

The Grain Research Laboratory of the Board conducts surveys and publishes information each year on the protein content of the crop. It also conducts baking tests with flour milled from Canadian wheat and issues a report on the baking quality of the Prairie wheat crop. The reputation that Canadian grain has long enjoyed in world markets is due in large part to the rigid controls exercised by the Board.

Handling

Canadian wheat is moved in bulk from the time it is delivered by the producer until it reaches its destination at export ports or domestic mills. This is possible because Canadian wheat is carefully inspected and rigidly graded according to the standards set out in the Canada Grain Act. The hard spring wheat produced in Western Canada is normally harvested late in August or in September. The producer delivers his wheat, generally by truck, to a country elevator at the delivery station of his choice. There are about 5,000 country elevators at almost 2,000 delivery-points throughout the Prairies.

Wheat is loaded directly into boxcars from the country elevators for shipment to terminal elevators at the West Coast, the Lakehead and Port Churchill. In the 1965-66 crop year, 360 million bushels moved to Fort William-Port Arthur, 190 million moved to the Pacific Coast ports of Vancouver, New Westminster and Prince Rupert, and about 25 million bushels moved to Churchill.

Wheat moves directly overseas from the West Coast and Churchill, but is generally moved by lake freighters from Fort William-Port Arthur to eastern elevators at the export ports of Montreal, Sorel, Trois Rivières, Quebec and Baie Comeau on the St. Lawrence and Saint John and Halifax in the Atlantic Provinces. A relatively small quantity of wheat is also moved to the East by rail from the Georgian Bay elevators during the winter, when navigation on the Great Lakes is closed.

Storage

Canada's licensed grain storage facilities have a working capacity of almost 550 million bushels, which is about equal to the country's wheat production in an average year. The licensed capacities of the various groups of elevators in Canada are as follows:

| Crop Year          | Country Elevators | Interior                     |           | Pacific Coast Terminals | Churchill Terminal | Lakehead Terminals | Eastern Elevators | All Elevators |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|
|                    |                   | Terminals and Mill Elevators | Elevators |                         |                    |                    |                   |               |
| (Thousand bushels) |                   |                              |           |                         |                    |                    |                   |               |
| 1962-63            | 367,471           | 36,134                       |           | 24,846                  | 5,000              | 101,741            | 108,575           | 643,768       |
| 1963-64            | 368,775           | 36,838                       |           | 24,846                  | 5,000              | 106,421            | 119,585           | 660,466       |
| 1964-65            | 376,614           | 36,008                       |           | 24,846                  | 5,000              | 106,421            | 120,335           | 669,224       |
| 1965-66            | 381,334           | 35,843                       |           | 24,846                  | 5,000              | 106,321            | 122,335           | 675,680       |
| 1966-67            | 384,552           | 34,673                       |           | 24,846                  | 5,000              | 106,321            | 122,365           | 677,758       |

Note: The effective storage capacity during the operating season ranges between 65 and 80 per cent of licensed capacity.