



CANADA: PULSE AND SPECIAL CROPS OUTLOOK

April 25, 2008

For 2008-09, total area seeded to pulse and special crops in Canada is expected to decrease by 3% from 2007-08, as lower areas for lentils, dry beans, chickpeas, canary seed and sunflower seed are partly offset by higher areas for dry peas and mustard seed. Statistics Canada's (STC) seeding intentions survey, conducted during March 20-31 and released on April 21, provided estimates for most pulse and special crops by province, but in some cases the area seeded has been forecast by AAFC. The actual seeded areas may differ from the intentions due to changes in the market outlook and expected prices, producer reaction to the STC seeding intentions report and soil moisture conditions at the time of seeding. To date, only a small amount of seeding has been completed. It is assumed that precipitation will be normal for the growing and harvest periods, and that the abandonment rate and quality will be normal. Trend yields are assumed for both western and eastern Canada.

Total production in Canada is forecast to decrease marginally to 4.5 million tonnes (Mt). Total supply is expected to decrease slightly due to lower carry-in stocks and production. Although exports are forecast to decrease, domestic use is expected to remain unchanged. Carry-out stocks are expected to decrease to historically low levels for most crops. Average prices, over all types, grades and markets, are forecast to increase for lentils, dry beans, mustard seed, canary seed, sunflower seed and chickpeas and decrease for dry peas. The main factors to watch are weather conditions, especially precipitation, during the seeding, growing and harvest periods in Canada. Other factors to watch are ocean shipping rates and growing conditions in major producing regions, especially India, United States, European Union, Turkey and Australia.

DRY PEAS

For 2008-09, production is forecast to rise to a record 3.1 Mt, due to record seeded area and higher yields. Supply is expected to increase marginally, as lower carry-in stocks partially offset the increase in production. The increase in production is expected to be for the yellow type, while production of green and other types remains stable. World supply is forecast to increase slightly, to over 10 Mt, due to expected increases in Canada, the EU and the FSU. Canadian exports and domestic use are expected to increase marginally, in line with the larger supply. Carry-out stocks are forecast to rise. The average price, over all types, grades and markets, is expected to be the slightly lower in 2008-09, due to the expected increase in world and Canadian supply.

LENTILS

For 2008-09, production is forecast to decrease due to the marginal decrease in seeded area and lower yields. Production is expected to remain unchanged for large and medium lentils. A decrease in small green lentils, with an increase for red lentils is also expected. Supply is forecast to decrease, as lower carry-in stocks compound the fall in production. Canadian exports are expected to decrease due to the lower supply and carry-out stocks are forecast to remain low. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to increase from 2007-08 due to the lower world and Canadian supply.

DRY BEANS

For 2008-09, production and supply are forecast to decrease because of the 24% lower seeded area. Production is expected to decrease for all major classes of dry beans; white pea, pinto, black, dark and light red kidney, cranberry, Great Northern, pink and small red. In the US, production is forecast to decrease by 12% to below 1.0 Mt, largely to due lower seeded area in North Dakota. Canadian exports are forecast to decrease due to the lower supply. Carry-out stocks are expected to decrease. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to increase because of the lower US and Canadian supply.

CHICKPEAS

For 2008-09, production and supply are forecast to fall sharply because of the 60% decrease in seeded area. Production is expected to decrease for all types; desi, large kabuli and small kabuli. Canadian exports are forecast to decrease because of the lower supply and carry-out stocks are expected to fall. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to rise due to the lower world and Canadian supply.

MUSTARD SEED

For 2008-09, production is forecast to increase because of the 15% higher seeded area and higher yields, while supply decreases as lower carry-in stocks more than offset the increase in production. Exports are expected to fall slightly due to limited supply. Carry-out stocks are forecast to remain unchanged. The average price, over all types and grades, is expected to increase due to the

lower supply and much higher contract prices.

CANARY SEED

For 2008-09, production is forecast to decrease marginally because of the marginally lower seeded area, while supply falls as lower carry-in stocks combine with the decrease in production. Canadian exports are expected to remain unchanged. As a result, carry-out stocks are forecast to fall further. The average price is forecast to increase because of the lower supply.

