

Stocks of principal field crops, July 31, 2012

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As of July 31, total stocks of wheat, barley and canola were down from the same date in 2011, while total stocks of oats increased.

Total wheat stocks decreased 18.1% to 5.9 million tonnes, mostly the result of a decline of 890 500 tonnes (-33.3%) in on-farm stocks. The largest decline in wheat stocks occurred in Alberta, where on-farm stocks fell from 1.4 million tonnes in 2011 to 730 000 tonnes in 2012. At the same time, commercial stocks declined by 9.1%, or 405 900 tonnes.

For canola, total stocks fell 64.1% to 787 700 tonnes, as of July 31. This was mostly the result of on-farm stocks, which were down 81.0% to 225 000 tonnes, the lowest level since 2004, when they hit 220 000 tonnes.

Total stocks of barley amounted to 1.2 million tonnes as of July 31, down by 219 200 tonnes or 15.2% from July 2011. On-farm barley stocks fell in all Prairie provinces, but the decline was most pronounced in Saskatchewan. Commercial stocks decreased 1.7% to 289 900 tonnes.

Total stocks of oats stood at 816 500 tonnes, up 6.2% from 2011. Commercial stocks increased 28.3% to 258 000 tonnes, while on-farm stocks fell 1.6% to 558 500 tonnes.

Note to readers

Data on stocks of principal field crops come from the July Farm Survey of about 15,000 Canadian farmers conducted from July 25 to August 1. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grain, oilseeds and special crops in on-farm storage. Data on commercial stocks of western major crops originate from the Canadian Grain Commission.

Commercial stocks of corn and soybeans are estimated by a Statistics Canada survey of grain elevators in Eastern Canada. These data will be available on October 4 with the "September Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops" release. Data on commercial stocks of special crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of special crops.

National supply-disposition tables for the major grains and special crops are included in this report.

Table 1
Total stocks of principal field crops at July 31

	2010	2011	2012	2010 to 2011	2011 to 2012
	thousands of tonnes			% change	
Total wheat	7 829	7 176	5 879	-8.3	-18.1
Wheat excluding durum	5 121	5 592	4 442	9.2	-20.6
Durum wheat	2 708	1 583	1 438	-41.5	-9.2
Barley	2 583	1 441	1 222	-44.2	-15.2
Oats	1 170	769	817	-34.3	6.2
Canola	2 688	2 198	788	-18.2	-64.1
Lentils	38	750	788	1,873.7	5.1
Dry field peas	900	535	276	-40.6	-48.4
Flaxseed	289	194	141	-32.9	-27.3
Mustard seed	80	125	88	56.3	-29.6
Rye	139	51	20	-63.3	-60.8
Canary seed	69	30	17	-56.5	-43.3
Chick peas	20	22	12	10.0	-45.5
Sunflower seed	42	29	6	-31.0	-79.3



Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 001-0010, 001-0017 and 001-0040 to 001-0043.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3401, 3403, 3443, 3464 and 3476.

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series*: "Stocks of principal field crops at July 31, 2012", Vol. 91, no. 6 (22-002-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. However, the *Field Crop Reporting Series* (22-002-X) will be discontinued after the current release. Data usually contained in these publications will continue to be available without charge on CANSIM.

September estimates of production of principal field crops will be released on October 4.

For more information, contact Statistic's Canada National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yves Gilbert (613-951-2577; yves.gilbert@statcan.gc.ca) or Heather Keehn (613-951-0730; heather.keehn@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.