

Although rationing of certain commodities has been introduced, total food consumption in Canada has increased during the war. Canada's food contribution to the United Nations has been made possible by increased production.

The importance of Canadian exports to the United Kingdom is readily seen when it is realized that to Canada, Great Britain owes 65% of her bacon, 52% of her wheat, 35% of her canned fish, 25% of her cheese, and 10% of her eggs.

In addition to supplies sent to the United Nations and to the armed forces, the Red Cross has sent over 7,000,000 food parcels to prisoners of war.

Government food officials predict that if Canada is to meet greater demands for the urgent needs of the increasing number of armed forces and suffering people, her civilian population will have to face greater denials than have yet been experienced.

The character of production and the plan of farming have been greatly changed in many areas. In western Canada the raising of hogs has become as common as the raising of wheat; livestock is to be found on thousands of farms where it did not exist before the war; butter production has been stepped up tremendously; poultry has greatly increased and improved; special crops have been introduced, and even vegetable growing has been extended.

With the exception of wheat, pre-war surpluses have largely disappeared. The wheat stockpile is being steadily reduced, and difficulty is being experienced in establishing and maintaining even moderate stockpiles of other commodities deemed essential for war operations and the maintenance of populations in liberated countries.

Production of the principal agricultural products during wartime and the average for the five years 1935-39 were as follows:

	1935-39	1940	1941	1942	1943
.....(in thousands).....					
Total milk (lb.).....	15,601,021	16,283,078	16,752,823	17,428,662	17,516,000
Creamery butter (lb.)	254,773	264,724	285,848	284,305	312,309
Cheddar cheese (lb.)	119,384	144,685	131,212	202,749	162,344
Eggs (doz.).....	234,523	250,403	259,157	295,253	330,000
Pork (lb.).....	634,016	850,638	1,022,777	1,092,574	1,172,789
Beef (lb.).....	618,556	643,459	720,651	736,823	886,296
Wheat (bu.).....	312,399	540,190	314,825	556,121	293,660
Wheat stocks at July 31 (bu.).....	101,142	300,473	480,129	423,752	601,477
Feed grains (oats, barley, mixed) (bu.)	465,461	527,915	464,799	979,732	734,582
Flaxseed (bu.).....	1,508	3,049	5,788	14,992	17,911

Exports of food products to all countries have been as follows:

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Fruits.....	\$ 10,533,749	\$ 5,862,481	\$ 5,761,600	\$ 4,583,378	\$ 6,894,933
Vegetables.....	10,257,109	5,174,687	5,292,441	5,409,478	7,798,985
Grains and products.....	155,413,468	172,306,998	231,028,237	188,755,356	391,407,046
Fishery products.....	28,881,452	31,650,889	41,178,257	49,786,965	57,148,016
Meats.....	37,445,336	63,289,240	84,177,848	110,428,586	130,790,199
Milk & products.....	18,221,708	20,404,055	21,270,037	34,261,317	36,065,230
Eggs.....	310,697	2,771,063	4,227,534	9,785,939	15,063,890