

GROSS VALUE OF FIELD CROPS

The gross value of the principal field crops produced on Canadian farms in 1943 is estimated at \$1,104,065,000. Although somewhat below the high record of 1942, the 1943 values are relatively high in comparison with previous years. The decline from 1942 is attributed to the reduction in the volume of production, particularly in the case of wheat in the Prairie Provinces and all grains in Ontario and Quebec as a result of phenomenally late seeding and a wet summer. Better prices at the farm for most grains have operated to offset partly the decline in yields. A comparison of the annual value of field crop production since 1932 follows:

1932.....	452,526,900
1933.....	453,598,000
1934.....	549,079,600
1935.....	511,872,900
1936.....	612,300,400
1937.....	556,222,000
1938.....	550,069,000
1939.....	685,839,000
1940.....	676,682,000
1941.....	683,889,000
1942.....	1,179,073,000
1943.....	1,104,065,000

WHEAT

According to the third estimate released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on January 21, 1944, Canada's 1943 wheat crop totalled 293,700,000 bushels and was valued at \$298,200,000; the 1942 crop of 556,000,000 bushels was valued at \$385,000,000.

In 1943 Canadian farmers seeded about 17,500,000 acres to wheat. The objective set for 1944 called for the same acreage.

The Canadian wheat surplus at January 1, 1944, was estimated at 621,000,000 bushels, 132,000,000 less than at the same date in 1943.

It is estimated that the carry-over of wheat in July, 1944, will amount to about 330,000,000 bushels, compared to more than 600,000,000 bushels in July, 1943. Trade Minister MacKinnon, whose department is in charge of the marketing of wheat, commented in the House of Commons on April 27, 1944:

"Given adequate transportation, the crop year 1944-45 will see our wheat stocks reduced to a nominal figure."

Mr. MacKinnon disclosed in a press interview on April 22 that total utilization of Canadian grain in the crop year 1943-44 will probably be 1,100,000,000 bushels. Prospective disappearance of commercial stocks of all grains during 1943-44 is 635,000,000 bushels, twice the rate of disappearance during the first year of the war, and nearly 200,000,000 bushels greater than during the crop year 1942-43. When farm consumption of more than 500,000,000 bushels is added to this commercial disappearance, total utilization of grain in the present crop year will amount to more than 1,100,000,000, the minister said.

Total exports of wheat and flour in the 1943-44 crop year from August to December, 1943, totalled approximately 100,000,000 bushels, 38,000,000 bushels more than in the same period of the 1942-43 crop year.

Canadian exports of wheat and flour to all destinations during the five crop years 1938-43 totalled 1,017,624,000 bushels, and 1943-44 exports promise to be considerably higher than the average of those five years.