

## Canadian Grass and Legume Seed Data: 2014-2015 Grass and Legume Seed Exports

### Overview:

In 2006, American president George Bush directed US agricultural policy to focus more production on renewable resources, mainly biofuels and ethanol. The resulting policy change resulted in more American prime agricultural lands being seeded to corn and soybeans. It also created more demand for corn and resulted in acreage battles between growing corn and soybeans. The dominos were set in place, and now, 10 years later, the effects can be seen in the Canadian grass and legume seed sector. With a global economy in place, the US policy has resulted in prices for traditional crops rising in value, resulting in the growing of grass and legume seed taking a backseat in the Canadian agricultural sector. Much less seed has been grown in recent years. And with previously stored supplies diminished, and fewer and fewer new acres of grass/legume seed being seeded, Canadian grass and legume seed exports have fallen.



2014-15 Canadian trade data, (showing exports of the 2014 crop and previously stored products), saw grass/legume seed exports drop again. Total exports fell by 10 million lbs. (10.4%) from 2013/14, with the total export number at 85.94 million lbs. This marked the third consecutive year exports have been down, and the second lowest export number in at least 20 years. (2009-10 was a lower export year but occurred during the USA housing crisis, which resulted in huge American cutbacks in Canadian turf grass seed imports)

2014-15 Canadian trade data shows alfalfa seed still leads the ways in Canadian exports (21.33 million lbs.), followed by creeping red fescue (19.8 million lbs.). However, perennial ryegrass seed, which as recently as 2011-12 held down the #2 position, has slipped to 4<sup>th</sup>, with only 8.75 million lbs. of seed exported. Moving into the #3 position is timothy seed, dominated by certified seed.

The USA remains by far Canada's primary destination for grass/legume seed, with 59.7% of total Canadian exports headed south of the 49<sup>th</sup>. China remains Canada's second most popular destination taking 13.3% of Canada's exports. These were the only two nations that imported more than 10% of Canada's total exports. Only 7 countries imported more than 1 million lbs. of Canadian grass/legume seed in 2014/15.



