

# Agri-Food Statistics Update



## Issue No: CR15-1

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 2015 Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Alberta

On August 21, 2015, Statistics Canada released their July estimates of crop production for 2015.

### Key Messages

- This year's dry growing conditions in the province have had an adverse impact on yield and some harvested areas.
- In 2015, total production of selected principal field crops in Alberta is anticipated at 17.4 million tonnes, down 20.6 per cent from a year ago, and 13.3 per cent below the 10-year average (2005-2014). The lower production stems mainly from lower yields.
- Spring wheat production in Alberta is expected to decrease by 25.8 per cent to 6.2 million tonnes, due to anticipated lower yields and harvested area.
- Barley production is estimated at 3.7 million tonnes, down 10.1 per cent, as yields are expected to decrease by 10.0 per cent.
- Canola production in the province could drop 27.2 per cent to 4.0 million tonnes, and 11.4 per cent below the 10-year average.
- Dry peas production is expected to decrease 6.6 per cent to 1.2 million tonnes, but 41.5 per cent above the 10-year average. The lower production is driven by a decrease in yields.

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 2, 2015 (September estimates), followed by the final release (November estimates) on December 4, 2015.

**August 26, 2015**

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**Total Alberta Crop Production Expected to Decrease in 2015**

On August 21, 2015, Statistics Canada released the July, 2015 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 2015 production of the reported principal field crops in Alberta could reach 17.4 million tonnes, or 20.6 per cent lower than last year, and 13.3 per cent below the 10-year average (see Table 1). Crop growing conditions in the province this year have been somehow challenging due to the hot and dry weather during spring and early summer. Provincial average yields are estimated to be below 2014 and the 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 22 to August 3, 2015) and therefore could change in subsequent reports. Total seeded area of principal field crops in the province is estimated to be higher than in 2014, while harvested area is down.

**Production by Crop Type, Alberta**

Total production of **spring wheat** in 2015, is expected to decrease 25.8 per cent, to 6.2 million tonnes. The lower production stems from an anticipated decline in yields and harvested area (down 22.6 per cent and 4.0 per cent, respectively). The provincial average yield is estimated at 40.1 bushels per acre, with harvested area at 5.7 million acres. For **durum wheat**, production could increase 5.8 per cent, to 748,400 tonnes. The higher production is due to harvested area increasing 46.3 per cent to 790,000 acres. However, average yield is down 27.7 per cent from last year, to 34.8 bushels per acre. Overall, production of **all wheat** is expected to decrease 23.6 per cent to 7.1 million tonnes in 2015.

Total **barley** production is expected to decline to 3.7 million tonnes, (down 10.1 per cent from last year). The provincial average yield is expected to decrease 10.0 per cent to 60.6 bushels per acre, while harvested area remains relatively flat at 2.8 million acres (down 0.2 per cent).

Total **canola** production could decrease from last year by 27.2 per cent to 4.0 million tonnes. This is attributed to a lower expected yield of 29.4 bushels per acre (down 21.6 per cent), and harvested area decreasing by 7.0 per cent from 2014, to 6.0 million acres.

**Dry peas** production is expected to decrease 6.6 per cent to 1.2 million tonnes (third highest on record). This is due to lower yields, while harvested area is expected to be up. Harvested area could increase by 22.7 per cent to 1.4 million acres, while yields could fall 23.7 per cent to 31.8 bushels per acre.

Total **oat** production is expected to decline by 37.2 per cent, to 340,800 tonnes, and is attributed to a drop in both yield and harvested area. Harvested area is anticipated to decline 25.3 per cent to 340,000 acres and yield is down 16.0 per cent to 65.0 bushels per acre.

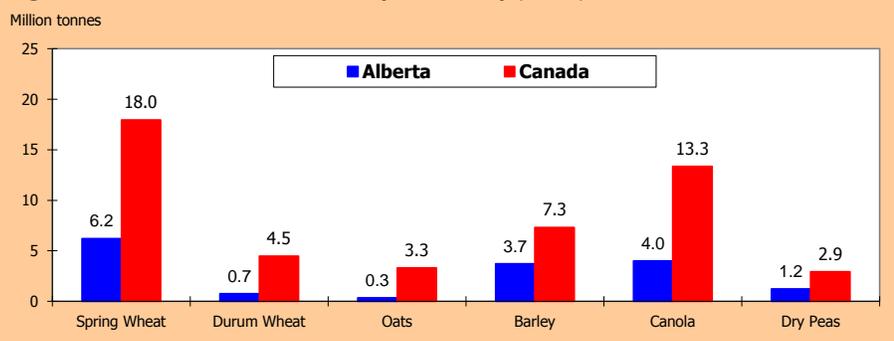
**2015 Crop Production, Canada**

The July estimates suggest that in 2015, production of most principal field crops in Canada could see a decrease from last year. Estimates of Canadian production was 18.0 million tonnes for spring wheat, 4.5 million tonnes for durum wheat, 7.3 million tonnes for barley, 3.3 million tonnes for oats, 13.3 million tonnes for canola, and 2.9 million tonnes for dry peas (see Figure 1).

