

### Subsection 3.—Acreages, Yields and Values of Field Crops

In framing agricultural policy for 1944, an effort was made to maintain the acreage devoted to coarse grains and to summerfallow and, therefore, to keep wheat acreage down to a level approaching that reached in 1943. Canadian farmers did not accept this recommendation and the acreage planted to wheat expanded by more than 6,000,000 acres. As a result, the areas devoted to the production of oats and barley each declined by over a million acres. Payments which had been made under the Wheat Acreage Reduction Act in 1943 for the purpose of encouraging farmers to shift wheat acreage to coarse grains and summerfallow were discontinued.

Generous summer rainfall in most areas made possible the realization of above-average yields. The wheat crop of 435,500,000 bushels ranks fourth in volume with the six crops harvested during the present war period. The increased average yield of oats proved sufficient to offset the decreased acreage and the crop slightly exceeded that of 1943. Although barley yields were on an average about 1 bushel higher than in 1943 this was not sufficient to overcome the decrease in acreage. A substantially smaller area of 1,300,000 acres was seeded to flax in 1944. This compared with a seeded area of 2,900,000 acres in 1943 and a recommended acreage for 1944 of 2,800,000 acres. This contraction in the production of flaxseed has coincided with a correspondingly small crop in the United States, the combined result of which has been a very tight supply position for this important oilseed in North America. Fortunately the area summerfallowed during the summer of 1944 was maintained at the fairly satisfactory level of 19,400,000 acres.

An encouraging feature of the 1944 crop season was the greatly improved production of wheat and coarse grains in Ontario. This Province experienced a very poor season in 1943 and the deficiency in feed supplies had to be made up by shipments from the west. Some loss of yield and grade occurred in the Province of Manitoba, however, as a result of flooding during the late summer.

The total gross farm value of all the field crops produced on 62,732,550 acres in 1944 was \$1,288,058,000 compared with \$1,134,399,000, the estimated value of crops produced on 59,705,500 acres in 1943.

### 8.—Acreages and Values of Field Crops in Canada, by Provinces, 1939-44

NOTE.—For earlier figures, see Statistical Summary at the beginning of this volume.

Province	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres
<b>Acreages—</b>						
Prince Edward Island.....	479,300	505,500	465,900	475,600	472,000	467,000
Nova Scotia.....	551,900	556,700	509,900	519,600	536,200	555,100
New Brunswick.....	901,600	908,000	871,200	932,700	984,500	992,700
Quebec.....	6,142,100	6,088,100	6,380,200	6,599,900	6,750,700	6,802,900
Ontario.....	9,084,500	9,158,700	9,094,900	9,220,000	7,958,100	8,535,700
Manitoba.....	6,863,300	6,999,900	6,413,100	6,708,000	6,804,100	7,284,300
Saskatchewan.....	20,749,200	21,919,700	19,650,000	22,182,300	22,450,200	23,535,200
Alberta.....	13,942,600	14,238,800	12,885,600	13,625,800	13,214,800	13,991,250
British Columbia.....	510,100	520,500	517,600	545,300	534,900	568,400
<b>Totals, Acreages.....</b>	<b>59,224,600</b>	<b>60,895,900</b>	<b>56,788,400</b>	<b>60,809,200</b>	<b>59,705,500</b>	<b>62,732,550</b>