Canadian Grass and Legume Seed Exports, Quantity (millions of lbs)													
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Δ from 13-14	10 year avg. 04/05-13/14
<b>Total Canadian Exports</b>	<b>108.31</b>	<b>136.01</b>	<b>166.77</b>	<b>163.16</b>	<b>119.49</b>	<b>81.35</b>	<b>91.35</b>	<b>111.88</b>	<b>99.80</b>	<b>95.93</b>	<b>85.94</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>	117.41
Alfalfa - certified	6.08	5.81	13.88	11.12	10.62	6.48	6.35	7.95	9.73	12.82	12.90	0.6%	9.08
Alfalfa -o/t certified	11.16	10.68	20.61	14.57	13.78	8.94	8.71	8.47	9.24	12.04	8.43	-30.0%	11.82
<b>Total Alfalfa</b>	<b>17.24</b>	<b>16.49</b>	<b>34.48</b>	<b>25.69</b>	<b>24.40</b>	<b>15.42</b>	<b>15.05</b>	<b>16.43</b>	<b>18.98</b>	<b>24.85</b>	<b>21.33</b>		20.90
Clover, Red - double cut	0.60	0.51	1.59	1.39	1.42	0.15	0.35	0.26	0.53	0.77	0.29	-62.4%	0.76
Clover, Red - nes	2.73	4.07	4.52	3.93	2.76	1.74	2.87	3.14	3.07	4.57	3.88	-15.0%	3.34
<b>Total Red Clover</b>	<b>3.33</b>	<b>4.59</b>	<b>6.10</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>3.22</b>	<b>3.40</b>	<b>3.61</b>	<b>5.33</b>	<b>4.17</b>		4.10
Clover, Sweet	0.98	1.28	1.33	1.06	1.04	1.20	1.23	1.61	1.09	1.13	1.57	39.0%	1.20
Clover, Alsike	1.45	2.04	2.41	2.94	1.92	1.70	2.72	2.62	2.26	1.21	1.48	22.4%	2.13
Clover - white	0.20	0.13	0.27	0.20	0.18	0.04	0.34	0.12	0.09	1.13	0.37	-67.7%	0.27
Clover - nes	0.37	0.51	0.31	0.21	0.15	0.47	0.13	0.29	0.36	0.38	0.17	-55.4%	0.32
Fescue, Creeping red-cert	17.06	10.45	4.49	10.17	8.16	4.84	6.24	14.05	6.03	2.97	2.54	-14.5%	8.45
Fescue, Creeping red-o/t cert	28.99	43.70	45.13	39.42	24.48	16.49	13.85	13.01	19.07	19.52	17.26	-11.6%	26.37
<b>Total Creeping Red Fescue</b>	<b>46.05</b>	<b>54.14</b>	<b>49.62</b>	<b>49.59</b>	<b>32.64</b>	<b>21.33</b>	<b>20.09</b>	<b>27.06</b>	<b>25.11</b>	<b>22.50</b>	<b>19.80</b>		34.81
Fescue, tall	2.91	2.28	3.19	3.70	2.19	3.00	2.93	3.56	1.78	2.00	1.09	-45.7%	2.75
Fescue, meadow	1.58	0.16	0.44	0.68	0.52	0.14	0.12	0.37	0.67	1.05	1.11	5.7%	0.57
Fescue, nes	0.89	0.97	1.00	0.71	0.86	0.56	0.58	0.62	0.31	0.46	0.54	16.9%	0.69
Blue grass, Kentucky	1.00	1.70	1.07	1.41	0.96	0.72	0.72	0.56	1.15	0.43	0.51	20.2%	0.97
Rye grass, annual	3.09	7.66	7.95	3.13	2.50	2.22	3.05	2.44	2.58	1.37	1.65	20.2%	3.60
Rye grass, perennial	9.85	17.75	33.97	38.63	28.09	15.46	21.19	27.24	17.29	11.52	8.75	-24.1%	22.10
Brome grass, meadow	0.56	0.72	0.80	0.60	0.49	0.56	0.82	0.77	1.35	0.66	0.58	-12.1%	0.73
Brome grass, smooth	0.51	1.53	0.49	0.79	0.86	0.87	0.84	1.31	0.50	0.37	0.16	-56.8%	0.81
Brome grass, nes	0.05	0.02	0.11	0.18	0.16	0.29	0.31	0.47	0.34	0.00	0.03	589.0%	0.19
Wheatgrass, crested	1.15	2.66	1.20	1.67	1.16	0.77	1.29	1.69	2.37	0.95	0.70	-25.7%	1.49
Wheatgrass, nes	1.99	2.01	2.36	1.80	0.65	0.83	0.90	1.30	1.07	0.71	1.49	109.2%	1.36
Bent grass	0.24	0.08	0.12	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.08	0.01	0.02	0.13	0.56	336.8%	0.08
Bird's-foot trefoil	1.00	1.23	1.20	1.43	1.72	0.87	0.81	1.70	1.20	0.71	0.89	25.3%	1.19
Orchard grass	0.08	0.10	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.19	0.11	0.12	0.10	-15.5%	0.07
Timothy, cert.	6.44	7.97	7.56	7.30	3.41	3.69	5.05	7.81	7.57	8.12	9.47	16.6%	6.49
Timothy, O/T Cert	4.37	7.17	3.44	0.79	0.22	0.10	0.20	0.22	0.22	0.13	0.07	-46.3%	1.69
<b>Total Timothy</b>	<b>10.81</b>	<b>15.14</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>8.09</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>3.79</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>8.03</b>	<b>7.78</b>	<b>8.25</b>	<b>9.54</b>		8.18
Wild rye	0.29	0.23	0.32	0.52	1.60	0.84	0.29	0.30	0.91	1.26	1.18	-6.3%	0.66
Seeds of forage plants, nes	2.69	2.60	6.98	14.78	9.53	8.28	9.39	9.80	8.86	9.38	8.17	-13.0%	8.23
<b>Total Canadian Exports</b>	<b>108.31</b>	<b>136.01</b>	<b>166.77</b>	<b>163.16</b>	<b>119.49</b>	<b>81.35</b>	<b>91.35</b>	<b>111.88</b>	<b>99.80</b>	<b>95.93</b>	<b>85.94</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>	117.41

Crop Year = July 1 to June 30, NES=not elsewhere specified

## Canadian Grass and Legume Seed Exports by Quantity and Species

2014-15 Canadian exports of grass and legume seed fell by 10 million lbs. from the previous year, and was led by a 3.5 million drop in alfalfa seed, and 2.7 million lb. drops in both perennial ryegrass seed and creeping red fescue seed. Red clover and Grass/legume seed mixtures (Seeds of forage plants, NES) also fell by 1 million lbs. Of significance was the increase in timothy seed exports of 1.3 million lbs.

