



CANADA: PULSE AND SPECIAL CROPS OUTLOOK

April 29, 2002

Area seeded to pulse and special crops for 2002-03 in Canada is forecast to decrease by 5%, as a higher seeded area for dry beans, mustard seed, canary seed, sunflower seed and buckwheat, is more than offset by a lower area for dry peas, lentils and chick peas. Statistics Canada's (STC) seeding intentions survey, conducted during the period of March 23-31 and released on April 24, provided estimates of areas seeded for most of the pulse and special crops by province but, in some cases, the area seeded has been forecast by AAFC. The actual seeded area may differ due to changes in market outlook, expected prices, spring weather conditions, as well as producer reaction to the STC seeding intentions report. To date, only a small amount of seeding has been completed. It is assumed that precipitation will be normal for the spring and summer. However, for Alberta and Saskatchewan, due to the poor soil moisture reserves in most areas, 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. Although precipitation has improved in March and April, the main factor to watch will be precipitation in western Canada during the spring and summer. The US Farm Bill has not been finalized to date. However, due to the late date, it has been assumed that there would be no significant impact on the US seeded area for dry peas, lentils and chick peas for 2002-03, if these crops are included under the loan program.

For 2002-03, total pulse and special crops production is forecast to increase by 24%, compared to 2001-02, to 4.7 million tonnes (Mt). Total supply is expected to increase by only 13% because of lower carry-in stocks. Total exports and domestic use are forecast to increase due to the higher supply and strong demand, resulting in lower carry-out stocks. Average prices, compared to 2001-02, are forecast to increase for lentils and sunflower seed, decrease for dry peas, dry beans, chick peas, mustard seed and canary seed, and be similar for buckwheat. However, prices are expected to be very sensitive to any production problems in Canada and importing and other exporting countries, due to low world carry-in stocks.

DRY PEAS

For 2002-03, production is forecast to increase by 20%, as a 10% decrease in seeded area is more than offset by higher yields. Total supply is forecast to increase by 17% because of lower carry-in stocks. Total world supply is expected to be similar to 2001-02 at 11.1 Mt. Canadian exports are forecast to increase, with a larger portion going into the feed market as demand in the food market is expected to decrease because of better domestic pulse crops supply in India. Carry-out stocks are forecast to remain low with a stocks-to-use (s/u) ratio of 5%. Prices are expected to be pressured by lower protein meal and feed grain prices, lower food market demand and higher Canadian supply. The average price, over all types, grades and markets, is forecast to decrease 10-15%, as compared to 2001-02.

LENTILS

Production is forecast to increase by 15%, as a 21% decrease in seeded area is more than offset by higher yields. Total supply is forecast to be similar to 2001-02 due to lower carry-in stocks. Total world supply is expected to decrease slightly to 3.7 Mt. Canadian exports are expected to increase slightly due to growing world demand. Carry-out stocks are forecast to decrease, with a s/u ratio of 8%. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to increase slightly, due to the higher world demand.

DRY BEANS

Production is forecast to increase by 37%, due to a 29% increase in seeded area, a lower abandonment rate and higher yields. Production of white pea beans is forecast to increase by 70% to 170,000 t, while production of coloured beans increases by 16% to 180,000 t. Total supply is expected to increase by only 13% because of lower carry-in stocks. Exports are forecast to increase because of the larger supply and strong demand, and carry-out stocks are expected to remain at a low level, with a s/u ratio of 4%. US

production is expected to increase by 40%.

Total US and Canadian supply is expected to increase by only 10%, due to lower carry-in stocks. The average price, over all classes and grades, is forecast to decrease by 15-20% because of increased supply.

CHICK PEAS

Production is forecast to decrease by 5%, as a 25% decrease in seeded area is partly offset by higher yields. Production of the desi type is forecast to increase, while production of the large and small kabuli types decreases. Total Canadian supply is forecast to increase by 5% due to higher carry-in stocks. Total world supply is expected to decrease slightly to 8 Mt. Canadian exports are forecast to increase as Canada's share of total world supply increases. Carry-out stocks are forecast to decrease, with a s/u ratio of 15%. Lower production is expected to support prices of the large kabuli type, while higher supply in India is expected to pressure prices of the desi and small kabuli types. The average price over all types, sizes and grades is forecast to decrease slightly.

