

Production of durum wheat this year is well below the 44 million bushels harvested last year, and the major part of this reduction resulted from the much smaller acreage seeded (56% less than in 1957). About 85% of the crop will grade No. 2 C.W. and No. 3 C.W., and the wheat is vitreous, and high in bushel weight and protein content. Dough properties are very good, yellow pigment is high, and milling and macaroni-making qualities are excellent. The quality of the new durum crop appears to be consistently better, grade for grade, than current shipments moving forward.

The new barley crop is estimated at 237 million bushels, which is about 10% higher than in 1957. Early deliveries in the 1958-59 crop year show that 54% of the barley entered the malting grades, and it is expected that larger quantities of No. 1 and No. 2 C.W. Six Row will be available this year. Comparable results for the two crops show that malt extract, wort nitrogen, and enzymatic activity are essentially the same, but that bushel weight and kernel weight are higher this year.

The 1958 flax crop of 23 million bushels is one of the largest on record, and grade and bushel weight are both high. Oil content and protein content are a little higher this year than last year, but iodine value is a little lower. The rapeseed crop is estimated at 430 million pounds, and almost all of it is expected to go into the top grade. Oil content and protein content are much the same as last year's crop.

BULLETINS AND MAPS

Preliminary information on the quality of different grades of 1958 grain crops was published as protein maps and crop bulletins a month or so after harvesting was completed. As in previous years there were two protein maps (one preliminary and one final), two bulletins on wheat, one on barley, and one on flax and rapeseed. In addition to a wide distribution of these publications made by the Laboratory from its extensive mailing lists, large supplies of some of them were turned over to the Canadian Wheat Board for separate mailing. Two thousand copies of the bulletin on the quality of the new wheat crop were also sent to the Grain Division, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, for distribution to overseas buyers of Canadian wheat and flour by Canadian Trade Commissioners. Press releases preceded publications of the maps and bulletins, and much of the information reported was presented at the meeting of the Committee on Western Grain Standards held in Winnipeg on October 23.

Regular publication of the two series of quarterly bulletins, one on the quality of spring wheat cargoes and one on the quality of durum wheat cargoes, was continued throughout 1958. Some changes in the form of the bulletins and in methods of testing were introduced at the beginning of the 1958-59 crop year, and issues for the first quarter embodied these modifications. More data are now presented than formerly and comments on the quality of the grades exported have been shortened. These quarterly bulletins are among the most popular of the Laboratory's publications, and requests for additional copies have increased every year since they were issued.

SERVICE TO THE INSPECTION BRANCH

During the year, the Laboratory maintained close co-operation with the Inspection Branch by providing technical information and service required for grading and other problems. Comprehensive quality tests were made on the tentative Standard and Standard Export samples submitted for approval by the Committee on Western Grain Standards. Special tests were made on different types and classes of grain to provide information to assist in grading. For example, malting tests confirmed the claims of maltsters and brewers that peeled barley is low in germination, extract yield and enzymatic activity, and