- **Legume Seeds**

**Alfalfa** seed exports saw certified seed exports remain the same (12.9 million lbs.), but exports of common seed fell by 3.6 million lbs., a 30% decrease from the previous year. **Red clover** seed exports, with decreased acres and low supplies, saw exports fall by 22% to 4.17 million lbs. **Alsike** seed exports increased by 270,000 lb. to 1.48 million lbs, but is still below the 10 year average.

- **Turf Grass Seed**

The reliance of the USA on Canadian turf grasses has really diminished the past few years. Total **creeping red fescue** exports fell to below 20 million lbs. which has not occurred for around 30 years! The USA accounted for 88% of “creeper” exports. Canada’s 10 year average for creeping red fescue is 34.81 million lbs. annually. With fewer acres, don’t expect Canadian creeping red fescue exports to improve any time soon. **Perennial ryegrass** seed exports also fell to recent lows. For the first time in ten years, exports fell below 10 million lbs., with only 8.75 million lbs. exported this past year. (10 yr. avg = 22.1 million lbs.). 2007-08 saw perennial ryegrass seed exports peak at 38.63 million lbs. **Tall fescue** fields can still be found, with Canada exporting 1.09 million lbs. in 2014/15. However, this was a 45% drop from last year, and well below the 10 year average of 2.75 million lbs.

- **Forage Grass Seed**

Forage grass exports, except for timothy seed, have fallen, due to used up inventories and fewer production acres. **Smooth brome**grass seed production is at very low levels, and it showed in exports, as only 160,000 lbs. of seed were exported last year. Canada typically exports 5 times that amount of seed (10 yr. avg. = 810,000 lbs.). **Meadow brome**grass seed exports fell by 12% last year, with 580,000 lbs. of seed exported. **Meadow fescue** seed continues to be in demand, as over 1 million lbs. of seed have been exported the past two years. **Timothy** seed continues to make gains in the export market, with 9.5 million lbs. exported. Of the total, certified timothy made up 99%+. Last year saw the highest timothy exports in the past 7 years.

### **Value of Canadian Grass/Legume Seed Exports:**

Not surprising, as supplies have fallen, so has the amount of seed exported. However, despite export quantity falling over 10%, total value of the grass/legume seed exported only fell 1.2%. Lower supply has indeed resulted in more demand for the seed available, and resulting higher values. The total value of exported Canadian grass and legume seed in 2014/15 was \$134.7 million. With the USA buying a large chunk of Canadian production, the fall in the Canadian dollar helped with improved prices, as most species are priced FOB landed into the USA, with prices quoted in US dollars.



Alfalfa seed exports amounted to \$52.24 million, while creeping red fescue followed with \$20.58 million in sales. Timothy seed exports came in at \$12.35 million. Perennial ryegrass seed saw sales fall below \$10 million (\$9.54 million). Seed mixtures saw \$13.8 million in sales. All three major Canadian grown clover seed crops, red, sweet and alsike, saw export sales at \$4.06 million, \$1.64 million and \$3.16 million respectively.

