



CANADA: SPECIAL CROPS OUTLOOK

JANUARY 8, 2002

For 2001-2002, total production of special crops in Canada decreased by 23% to 3.8 million tonnes (Mt), largely because of drought in most of Saskatchewan and Alberta and insufficient moisture in Ontario. Despite lower exports and domestic use, carry-out stocks are expected to fall sharply. Average prices, compared to 2000-01, are, in general, forecast to increase.

For 2002-2003, total area seeded to special crops in Canada is forecast to increase by 8% because net returns for most special crops are expected to be better than for competing crops. It is assumed that precipitation will be normal for the rest of the winter, and spring and summer. However, for Alberta and Saskatchewan, due to the current dry conditions, yields are forecast to be below trend but significantly higher than in 2001-02. For Manitoba and Eastern Canada, trend yields are assumed. In general, it has been assumed that an increased portion of the area seeded will be harvested. Total Canadian production is forecast to increase by about 40% to 5.36 Mt. Exports, domestic use and carry-out stocks are forecast to increase in line with the higher supplies. In general, average prices, compared to 2001-02, are forecast to decrease but, due to extremely low carry-in stocks for most special crops, prices are expected to be very sensitive to any production problems. The main factor to watch will be precipitation during the rest of the winter and, especially, during the spring in the Prairie provinces. If the dry conditions persist in Saskatchewan and Alberta, the seeded area for small seed crops, mustard seed and canary seed, could be lower than forecast, while the area for large seed crops, dry peas, lentils and chick peas could be higher.

DRY PEAS

For 2001-2002, due to lower production and total supply, Canadian exports and domestic use are forecast to decrease. The average price is forecast to increase by about 25% as carry-out stocks decrease to a very low level.

For 2002-2003, the area seeded is forecast to increase by about 5%. Production and total supply are forecast to increase significantly. Total world supply is expected to increase by 9% to 11.4 Mt because of higher production in Canada and the EU, but this is expected to be mostly offset by increased use. Despite increased exports, carry-out stocks in Canada are forecast to increase. The average price, over all types, grades and markets, is forecast to decrease by about 15%.

LENTILS

For 2001-2002, due to higher production in the Middle East, Canadian exports are forecast to decrease. Carry-out stocks are forecast to fall and the average price is forecast to increase by about 5%.

For 2002-2003, the seeded area is forecast to fall by 10%. Production is forecast to increase significantly, but total supply is expected to increase by only 9% because of lower carry-in stocks. Total world supply is forecast to increase slightly, due to higher Canadian production. Canadian exports are expected to increase, as Canada's share of world supply increases. Carry-out stocks are forecast to increase slightly. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to decrease slightly.

DRY BEANS

For 2001-2002, production and total supply decreased in Canada and the US. Canadian exports are forecast to increase because of lower world supply of the classes of dry beans produced in Canada. Carry-out stocks are expected to decrease to a very low level and the average price is forecast to rise by about 40%.

For 2002-2003, area seeded is forecast to increase by 25% and production is forecast

to increase by a third. Total supply is expected to increase by only 14% due to lower carry-in stocks. Production and total supply are also forecast to increase in the US. Canadian exports are forecast to increase due to the higher supply and expected strong demand. Carry-out stocks are expected to remain low, although slightly higher than in 2001-02. The average price, over all classes and grades, is forecast to decrease by about 10%.

CHICK PEAS

For 2001-2002, production and total supply increased. Canadian exports are forecast to increase because of higher Canadian supply and strong world demand. Carry-out stocks are forecast to increase. The average price is forecast to decrease by about 5%.

For 2002-2003, the area seeded is forecast to remain stable, with some shift in production to the desi type as the price of the kabuli type has decreased significantly. Production and total supply is forecast to increase due to higher expected yields. Total world supply is expected to increase slightly to 7.7 Mt. Canadian exports are forecast to increase due to an increase in Canada's share of world supply. Carry-out stocks are expected to increase. The average price, over all types, grades and sizes, is forecast to decrease slightly.

MUSTARD SEED

For 2001-2002, due to lower production and total supply, exports are forecast to decrease. Carry-out stocks are expected to decrease to a very low level and the average price is forecast to increase by about 85%. For 2002-2003, area seeded and production are forecast to increase significantly with the largest increase for the yellow and brown types. However, total supply is forecast to increase by only 19% due to sharply lower carry-in stocks. Although exports are expected to rise, carry-out stocks are also forecast to increase. The average price, over all types and grades, is expected to decrease by about 20%.

CANARY SEED

For 2001-2002, due to lower production and total supply, Canadian exports are forecast to decrease. Carry-out stocks are expected to decrease to a very low level. The average price is forecast to rise by about 140%.

For 2002-2003, area seeded and production are forecast to increase sharply. However, total supply is forecast to increase by only 33% due to lower carry-in stocks. Total world supply is forecast to increase by 30% to 281,000 t. Canadian exports are expected to increase in line with the higher supply. Carry-out stocks are forecast to increase and the average price is forecast to decrease by about 40%.

