

MANITOBA CROP REPORT,

47,345,664 Bushels of Grain.

Dairy Products Valued at \$409,455.26.
New Buildings Valued at \$1,469,740.

The information contained in this bulletin as to the actual yield of the various kinds of grain, and the conditions generally existing during harvest and fall, is compiled from the returns received from regular correspondents of the Department made under date of December 1.

The Province is divided into districts as follows: The North Western District comprises the municipalities of Shell River, Boulton, Russell, Silver Creek, Rossburn, Ellice, Shoal Lake, Strathclair, Harrison, Clan William, Archie, Minota, Oak River, Blanchard, Saskatchewan, Odanah and Lake Dauphin District.

The South Western.—Wallace, Woodworth, Daly, Elton, Cornwallis, Whitehead, Sifton, Pipestone, Glenwood, Oakland, Arthur, Winchester, Morton, Turtle Mountain, Riverside, Cameron and Whitewater.

The North Central.—Rosedale, Lansdowne, Westbourne, North Cypress, North Norfolk, Langford, Portage la Prairie, St. Francois Xavier, Woodlands, St. Laurent, Posen and Ochre River.

The South Central.—South Cypress, South Norfolk, Dufferin, Morris, Montcalm, Rhineland, Stanley, Pembina, Lorne, Louise, Argyle and West half of Macdonald.

The Eastern.—Gimli, Rockwood, St. Andrews, St. Clements, St. Pauls, Springfield, Kildonan, St. Boniface, Assiniboia, Tache, Richot, De Sula berry, Hanover, La Broquette, Franklin, Rosser and East half of Macdonald.

The following tables give a summary of the yields of the various crops of the province:—

WHEAT.

DISTRICT	Area in Crop. Acres.	Yield per Acre. Bushels.	Total yield. Bushels.
North Western	122,670	19.3	2,366,180
South Western	595,134	13.5	8,034,309
North Central	305,224	19.6	5,982,390
South Central.....	374,614	19.	7,117,666
Eastern	90,660	20.	1,813,200
Province.....	1,488,232	17.01	25,313,745

OATS.

DISTRICT	Area in Crop. Acres.	Yield per Acre. Bushels.	Total Yield. Bushels.
South Western	83,162	34.7	2,885,721
North Western	168,882	28.8	4,863,801
North Central	89,155	37.7	3,361,143
South Central.....	112,000	35.8	4,045,400
Eastern	67,625	35.5	2,152,187
Province.....	514,824	33.6	17,308,252

BARLEY.

DISTRICT	Area in Crop. Acres.	Yield per Acre. Bushels.	Total Yield. Bushels.
North Western	15,400	26.	400,400
South Western	32,454	22.5	730,215
North Central	31,302	28.	876,456
South Central.....	51,334	29.2	1,498,952
Eastern	27,568	28	771,904
Province.....	158,058	27.06	4,277,927

FLAX, RYE AND PEAS.

Flax.....	350,000	Bus.
Rye	63,860	"
Peas	31,880	"
Total grain crop of Province	47,345,664	bushels.

THE HARD WHEAT BELT

POTATOES.

DISTRICT	Area in Crop. Acres.	Yield per Acre. Bushels.	Total Yield. Bushels.
North Western	2,200	177	389,400
South Western	5,400	144	777,600
North Central.....	3,880	205	795,400
South Central.....	3,750	152	570,000
Eastern	4,561	158	720,638
Province.....	19,791	165	3,253,038

ROOTS.

DISTRICT	Area in Crop. Acres.	Yield per Acre. Bushels.	Total Yield. Bushels.
North Western	1,400	364	509,600
South Western	2,240	311	696,640
North Central	605	369	223,245
South Central.....	2,022	235	475,170
Eastern	2,181	260	567,060
Province.....	8,418	292	2,471,715

WHEAT.

In the August bulletin the estimated wheat yield was 25,913,155 bushels, that is about 600,000 bushels in excess of the actual yield now given. There is no doubt but that if the season for harvesting and threshing had been favorable, the actual yield would have considerably exceeded the yield estimated in August, for the conditions of the crop improved from 1st August until harvesting commenced. The unfavorable weather for stacking and threshing, so exceptional in this province, continued for a month, and in some parts of the province for six weeks. This was during the last ten days of September and nearly all of October. The wheat yield suffered loss in extra handling of stocks to dry the same, in taking down stacks that were damp, in discarding wet or damp sheaves, from tops of stacks and it is well-known that for a month or six weeks when but little progress was made in stacking or threshing, farmers fed hogs and poultry on wheat sheaves, as feed was scarce and the threshing season long over due.