Canadian Exports of Grass/Legume Seed by Crop Year (Value: millions of \$)					
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Total Canadian Exports</b>	<b>81.21</b>	<b>119.79</b>	<b>124.53</b>	<b>136.32</b>	<b>134.70</b>
Alfalfa, cert.	11.04	16.69	20.05	26.72	29.62
Alfalfa, O/T cert.	15.59	17.00	19.83	29.00	22.62
<b>Total Alfalfa</b>	<b>26.63</b>	<b>33.68</b>	<b>39.89</b>	<b>55.72</b>	<b>52.24</b>
Clover, Red - double cut	0.40	0.35	0.57	0.91	0.52
Clover, Red - nes	2.18	2.68	2.32	3.80	3.54
<b>Total Red Clover</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>4.71</b>	<b>4.06</b>
Clover, Sweet	1.24	1.51	1.15	1.26	1.64
Clover, Alsike	2.14	2.20	2.31	2.44	3.16
Clover - white	0.30	0.14	0.10	0.93	0.31
Clover Nes,	0.11	0.49	0.57	0.71	0.37
Fescue, Creeping red - cert	3.56	9.95	4.87	2.78	2.26
Fescue, Creeping red - o/t cert	7.75	8.40	13.83	17.70	18.31
<b>Total Creeping Red Fescue</b>	<b>11.31</b>	<b>18.34</b>	<b>18.70</b>	<b>20.48</b>	<b>20.58</b>
Fescue, tall	1.57	2.26	1.39	1.45	0.80
Fescue, meadow	0.09	0.32	0.60	0.72	1.06
Fescue Nes,	0.53	0.52	0.47	0.51	0.75
Blue grass, Kentucky	0.48	0.58	1.55	0.57	0.74
Rye Grass Annual,	2.45	1.80	1.29	0.81	0.85
Rye Grass Perennial,	12.10	18.66	12.79	10.61	9.54
Brome Grass, Meadow,	0.97	1.19	2.35	1.24	1.40
Brome Grass, Smooth,	0.76	2.01	1.21	0.71	0.48
Brome Grass, Nes,	0.23	0.63	0.66	0.02	0.22
Wheatgrass, Crested,	1.38	2.22	4.48	2.07	1.86
Wheatgrass, Nes,	1.21	2.54	2.52	1.59	4.66
Bent Grass	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.13
Bird'S-Foot Trefoil,	2.29	5.14	5.06	2.67	2.67
Orchard Grass,	0.02	0.24	0.16	0.17	0.29
Timothy, cert.	4.21	9.25	10.03	10.62	12.25
Timothy, O/T Cert	0.15	0.24	0.27	0.15	0.10
<b>Total Timothy</b>	<b>4.36</b>	<b>9.49</b>	<b>10.31</b>	<b>10.77</b>	<b>12.35</b>
Wild Rye,	0.31	0.55	1.72	2.28	1.48
Seeds Of Forage Plants, , Nes	8.08	12.24	12.33	13.86	13.08
<b>Total Canadian Exports</b>	<b>81.21</b>	<b>119.79</b>	<b>124.53</b>	<b>136.32</b>	<b>134.70</b>

Crop Year = July 1 to June 30, NES = not elsewhere specified

### Destinations:

Canada's reliance on the **American** market remains high, as almost 58% of total exports (quantity) crossed the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel in 2014/15. However, although not distinguished, there is contract production grown in Canada and sent back to the USA via american contracting companies (alfalfa seed, perennial ryegrass). **China**, with imports of 11.47 million lbs. of seed, ranked second (13% of total Canadian exports). Only 5 **other countries** imported over 1 million lbs. of Canadian grass/legume seed last year, those being, The Netherlands (8.5 mil. Lbs.), Germany (3.63 mil. Lbs.), Italy (2.0 mil. Lbs.), Finland (1.52 mil. Lbs.), and Denmark (1.34 mil. Lbs.). Canada supplied seed to 24 other countries in 2014/15, totaling 7.75 million lbs., but only accounted for 9% of Canadian exports.