MUSTARD SEED

Production is forecast to increase by 180% due to a 110% increase in seeded area and higher yields. Total supply is forecast to increase by only 35%, due to lower carry-in stocks. Exports are expected to increase because of the higher supply. Carry-out stocks are forecast to remain low, with a s/u ratio of 11%. The average price, over all types and grades, is forecast to decrease by about 30% because of increased supply.

CANARY SEED

Production is forecast to increase by 107%, due to a 36% increase in seeded area and higher yields. Total supply is forecast to increase by only 20%, due to lower carry-in stocks. Total world supply is forecast to increase by 20% to 261,000 t. Exports are expected to increase, because of the higher supply. Carry-out stocks

are forecast to remain very low. The average price is forecast to decrease by 35-40% because of increased supply.

SUNFLOWER SEED

Production is forecast to increase by 43%, due to a 33% in seeded area and higher yields. Confectionary sunflower seed production is expected to increase by 30% to 100,000 t, while oil sunflower seed production is expected to nearly double to 40,000 t. Total supply is forecast to increase by only 7% because of lower carry-in stocks. Exports are expected to remain stable, while domestic use increases in line with the growing domestic bird seed and confectionary processing industries. Carry-out stocks are forecast to remain low, with a s/u ratio of 7%. Total world supply is expected to increase by 3% to 22.8 Mt. Total US and Canadian supply of the confectionary type is expected to decrease significantly, while the total supply for the oilseed type decreases only slightly. The lower total US and Canadian supply is expected to support prices for the confectionary type, while higher world supply is expected to pressure prices for the oilseed type. Therefore, the average price in Canada, over both confectionary and oilseed types, is forecast to increase slightly because of stronger prices for the confectionary type.

BUCKWHEAT

Production is forecast to increase by 7%, due to a higher seeded area. Total use is forecast to increase. The average price over all grades and markets is forecast to be the same as in 2001-02, in line with stable world total supply of about 3.4 Mt.

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CANADA: PULSE AND SPECIAL CROPS SUPPLY AND DISPOSITION

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Grain and Crop Year (a)	Harvested Area 000 ha	Yield t/ha	Production	Imports (b)	Total Supply	Exports (b)	Total Domestic Use (d)	Carry-out Stocks	Average Price (e) \$/t
----- thousand metric tonnes -----									
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	2,192	889	195	138
2001-2002f	1,394	1.58	2,196	15	2,406	1,500	756	150	170-190
2002-2003f	1,280	2.07	2,645	15	2,810	1,800	880	130	140-170
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
2001-2002f	691	0.85	585	5	796	525	161	110	300-320
2002-2003f	570	1.18	675	5	790	540	190	60	305-335
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	227	71	50	465
2001-2002f	150	1.70	255	25	330	260	65	5	695-715
2002-2003f	202	1.73	350	20	375	280	80	15	570-600
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	179	199	30	410
2001-2002f	476	0.98	465	8	503	240	178	85	375-395
2002-2003f	360	1.22	440	5	530	270	190	70	355-385
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	151	67	100	280
2001-2002f	132	0.67	89	1	190	135	50	5	590-610
2002-2003f	282	0.89	250	1	256	165	66	25	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
2001-2002f	140	0.66	92	0	162	140	17	5	630-650
2002-2003f	196	0.97	190	0	195	165	25	5	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
2001-2002f	63	1.56	98	20	149	80	64	5	335-355
2002-2003f	86	1.63	140	15	160	80	70	10	340-370
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
2001-2002f	12	1.17	14	1	15	8	7	0	310-330
2002-2003f	13	1.15	15	1	16	9	7	0	305-335
Total Pulse and 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	3,555	1,567	682	
2001-2002f	3,058	1.24	3,794	75	4,551	2,888	1,298	365	
2002-2003f	2,989	1.57	4,705	62	5,132	3,309	1,508	315	

(a) Aug-July crop year.

(b) Excludes products.

(c) Includes Pulse Crops (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.

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

f: forecast, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, April 29, 2002.

Source: Statistics Canada and industry consultations.