Present returns indicate the wheat actually threshed for export, seed or feed. The damage to wheat on account of wet weather is variously estimated from 1 to 33 per cent. of the crop. The majority of reports from the North Western District indicate that there was but little damage, not exceeding 5 per cent. depreciation of the whole crop. Much of the grain in this district grades No. 1 hard. In the South Western, North Central and South Central districts, the damage is estimated at from 1 to 10 per cent, averaging 7 per cent. of the value of the crop. The Eastern district suffered the greatest damage. Reports estimate a depreciation in value of from 2 to 33 per cent., average 20 per cent. The Eastern district was delayed in threshing after seasonable weather set in on account of the land being soaked with water, so as to render moving of threshing machines almost impossible until ground was frozen; in other parts of the province this difficulty was not so great. Considering the season it is pleasing to note that a considerable quantity of wheat will grade No. 1 hard. Grain that was subjected to continued rain for four or five weeks in stock and some of the stacks, is generally reported as losing a grade, and in some cases two grades. The reports of damage done, current during the critical period when threshing and stacking were delayed for weeks, were based no doubt upon the uncertainty as to whether favorable weather would come so late in the year to enable farmers to clear up their summer's work before winter set in, but to the many erratic conditions of the weather during this exceptional season was added a few fine weeks in November, which enabled farmers to complete their threshing, with the result that a favorable showing is, after all, made for the year. It is hardly necessary to say that those who are acquainted with all the facts, will never for a moment attribute the failure to secure crop at the usual time to the indolence or want of enterprise on the part of farmers. The delay was solely on account of the unfavorable weather.

The movement of the wheat crop of Manitoba for the current year has been a month or six weeks later than usual. On the 30th November

5,433,170 bushels of wheat or its equivalent was exported, and about 4,000,000 bushels of wheat were held in interior elevators awaiting shipment.

OATS AND BARLEY.

As oats and barley are principally required for home consumption, and do not form a product from which the direct revenue of the farmer is considered in any degree comparable to that of wheat, there is not so much attention given to the yield and condition of these cereals. Oats and barley suffered depreciation on account of the wet weather in the same manner as wheat but there is an ample supply for the Province. The quality may be given as mixed. Some correspondents report grain "light and weedy;" many others report "fair," "good," and a few "plump and heavy."

POTATOES.

The potato crop is light this year. Farmers only calculate on raising sufficient for their own use, feeding any over supply to stock. In the Winnipeg district, where considerable quantities are raised to supply the Winnipeg market, much difficulty was experienced in gathering the crop on account of the continued rains during the time of digging.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle—The number of beef cattle exported from the Province this season was 12,525, of which number over 7,500 came from the North Western part of the Province, tributary to the line of the M & N. W. Railway. There were 9,500 stockers shipped to the North West Territories to be fattened and 20,000 shipped to the United States.

Hogs—The number of hogs shipped to British Columbia by the C.P.R. was 5,100. The number received by Winnipeg butchers and packers was 18,000. Total 23,100. Customs returns show that 1,919,784 pounds of pork were imported to Winnipeg from the United States to supply the demand of markets supplied from Winnipeg.

A few years ago farmers in Manitoba doubted the advisability of engaging extensively in the hog industry, believing that an over supply would soon glut the market. To prevent this undesirable condition of the market, Messrs. J. Y. Griffin & Co. enlarged their pork packing plant to a capacity of 500 hogs per day, and with cold storage facilities and refrigerator transportation recently adopted, prepared to ship products direct to the Old Country markets, developing trade as necessity required.

It is to be hoped that the farmers of Manitoba will in future avail themselves more extensively of the facilities now offered for trade in this product.

POULTRY DISPOSED OF BY FARMERS.

	Turkeys.	Geese.	Chickens.
North Western District.....	3,325	3,040	13,680
South Western District.....	10,530	2,970	35,100
North Central District	5,920	1,680	20,960
South Central District	6,000	3,840	25,920
Eastern District	5,680	2,480	32,000
Province.....	31,455	13,010	127,660

This table shows a marked decrease from the number disposed of by farmers last season. Reports indicate that many chickens and turkeys were destroyed this season by wolves. Some correspondents state that farmers use the poultry raised for their own tables. It is evident from the quantities of poultry now being brought into the Province from the East that this branch of farming is being neglected for the time being in Manitoba.

STOCK IN PROVINCE.

From the last revised assessment returns by municipal clerks, the following statement is compiled:

Number of Horses in the Province	101,836
" Cattle	227,097
" Sheep	32,053
" Swine	69,648

The number of horses increased 1,562 during

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