Canadian Exports of Grass/Legume Seed by Crop Year (millions of lbs.)										
	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
Total CDN Exports	91.35	% of CDN Exports	111.88	% of CDN Exports	99.80	% of CDN Exports	95.93	% of CDN Exports	85.94	% of CDN Exports
United States	62.02	67.9%	63.93	57.1%	62.57	62.7%	59.52	62.0%	49.73	57.9%
China	4.99	5.5%	10.03	9.0%	8.74	8.8%	11.53	12.0%	11.47	13.3%
Netherlands	8.12	8.9%	12.67	11.3%	10.14	10.2%	9.34	9.7%	8.50	9.9%
Germany	4.09	4.5%	8.40	7.5%	5.20	5.2%	4.24	4.4%	3.63	4.2%
Italy	2.97	3.2%	3.10	2.8%	1.47	1.5%	2.43	2.5%	2.00	2.3%
Finland	0.38	0.4%	0.19	0.2%	0.27	0.3%	0.25	0.3%	1.52	1.8%
Denmark	1.01	1.1%	1.53	1.4%	1.91	1.9%	2.16	2.2%	1.34	1.6%
Other countries-24 (14/15)	7.77	8.5%	12.01	10.7%	9.51	9.5%	6.45	6.7%	7.75	9.0%
<b>Total CDN Exports</b>	<b>91.35</b>		<b>111.88</b>		<b>99.80</b>		<b>95.93</b>		<b>85.94</b>	

- Canadian Exports to USA

Canadian data from last year shows exports to the USA fell over 16% from the previous year. Total exports fell under 50 million lbs., led by decreased exports of alfalfa (down 3.7 million lbs.), creeping red fescue (down 3.6 million lbs.) and perennial ryegrass (down 2.5 million lbs.). Canada had not exported less than 50 million lbs. to the USA in at least 30 years! Data shows that exports to the USA have fallen by over 80 million lbs. from 10 years ago! Looking long term, creeping red fescue exports and perennial ryegrass seed exports to the USA are down by 31 million lbs. and 25 million lbs. respectively from 10 years ago. Even "the queen of the legumes", alfalfa seed, saw her exports to the USA 10 years ago at 22.8 million lbs. This past year, 12 million lbs. were exported.

Canadian Exports of Grass/Legume Seed to USA (millions of lbs.)											Value
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Δ from 13/14	2014-15
<b>Total CDN Exports</b>	<b>166.77</b>	<b>163.16</b>	<b>119.49</b>	<b>81.35</b>	<b>91.35</b>	<b>111.88</b>	<b>99.80</b>	<b>95.93</b>	<b>85.94</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>	<b>134.7</b>
<b>United States - Total</b>	<b>129.38</b>	<b>124.09</b>	<b>90.12</b>	<b>61.42</b>	<b>62.02</b>	<b>63.93</b>	<b>62.57</b>	<b>59.52</b>	<b>49.73</b>	<b>-16.4%</b>	<b>85.3</b>
Alfalfa, Cert	7.40	8.66	9.28	5.13	3.67	4.93	4.91	5.85	5.94	1.5%	14.3
Alfalfa, O/T Cert	15.41	12.74	11.99	8.50	7.73	6.17	7.99	10.18	6.42	-36.9%	18.8
<b>Total Alfalfa</b>	<b>22.81</b>	<b>21.41</b>	<b>21.27</b>	<b>13.63</b>	<b>11.40</b>	<b>11.10</b>	<b>12.90</b>	<b>16.03</b>	<b>12.36</b>		
Red Clover, Double Cut,	0.98	1.37	1.32	0.15	0.24	0.21	0.22	0.40	0.29	-28.2%	0.5
Red Clover, Nes,	2.43	1.58	1.61	1.40	1.12	1.13	0.80	1.21	0.82	-32.5%	1.5
<b>Total Red Clover</b>	<b>3.42</b>	<b>2.96</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>1.61</b>	<b>1.11</b>		
Sweet Clover	1.29	1.00	1.01	1.06	0.90	0.84	0.76	0.74	0.85	14.5%	1.2
Alsike Clover	1.43	1.50	0.99	1.03	0.92	0.64	0.62	0.65	0.60	-7.6%	1.4
White Clover	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.00	-35.7%	0.0
Clover, Nes,	0.22	0.11	0.13	0.28	0.04	0.25	0.36	0.38	0.17	-55.4%	0.4
Creeping Red Fescue, Cert	3.18	1.95	2.94	3.58	4.74	7.33	3.06	2.02	0.89	-55.9%	0.9
Creeping Red Fescue, O/T Cert	45.13	38.60	22.47	16.28	13.15	12.56	18.44	19.16	16.63	-13.2%	17.8
<b>Total Creeping Red Fescue</b>	<b>48.31</b>	<b>40.54</b>	<b>25.41</b>	<b>19.86</b>	<b>17.89</b>	<b>19.89</b>	<b>21.50</b>	<b>21.17</b>	<b>17.52</b>		
Tall Fescue	2.20	2.88	1.17	1.35	2.01	1.72	0.99	0.44	0.29	-34.2%	0.3
Meadow Fescue	0.09	0.02	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.13	0.16	0.07	0.30	353.6%	0.6
Fescue, Nes,	0.96	0.47	0.66	0.35	0.54	0.35	0.30	0.31	0.50	62.9%	0.7
Kentucky Blue Grass	0.87	0.90	0.67	0.56	0.46	0.28	0.05	0.02	0.13	643.4%	0.2
Rye Grass, Annual	3.30	1.41	0.31	0.20	0.46	0.48	1.23	0.41	0.41	0.9%	0.1
Rye Grass, Perennial	28.22	31.08	23.08	10.75	14.13	13.85	8.20	6.41	3.87	-39.5%	4.0

