

11.—Index Numbers of Physical Volume of Agricultural Production, by Province, 1948-57

(1935-39=100. Exclusive of Newfoundland)

NOTE.—For a description of this index, methods and coverage, see DBS *Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics* for April-June, 1952. Figures for 1935-44 are given in the 1950 Year Book, p. 420, and for 1945-47 in the 1956 edition, p. 423.

Year	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total
1948.....	133.3	91.8	124.3	121.6	119.0	143.8	131.8	118.5	143.7	125.1
1949.....	158.8	105.1	145.8	126.4	124.9	125.7	128.1	98.1	148.7	122.3
1950.....	148.2	105.2	140.2	136.3	128.1	137.8	168.3	121.8	134.2	137.8
1951.....	119.5	87.7	110.4	139.0	128.6	146.4	218.1	157.1	126.9	154.7
1952.....	142.3	80.6	109.4	124.7	119.6	164.6	267.4	174.8	133.3	166.2
1953.....	142.8	80.6	121.6	132.9	129.5	131.3	237.5	158.6	136.3	157.9
1954.....	150.3	88.7	114.1	129.8	128.6	102.1	108.8	119.4	131.4	119.5
1955.....	150.0	93.3	135.9	143.8	128.6	127.3	210.8	141.2	131.2	150.2
1956.....	140.1	95.4	127.9	139.0	135.2	172.0	252.1	168.8	127.7	169.2
1957.....	156.1	93.1	123.3	133.9	131.3	125.4	140.7	118.2	144.5	130.5

Subsection 4.—Field Crops

Following the excellent growing season in 1956, prairie farmers experienced drought conditions in 1957. Saskatchewan, in particular, and Alberta received only scattered rains through most of the growing period and as a result crop production was well below the average of recent years. The Maritimes also suffered from dry conditions early in the season, although August and September rains improved the situation. In contrast, growing conditions were generally excellent during most of the summer in Quebec and Ontario. Conditions for crop production were excellent also in British Columbia. However, in the Peace River area of British Columbia and Alberta, heavy rains held up the harvest and a large amount of grain which remained in the fields over the winter could not be recovered. Hail losses in 1957 were extensive as many moderate to severe storms swept across the prairies. Of the 21 crops for which estimates were made in 1957, production was greater than the previous year for fall rye, corn for grain, soybeans, potatoes, rapeseed, sunflower seed, fodder corn and sugar beets. New production records were established for soybeans and rapeseed.

Marketings of the five major grains (wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed) totalled 585,445,000 bu. in 1956-57 and 575,570,000 bu. in the 1957-58 crop year. These amounts were well below the record 1952-53 year when marketings reached 844,855,000 bu. but compared favourably with the ten-year (1946-47—1955-56) average of 571,076,000 bu. Combined exports of the same grains (including wheat flour, rye flour, rolled oats and oatmeal, malt, and pot and pearl barley) amounted to 389,045,000 bu. in 1956-57 and 441,170,000 bu. in 1957-58. Exports during the period were well above the ten-year average of 370,970,000 bu. Stocks of grain continued to mount in 1956-57 but, because of the small crop in 1957 and relatively high exports, disappearance during 1957-58 amounted to more than production and, as a result, stocks of grain were drawn down.

The gross value of production of principal field crops on Canadian farms in 1956, based on average prices received by farmers throughout the 1956-57 crop year, was estimated at \$1,870,444,000. On the basis of partial price returns and reflecting reduced crop production, the 1957 value decreased sharply to \$1,342,178,000. These amounts were well below the record-breaking year of 1952 when the total reached \$2,306,397,000 and the 1951 total of \$2,120,301,000. Estimates of the value of the 1957 crops, based on average prices received by farmers during the complete crop year will be published in one of the regularly scheduled DBS crop reports and in the *Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics*.