



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 9/13/2001

GAIN Report #CA1124

## Canada

### Agricultural Situation

## Statistics Canada Releases Grain Stocks as of July 31 2001

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#### **Report Highlights:**

Total stocks of durum wheat on July 31 set a new record, and total stocks of wheat excluding durum increased from the same date in 2000 but remained below the average of the previous 10 years. However, total stocks of barley, oats, canola, flax, and rye were lower than in 2000. Total stocks of the special crops declined as well, except lentils.

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Ottawa [CA1], CA

## STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT JULY 31, 2001

The following is based upon the September 13 Statistics Canada release of its Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 6.

Total stocks (stocks held on farms plus stocks in commercial positions) of durum wheat on July 31 set a new record, and total stocks of wheat excluding durum increased from July 31, 2000 but remained below the average of the previous 10 years. However, total stocks of barley, oats, canola, flax, and rye were lower than in 2000. Total stocks of the special crops declined as well, except lentils.

### Durum Wheat Stocks Set a New Record

Total stocks of durum wheat were 2.873 million metric tonnes, up 62% from July 31, 2000, and a new record. Farm stocks totaled a record 1.200 million tonnes, surpassing the previous record of 1.198 million tonnes set in 1980. Near-record production of durum in the fall of 2000 and stable demand for the rest of the crop year left most of the excess production in storage on farms.

**Table 1: Total stocks of grain at July 31**

	2000	2001	2000/01
	('000 tonnes)		% change
All wheat	7,739	9,208	19%
Wheat excluding durum	5,964	6,335	6%
Barley	2,838	2,454	-14%
Durum wheat	1,775	2,873	62%
Canola	2,156	1,054	-51%
Oats	1,122	840	-25%
Flax	386	273	-29%
Rye	161	88	-45%
Dry Field Peas	400	195	-51%
Mustard Seed	115	100	-13%
Canary Seed	90	70	-22%
Sunflower Seed	41	31	-24%

### Total Stocks of Barley below Average

Total stocks of barley fell to 2.454 million tonnes, down 14% from July 31, 2000 and lower than both the 5- and 10-year averages. The reduction in stocks was due to higher demand for barley from both the export and domestic livestock feed markets. The drought in the Prairie provinces this summer has reduced the production prospects for barley well below average levels, making

these remaining stocks more important to the livestock feed and domestic malting industries. However, the potential for higher barley prices is expected to be tempered by competing feed grains such as domestic oats and wheat as well as imported grain corn.

### **Total Stocks of Canola Drop to Half of 2000 Levels**

Total stocks of canola were 1.054 million tonnes, down 51% from July 31, 2000, and slightly above the recent five-year average of 949 000 tonnes. While total supplies for the 2000/01 crop year were almost the same as the previous crop year, a 24% increase in export demand, notably from China, accounted for the reduction in stocks.

### **Notice**

The July Farm Survey of 17,000 farm operators was conducted by telephone interviews from July 27 to August 4. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grain in storage. Data on commercial stocks of western grains are from the Canadian Grain Commission. Data on commercial stocks of specialty crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of specialty crops.

### **Comments**

According to those in the grain trade, the barley stocks number is quite low. This is an indication of increased feed usage in southern Alberta as a consequence of poor grazing conditions as well as some stockpiling by feed users.

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