

PRODUCTION

Cost of Grain Production.—In 1912 and again in 1914 inquiries were made by the Census and Statistics Office into the cost of grain-growing in Canada, and averages were compiled from the returns of over 1,000 correspondents of the cost per acre of growing wheat, oats, barley, flax and corn in the years 1911 and 1913. Table 22 shows per acre by provinces the itemized costs of production, the value and the profit for the year 1913, and Table 23 gives per acre the total cost, value of produce and profit, by provinces, for the year 1913 compared with 1911. Compared by provinces the largest profit from grain growing in 1913 was apparently made in Quebec; but it must be noted that comparatively little grain is sold off the farms in that province, and the value of cereals is largely dependent upon the dairying industry in connection with which they are chiefly grown. In Nova Scotia grain-growing is not the main agricultural feature, and the cost of the commercial fertilisers, though debited to the grain crop of the year, has doubtless an effect upon succeeding crops such as potatoes, turnips, etc. Another noteworthy point is the small profit shown in the three Northwest provinces, which is apparently due to low prices. This remark applies especially to Saskatchewan, where, moreover, in the case of the flax crop, a loss is shown of nearly \$1 per acre. In British Columbia, where the returns are high, the acreage affected is small, and the figures are based upon a smaller number of returns than in the case of the other provinces.¹

22.—Average cost of production, value and profit per acre of Wheat, Oats, Barley, Flax and Corn for husking, in Canada and the Provinces, 1913.

Items.	Fall wheat.	Spring wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Flax.	Corn for husking.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Canada—						
Preparation.....	3.77	3.34	3.17	3.10	3.20	4.53
Seed.....	1.66	1.63	1.16	1.18	.99	.78
Seeding.....	.61	.61	.62	.60	.56	1.27
Cultivation.....	.72	.53	.56	.53	.46	2.95
Harvesting.....	1.57	1.42	1.47	1.41	1.23	2.71
Threshing.....	2.05	2.36	2.55	2.34	2.73	3.22
Wear and tear of imple- ments.....	.35	.37	.37	.37	.36	.46
Rental value.....	3.07	2.64	2.68	2.63	2.60	3.10
Total.....	13.80	12.90	12.58	12.16	12.13	19.02
Value of Produce.....	20.94	17.15	15.00	16.00	13.31	30.27
Profit.....	7.14	4.25	2.42	3.84	1.18	11.25

¹Complete reports on the results of these inquiries were published in the Census and Statistics Monthly for March, 1912 (Vol. 5, No. 46, pp. 51-57), and for December, 1914 (Vol. 7, No. 76, pp. 299-306).