SUNFLOWER SEED

For 2001-2002, due to lower production and total supply, Canadian exports and domestic use are expected to decrease. Carry-out stocks are forecast to decrease to a very low level and the average price is forecast to increase by about 5%.

For 2002-2003, area seeded and production are forecast to increase significantly. However, total supply is forecast to decrease slightly, due to lower carry-in stocks. Total world supply is expected to increase slightly due to higher production of the oilseed type. Canadian exports are expected to decrease, while domestic use remains stable. Carry-out stocks are forecast to remain very low. The average price, over both types, is forecast to increase slightly because of stronger expected prices for the confectionary type.

BUCKWHEAT

For 2001-2002, total supply decreased due to lower carry-in stocks. The average price over all grades and markets is forecast to increase slightly due to stronger demand. For 2002-2003, production is forecast to rise due to higher seeded area. The average price is forecast to be similar to 2001-02.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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CANADA: SUPPLY AND DISPOSITION FOR SPECIAL CROPS

JANUARY 8, 2002

Grain and Crop Year (a)	Harvested		Production	Imports	Total	Exports	Total	Ending	Average Price (e) \$/t
	Area 000 ha	Yield t/ha		(b)	Supply	(b)	Domestic Use (d)	Stocks	
Dry Peas									
1998-1999	1,078	2.17	2,337	10	2,682	1,705	602	375	135
1999-2000	835	2.70	2,252	12	2,639	1,417	822	400	135
2000-2001	1,220	2.35	2,864	12	3,276	2,191	890	195	138
2001-2002 f	1,394	1.58	2,196	10	2,401	1,500	851	50	165-185
2002-2003 f	1,500	2.05	3,080	10	3,140	2,000	940	200	135-165
Lentils									
1998-1999	372	1.29	480	7	552	372	120	60	381
1999-2000	497	1.46	724	10	794	503	211	80	380
2000-2001	688	1.33	914	5	999	550	243	206	295
2001-2002 f	691	0.85	585	5	796	530	171	95	300-320
2002-2003 f	650	1.18	770	5	870	550	210	110	285-315
Dry Beans									
1998-1999	96	1.98	189	69	273	193	55	25	655
1999-2000	154	1.91	294	41	360	260	60	40	500
2000-2001	165	1.62	268	40	348	240	63	45	465
2001-2002 f	153	1.67	255	20	320	250	65	5	650-670
2002-2003 f	200	1.73	345	20	370	280	75	15	595-625
Chick Peas									
1998-1999	40	1.33	53	2	56	14	37	5	493
1999-2000	139	1.42	197	5	207	56	136	15	390
2000-2001	283	1.37	388	5	408	190	193	25	410
2001-2002 f	476	0.98	465	5	495	270	185	40	380-400
2002-2003 f	480	1.23	590	5	635	350	220	65	360-390
Mustard Seed									
1998-1999	279	0.86	239	1	288	162	76	50	350
1999-2000	273	1.12	306	1	357	170	72	115	285
2000-2001	208	0.97	202	1	318	155	63	100	280
2001-2002 f	132	0.67	89	1	190	135	50	5	510-530
2002-2003 f	245	0.92	225	1	231	150	66	15	395-425
Canary Seed									
1998-1999	208	1.13	235	0	299	137	52	110	248
1999-2000	146	1.14	166	0	276	157	29	90	240
2000-2001	164	1.04	171	0	261	170	21	70	265
2001-2002 f	140	0.66	92	0	162	140	17	5	630-650
2002-2003 f	215	0.98	210	0	215	165	30	20	380-410
Sunflower Seed									
1998-1999	69	1.62	112	17	132	43	85	4	388
1999-2000	79	1.54	122	19	145	49	55	41	295
2000-2001	69	1.72	119	18	178	77	70	31	320
2001-2002 f	63	1.56	98	15	144	75	64	5	330-350
2002-2003 f	75	1.60	120	15	140	70	65	5	330-360
Buckwheat									
1998-1999	14	1.07	15	3	19	8	9	2	315
1999-2000	13	1.00	13	1	16	8	7	1	305
2000-2001	15	0.93	14	1	16	9	7	0	305
2001-2002 f	12	1.17	14	1	15	8	7	0	305-325
2002-2003 f	13	1.15	15	1	16	9	7	0	300-330
Total Special Crops (c)									
1998-1999	2,156	1.70	3,660	109	4,301	2,634	1,036	631	
1999-2000	2,136	1.91	4,074	89	4,794	2,620	1,392	782	
2000-2001	2,812	1.76	4,940	82	5,804	3,582	1,550	672	
2001-2002 f	3,061	1.24	3,794	57	4,523	2,908	1,410	205	
2002-2003 f	3,378	1.59	5,355	57	5,617	3,574	1,613	430	

(a) Aug-July crop year.

(b) Excludes products.

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

(d) Includes food, feed, seed, waste and dockage.

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

f: forecast, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, January 8, 2002.

Source: Statistics Canada and industry consultations.