

Stocks of principal field crops, December 31, 2017

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As of December 31, 2017, total stocks of canola, corn for grain, soybeans, oats, lentils and dry peas were up compared with the same date a year earlier. However, total stocks for wheat and barley were down at the end of 2017.

Canola stocks reached a record high 14.1 million tonnes as of December 31, 2017, up 5.7% from the same date in 2016. The gain in stocks reflects record canola production in 2017, at 21.3 million tonnes. On-farm stock levels rose 8.6% to 12.5 million tonnes. Meanwhile, commercial stocks fell 12.4% to 1.6 million tonnes.

Total stocks of corn for grain totalled 12.2 million tonnes on December 31, 2017, up 4.7% from the same date one year earlier. Both on-farm stocks (+4.4% to 9.2 million tonnes) and commercial stocks (+5.8% to 3.0 million tonnes) contributed to the increase.

Total soybean stocks increased 29.2% from December 31, 2016, to a record high 4.3 million tonnes, the result of a 58.8% rise in on-farm stocks. Meanwhile, commercial stock levels fell 4.0%, to 1.5 million tonnes. This overall increase was due to record soybean production in 2017, at 7.7 million tonnes.

Total stocks of oats increased 13.7% to 2.9 million tonnes, as of December 31, 2017. On-farm stocks totalled 2.6 million tonnes, up 15.0% from the same date in 2016. Commercial stock levels were stable at 211 000 tonnes.

Total stocks for lentils increased 16.3% from December 31, 2016, to 2.0 million tonnes. On-farm stock levels rose 24.6% to 1.9 million tonnes, while commercial stocks decreased 44.7% to 114 000 tonnes. Meanwhile, stocks of dry peas rose 3.9% to 2.8 million tonnes. The increases in stocks for lentils and peas may be due to recent rises in import tariffs introduced by India, as preliminary data on pea and lentil exports seem to show a substantial decrease over the same period (CANSIM table 001-0041).

Total wheat stocks decreased 2.2% from December 31, 2016, to 23.6 million tonnes. Stocks held on farm declined 5.1% to 19.3 million tonnes. However, commercial stocks were up 13.5%, to 4.2 million tonnes.

Barley stocks decreased 6.1% from December 31, 2016, to 6.1 million tonnes. The decline was due to an 8.0% decrease in on-farm stocks to 5.8 million tonnes. Meanwhile, commercial stocks rose 49.3% to 314 700 tonnes.



Note to readers

The December Farm Survey of stocks of principal field crops covered 9,064 Canadian farms and was conducted from January 3 to 15, 2018. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grain, oilseeds and special crops in on-farm storage. The December Farm Survey also has two questions pertaining to permanent on-farm storage capacity and the percentage of grain stored on farm using temporary storage methods.

Data on commercial stocks of western major crops originate from the Canadian Grain Commission. Data on commercial stocks of special crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of special crops. Data on commercial stocks of corn and soybeans are based on data from Statistics Canada's survey of grain elevators in Eastern Canada.

National supply-disposition data for the major grains and special crops are published jointly with the current release on stock levels and are available in CANSIM tables 001-0041 to 001-0043.

Stocks data are subject to revisions during the two years following their initial publication.

Intercensal revisions: Following the release of 2016 Census of Agriculture data in May 2017, intercensal revisions to survey data for years 2012 to 2016 are now reflected in CANSIM (areas, yields and production in CANSIM 001-0017 and 001-0072, and stocks in CANSIM 001-0040).

Release calendar: The dates for upcoming releases from the Field Crop Reporting Series are available [online](#).

Table 1
Total stocks of principal field crops at December 31

	December 2015	December 2016	December 2017	December 2015 to December 2016	December 2016 to December 2017
	thousands of tonnes			% change	
Total wheat	21 431	24 095	23 555	12.4	-2.2
Durum wheat	4 231	6 140	4 825	45.1	-21.4
Wheat excluding durum	17 200	17 955	18 730	4.4	4.3
Barley	5 686	6 462	6 068	13.6	-6.1
Canola	13 507	13 384	14 146	-0.9	5.7
Corn for grain	11 314	11 650	12 202	3.0	4.7
Dry field peas	2 373	2 705	2 811	14.0	3.9
Flaxseed	756	588	522	-22.2	-11.2
Lentils	1 186	1 719	1 999	44.9	16.3
Oats	2 504	2 509	2 852	0.2	13.7
Rye	144	294	309	104.2	5.1
Soybeans	3 580	3 333	4 305	-6.9	29.2

Note(s):

The estimates in this table have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

Wheat types may not add up to total wheat as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM table [001-0040](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [001-0017](#), [001-0040 to 001-0043](#) and [001-0072](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers [3401](#), [3403](#), [3404](#), [3443](#), [3464](#), [3476](#), [5046](#), [5153](#) and [5223](#).

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