SUNFLOWER SEED

For 2008-09, production and supply are forecast to decrease due to lower seeded area, yields and carry-in stocks. Production is forecast to decrease for both the confectionery and oilseed types. In the US, production is expected to decrease by 4% to 1.1 Mt for the oilseed type and by 7% to 0.2 Mt for the confectionery type. Canadian exports are forecast to decrease because of the lower supply. Carry-out stocks are expected to decrease. The average price, over both types and all grades, is forecast to rise because of the lower US and Canadian supply.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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CANADA: PULSES AND SPECIAL CROPS SUPPLY AND DISPOSITION

April 25, 2008

Grain and Crop Year (a)	Area Seeded thousand ha	Area Harvested thousand ha	Yield t/ha	Production	Imports (b)	Total Supply	Exports (b)	Total		Stocks-to- Use Ratio %	Average Price (e) \$/t
								Domestic Use (d)	Carry-out Stocks		
Dry Peas											
2004-2005	1,283	1,244	2.49	3,098	57	3,360	1,853	912	595	22	135
2005-2006	1,303	1,267	2.36	2,994	76	3,665	2,567	658	440	14	120
2006-2007	1,261	1,231	2.05	2,520	60	3,020	1,969	846	205	7	180
2007-2008f	1,469	1,443	2.03	2,935	50	3,190	2,250	790	150	5	285-315
2008-2009f	1,532	1,500	2.07	3,100	50	3,300	2,300	800	200	6	270-300
Lentils											
2004-2005	738	714	1.28	916	10	964	451	268	245	34	310
2005-2006	803	785	1.48	1,164	8	1,417	671	271	475	50	230
2006-2007	516	504	1.25	630	13	1,118	852	127	139	14	310
2007-2008f	540	534	1.26	674	10	823	650	118	55	7	555-585
2008-2009f	538	522	1.25	650	10	715	560	105	50	8	560-590
Dry Beans											
2004-2005	160	123	1.77	218	28	311	278	28	5	2	650
2005-2006	192	172	1.85	318	39	362	284	48	30	9	495
2006-2007	178	176	2.12	373	41	444	349	55	40	10	520
2007-2008f	153	152	1.82	277	40	357	290	47	20	6	685-715
2008-2009f	116	115	1.91	220	40	280	220	45	15	6	815-845
Chickpeas											
2004-2005	47	39	1.31	51	4	133	47	39	47	55	385
2005-2006	79	73	1.42	104	7	158	64	81	13	9	490
2006-2007	129	128	1.27	163	5	181	115	56	10	6	550
2007-2008f	174	174	1.29	225	5	240	110	55	75	45	525-555
2008-2009f	71	69	1.30	90	5	170	105	55	10	6	550-580
Mustard Seed											
2004-2005	299	285	1.01	287	1	380	119	67	194	104	295
2005-2006	194	188	0.98	184	0	378	133	55	190	101	265
2006-2007	134	130	0.83	108	1	299	153	55	91	44	380
2007-2008f	176	176	0.65	114	0	205	140	50	15	8	675-705
2008-2009f	202	196	0.84	165	0	180	115	50	15	9	825-855
Canary Seed											
2004-2005	348	318	0.95	301	0	368	163	37	168	84	230
2005-2006	184	182	1.25	227	0	395	185	20	190	93	195
2006-2007	136	131	1.02	133	0	323	178	24	121	60	335
2007-2008f	178	174	0.93	162	0	283	180	23	80	39	535-565
2008-2009f	172	165	0.97	160	0	240	180	25	35	17	560-590
Sunflower Seed											
2004-2005	81	55	0.95	52	35	112	32	65	15	15	490
2005-2006	87	71	1.18	84	26	125	46	52	27	28	345
2006-2007	77	77	2.04	157	12	196	121	52	23	13	395
2007-2008f	81	79	1.58	125	15	163	90	53	20	14	540-570
2008-2009f	65	62	1.53	95	15	130	70	50	10	8	610-640
Buckwheat*											
2004-2005	6	4	0.50	2	1	5	4	1	0	0	355
2005-2006	4	4	1.25	5	1	6	4	2	0	0	355
2006-2007	7	7	1.00	7	1	8	4	3	1	14	355
2007-2008f	3	3	1.00	3	1	5	4	1	0	0	375-405
2008-2009**											
Total Pulses and Special Crops (c)											
2004-2005	2,962	2,782	1.77	4,925	136	5,633	2,947	1,417	1,269		
2005-2006	2,846	2,742	1.85	5,080	157	6,506	3,954	1,187	1,365		
2006-2007	2,438	2,384	1.72	4,091	133	5,589	3,741	1,218	630		
2007-2008f	2,774	2,735	1.65	4,515	121	5,266	3,714	1,137	415		
2008-2009f***	2,696	2,629	1.70	4,480	120	5,015	3,550	1,130	335		

(a) August-July crop year.

(b) Excludes products.

(c) Includes Pulses (dry peas, lentils, dry beans, chick peas) and Special Crops (mustard seed, canary seed, sunflower seed, buckwheat)

(d) Includes food, feed, seed, waste and dockage. Total domestic use is calculated residually.

(e) Producer price, FOB plant. Average over all types, grades and markets.

f: forecast, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, April 25, 2008

* For 2004-2005 to 2007-2008, area and production estimates are only for Manitoba, the main producing province.

** For 2008-2009, it is not possible to do a forecast for buckwheat because the area has decreased to a very low level.

*** Excludes buckwheat.

Source: Statistics Canada and industry consultations.