

THE WHEAT AND OATS HARVEST, 1916.

THE following information regarding the actual results of the wheat and oats harvest of the 1915-16 season has been issued by the Government Statistician :—

WHEAT.

From returns secured from farmers early in the season it was estimated that an area of 333,233 acres was sown or intended to be sown in wheat for threshing, whereas the actual area harvested (exclusive of a few small returns yet to be received) was 334,139 acres. Of this area 6,122 acres was utilized for chaff, hay, or ensilage, leaving 328,017 acres actually reaped for threshing.

The estimated wheat crop of the Dominion as given in the Monthly Abstract of Statistics for February, 1916, was 7,309,020 bushels, but in subsequent Abstracts the estimate was placed at approximately 7,000,000 bushels (owing to reports received as to partial failure of the crop in the southern districts). The total actual yield is now ascertained to be 7,070,814 bushels.

The actual average yield per acre for the Dominion is 21.56 bushels, as against the estimated yield of 21.89 bushels.

OATS.

The returns collected from farmers in the early part of the season gave a total of 379,869 acres of oats sown or intended to be sown for threshing; and on the preliminary average yield (33.46 bushels), estimated in January last, the total estimated yield of oats was given as 12,722,733 bushels. From the main collection of the statistics, however, it is apparent that a great portion of the 379,869 acres returned by farmers as intended for threshing was subsequently chaffed, the returns showing that 7,489,749 bushels were threshed from 209,730 acres, the average yield per acre being 35.71 bushels. The total area of oats used for chaff, hay, or ensilage was 424,262 acres.

TABLE SHOWING ACTUAL RESULTS OF THE 1916 HARVEST OF WHEAT AND OATS FOR THRESHING.

Land District.	Wheat (reaped for threshing).			Oats (reaped for threshing).		
	Area.	Yield.	Average Yield per Acre.	Area.	Yield.	Average Yield per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Auckland	2,565	58,964	22.99	1,469	28,078	19.11
Hawke's Bay	1,888	48,340	25.60	2,983	113,345	38.00
Taranaki	1,386	35,630	25.71	2,079	68,459	32.93
Wellington	12,077	340,805	28.22	10,532	366,646	34.81
Totals, North Island	17,916	483,739	27.00	17,063	576,528	33.79
Nelson	1,791	39,222	21.90	764	18,870	24.70
Marlborough	5,572	134,417	24.12	3,697	48,041	12.99
Westland
Canterbury	244,767	5,086,053	20.78	73,635	1,937,714	26.32
Otago	49,214	1,067,635	21.69	45,745	1,810,646	39.58
Southland	8,757	259,748	29.66	68,826	3,097,950	45.01
Totals, South Island ..	310,101	6,587,075	21.24	192,667	6,913,221	35.88
Dominion	328,017	7,070,814	21.56	209,730	7,489,749	35.71

NOTE.—The above figures are subject to revision on account of a few returns still to come, but these are not likely to materially alter the results shown above.