Crops	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014r	2015p	10-year Average	% change	
								15 vs 14	15 vs Avg
Winter Wheat	264.0	261.3	206.8	261.3	272.2	179.6	245.2	-34.0%	-26.8%
Spring Wheat	7,515.5	7,957.8	7,429.9	10,169.6	8,369.1	6,212.8	7,396.4	-25.8%	-16.0%
Durum Wheat	421.8	620.5	732.1	870.9	707.6	748.4	777.2	5.8%	-3.7%
<b>All Wheat</b>	<b>8,201.3</b>	<b>8,839.6</b>	<b>8,368.8</b>	<b>11,301.8</b>	<b>9,348.9</b>	<b>7,140.8</b>	<b>8,418.8</b>	<b>-23.6%</b>	<b>-15.2%</b>
Oats	647.7	738.7	518.2	601.5	542.9	340.8	606.2	-37.2%	-43.8%
Barley	4,528.7	4,668.0	4,463.3	5,545.4	4,131.3	3,714.4	4,737.6	-10.1%	-21.6%
Fall Rye	50.8	54.0	34.3	36.3	30.9	30.9	47.5	0.0%	-34.9%
Flaxseed	30.5	54.7	41.9	73.7	87.6	85.7	45.6	-2.2%	87.9%
Canola	4,740.0	5,347.9	5,097.2	5,998.8	5,488.5	3,993.9	4,510.2	-27.2%	-11.4%
Corn for Grain	-	35.6	35.6	66.0	91.4	74.4	39.3	-18.6%	89.3%
Dry Beans	31.5	44.0	44.7	48.1	66.0	49.4	49.2	-25.2%	0.4%
Fababeans	-	-	-	-	107.5	111.4	39.1	3.6%	184.9%
Dry Peas	982.5	805.6	1,208.4	1,321.3	1,323.3	1,236.4	873.7	-6.6%	41.5%
Lentils	82.0	76.0	68.1	104.4	84.4	112.3	57.8	33.1%	94.3%
Mustard Seed	47.7	26.8	35.9	37.2	59.4	20.3	37.8	-65.8%	-46.3%
Sugar Beets	508.0	703.1	598.7	598.7	580.6	503.5	623.2	-13.3%	-19.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,850.7</b>	<b>21,394.0</b>	<b>20,515.1</b>	<b>25,733.2</b>	<b>21,942.7</b>	<b>17,414.2</b>	<b>20,086.0</b>	<b>-20.6%</b>	<b>-13.3%</b>

Crops	2014r	2014r	2014r	2015p	2015p	2015p	10-year Avg Yld	Yield % change	
	Seeded	Harvested	Yield	Seeded	Harvested	Yield		15 vs 14	15 vs Avg
	(’000 acres)	(’000 acres)	(bu/acre)	(’000 acres)	(’000 acres)	(bu/acre)			
Winter Wheat	170.0	170.0	58.8	150.0	150.0	44.0	53.8	-25.2%	-18.2%
Spring Wheat	6,045.0	5,935.0	51.8	5,880.0	5,700.0	40.1	47.4	-22.6%	-15.4%
Durum Wheat	550.0	540.0	48.1	800.0	790.0	34.8	43.8	-27.7%	-20.5%
<b>All Wheat</b>	<b>6,790.0</b>	<b>6,645.0</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>6,850.0</b>	<b>6,640.0</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>-23.6%</b>	<b>-16.3%</b>
Oats	670.0	455.0	77.4	635.0	340.0	65.0	76.1	-16.0%	-14.6%
Barley	3,200.0	2,820.0	67.3	3,400.0	2,815.0	60.6	64.4	-10.0%	-5.9%
Fall Rye	30.0	30.0	40.5	35.0	35.0	34.7	42.4	-14.3%	-18.2%
Flaxseed	115.0	115.0	30.0	115.0	115.0	29.3	29.1	-2.3%	0.7%
Canola	6,500.0	6,455.0	37.5	6,100.0	6,000.0	29.4	36.4	-21.6%	-19.2%
Dry Beans	55.0	53.0	45.8	45.0	44.0	41.3	37.8	-9.8%	9.3%
Fababeans	75.00	75.00	52.67	100.0	95.0	43.0	47.5	-18.4%	-9.5%
Dry Peas	1,200.0	1,165.0	41.7	1,445.0	1,430.0	31.8	39.6	-23.7%	-19.7%
Lentils	110.0	108.0	28.7	220.0	215.0	19.2	26.3	-33.2%	-27.0%
Mustard Seed	135.0	133.0	19.7	80.0	60.0	14.9	18.1	-24.4%	-17.6%
Sugar Beets	20.0	20.0	32.0	20.0	20.0	27.8	25.5	-13.1%	9.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,900.0</b>	<b>18,074.0</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>19,045.0</b>	<b>17,809.0</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>

Figure 1: Production of Selected Principal Field Crops, 2015, Alberta and Canada



Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding. 10-year average refers to 2005 to 2014.

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

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