	21,090.0	---	24,500.0	22,494.0	---	---	---	---



2010 Crop Production, Canada

Based on the November estimates, total 2010 Canadian production was 17.5 million tonnes for spring wheat, 3.0 million tonnes for durum, 7.6 million tonnes for barley, 2.3 million tonnes for oats, 11.9 million tonnes for canola, and 2.9 million tonnes for dry peas (see Figure 1).

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding. 10-year average refers to 2000 to 2009.

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

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