

AIR MAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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27,529,100 Acres In Wheat: The area seeded to all wheat in Canada this year was estimated to be 27,529,100 acres, an increase of 14 per cent over last year.

The Bureau of Statistics, in preliminary estimates, also reported that 26,731,100 acres have been sown with spring wheat, almost all of which is grown in the Prairie Provinces.

Oat acreage is estimated at 11,327,900--one per cent higher than last year. Barley acreage is 6,049,300 or seven per cent below 1948. Flaxseed is considerably below last year and the 334 800 acres

Flaxseed is considerably below last year and the 334,800 acres seeded are only 17 per cent of the 1,966,500 acres in 1948.

Wheat acreage in the Prairie Provinces this year is estimated at 26,490,000, compared with 23,045,000 in 1948.

Manitoba has 3,167,000 acres compared with 2,397,000; Saskatchewan 15,737,000 as against 14,389,000; and Alberta 7,586,000 compared with 6,259,000.

Last year the acreage of all wheat was 24,105,900 or 3,423,200 below the acreage sown this year.

Spring wheat in 1948 was 3,483,700 acres less at 23,247,400. Barley acreage of 6,495,300 in 1948 was 446,000 acres less than

this year; oats amounted to 11,200,500 acres, 127,400 acres less than in 1949.

Western Crop Report: Good to excellent crop conditions have been generally maintained over most of Manitoba and in northern and eastern sections of Saskatchewan, although rains are again needed to promote further development. Good general rains in central Alberta, where the drought had been severe, have improved the prospects for feed, hay and pasture crops in that area. High temperatures and insufficient moisture caused further deterioration of crops in southern and central districts of Saskatchewan and in south-eastern Alberta, the Bureau of Statistics reports.

Hot, dry weather prevailed in Manitoba during the past week and rain would be welcome to bring crops along. Wheat and early seeded coarse grains, especially on summerfallow, are holding well, although premature ripening is showing up in the south-west. Aphids have damaged up to 100,000 acres of late-sown coarse grains in this section but elsewhere infestation has been spotty. Haying is well advanced and the crop is generally good.

Extremely high temperatures last week caused further deterioration of crops in central and southern districts of Saskatchewan. Scattered showers and more moderate temperatures maintained good to excellent prospects over most northern and eastern sections of the Province, where tip-burning and deterioration of stands on stubble land are only local in extent. Wheat is approximately 75 per cent headed and stands range from very short in drought areas to 30 inches elsewhere. Aphids are causing some damage to late crops along the Manitoba boundary.

Crop conditions over much of Alberta remain fair to poor.

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