

The annual average areas and yields are also given for the five-year period 1918-1922 (1918-19 to 1922-23), and the areas and yields of 1924 (1924-25) are compared in percentages with those of the five-year periods.

*Wheat.*—For 45 countries the production of wheat in 1924 was 3,070,454,000 bushels from 219,698,000 acres, as compared with 3,454,534,000 bushels from 217,006,000 acres in 1923 and 2,995,730,000 bushels from 213,797,000 acres, the five-year average for the years 1918-1922 (1918-19 to 1922-23). As compared with 1923, the total area under wheat in the countries named showed in 1924 an increase of 2,692,000 acres, or 1.2 p.c., and the total production a decrease of 384,080,000 bushels, or 11.1 p.c. As compared with the average, the yield was 2.5 and the acreage 2.8 p.c. more.

*Rye.*—In 27 countries the production was 727,697,000 bushels from 43,057,000 acres in 1924, as against 935,115,000 bushels from 46,000,000 acres in 1923 and 813,783,000 bushels from 45,311,000 acres, the average for the five years 1918-1922. The area under rye in 1924 was 6.4 and the yield 22.9 p.c. less than in 1923. As compared with the five-year average, the area was 5 and the yield 10.6 p.c. less.

*Barley.*—In 43 countries the total yield in 1924 was 1,200,111,000 bushels from 57,637,000 acres, as compared with 1,318,986,000 bushels from 57,909,000 acres in 1923 and with 1,182,275,000 bushels from 55,398,000 acres, the five-year average. The area in 1924 is 0.5 p.c. and the yield 9 p.c. less than in 1923, whilst as compared with the average, the area is 4 p.c. and the yield is 1.5 p.c. more.

*Oats.*—In 39 countries the total production in 1924 was 3,475,647,000 bushels from 107,540,000 acres, as compared with 3,599,192,000 bushels from 105,277,000 acres in 1923 and with 3,185,116,000 bushels from 106,526,000 acres, the five-year average. The area is 2.1 p.c. more than in 1923 and the yield 4 p.c. less. As compared with the five-year average, the yield is more by 9.1 p.c. and the acreage is more by 1 p.c.

*Corn.*—In 24 countries the production was 3,309,046,000 bushels from 145,764,000 acres, as against 3,878,353,000 bushels from 143,207,000 acres in 1923 and 3,545,169,000 bushels from 138,201,000 acres, the five-year average. The area of 1924 is 1.8 p.c. more than that of 1923, but the yield is 14.7 p.c. less. As compared with the average, the area is 5.5 p.c. more and the yield 6.7 p.c. less.

*Potatoes.*—In 35 countries the total yield was 2,866,505,000 short cwt. from 29,819,000 acres, as compared with 2,613,045,000 cwt. from 29,780,000 acres in 1923 and 2,562,653,000 cwt. from 28,979,000 acres, the five-year average. The acreage was 0.1 p.c. and the yield 9.7 p.c. more than in 1923, and as compared with the five-year average, the acreage was 2.9 p.c. and the yield 11.9 p.c. more.

*Average Yields per Acre.*—Table 62 shows for the same countries as Table 61 the average yields per acre of cereals and of potatoes for the year 1924, as compared with the average for the five years 1918-1922 (1918-19 to 1922-23). For wheat (45 countries) the yield per acre is 14 bushels, which is exactly equal to the average; for rye (27 countries) the yield is 16.9 bushels, as against 18 bushels; for barley (43 countries) 20.8 and 21.3; for oats (39 countries) 32.3 and 29.9; for corn (24 countries) 22.7 and 25.7; and for potatoes (35 countries) 96.1 and 88.4 cwt. The highest average yields per acre in 1924 are:—for wheat, Denmark 39.4; for rye, Belgium 36.9; for barley, the Netherlands 56.8; for oats, Belgium 63.6; for corn, New Zealand 49.5; and for potatoes, Belgium 161. In these comparisons the size of the country should be considered, as the smaller European countries are more intensively cultivated, and the average yields per acre are larger in consequence.