Canadian exports to the USA, continued

Canadian Exports of Grass/Legume Seed to USA (millions of lbs.)											Value
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Δ from 13/14	2014-15
Brome Grass, Meadow,	0.52	0.35	0.39	0.29	0.27	0.56	0.94	0.37	0.40	8.9%	1.1
Brome Grass, Smooth	0.39	0.46	0.62	0.50	0.44	1.08	0.41	0.08	0.07	-10.1%	0.3
Brome Grass, Nes,	0.06	0.14	0.16	0.29	0.30	0.34	0.14	0.00	0.03	586.9%	0.2
Wheatgrass, Crested	1.18	1.55	0.80	0.54	0.73	0.65	2.32	0.75	0.61	-18.1%	1.7
Wheatgrass, Nes	1.87	1.66	0.55	0.58	0.80	1.14	1.04	0.53	1.41	166.0%	4.5
Bent Grass	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.13	0.56	336.8%	0.1
Bird'S-Foot Trefoil	0.69	0.75	0.47	0.34	0.30	0.58	0.58	0.25	0.49	96.2%	1.5
Orchard Grass	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.09	18.8%	0.3
Wild Rye	0.22	0.30	0.23	0.08	0.08	0.30	0.38	0.12	0.10	-16.9%	0.3
Seeds Of Forage Plants, Nes	11.21	14.55	9.16	8.04	8.84	8.37	8.56	8.97	7.84	-12.7%	12.6
<b>United States - Total</b>	<b>129.38</b>	<b>124.09</b>	<b>90.12</b>	<b>61.42</b>	<b>62.02</b>	<b>63.93</b>	<b>62.57</b>	<b>59.52</b>	<b>49.73</b>	<b>-16.4%</b>	<b>85.3</b>

- Canadian Exports to China

Canadian exports to China centered around only 6 species, with alfalfa seed (4.33 million lbs, cert. plus common) and perennial ryegrass (3.14 million lbs.) dominating her imports. Red clover seed exports to China continue to rise, with another 400,000 lbs. more seed exported last year. (1.53 million lbs.). Only two other species had over 500,000 lbs. of exports, those being wild rye and sweet clover. 9 other species, (1.14 million lbs.) were exported to China in 2014/15.



Dairy in China

Total Chinese imports of Canadian seed remains steady around 11 to 12 million lbs. yearly.

Canadian Exports of Grass/Legume Seed by Crop Year to China (millions of lbs)							Value
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Δ from 13/14	2014-15
<b>Total CDN Exports</b>	<b>91.35</b>	<b>111.88</b>	<b>99.80</b>	<b>95.93</b>	<b>85.94</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>	<b>134.70</b>
<b>China Total</b>	<b>4.99</b>	<b>10.03</b>	<b>8.74</b>	<b>11.53</b>	<b>11.47</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>15.49</b>
Rye Grass Perennial,	2.07	4.87	3.90	2.82	3.14	11.3%	3.57
Alfalfa, Cert	0.28	0.89	1.48	2.52	3.03	20.2%	6.03
Red Clover Nes,	0.37	0.64	0.73	1.13	1.53	35.0%	1.18
Alfalfa, O/T Cert	0.17	0.85	0.95	1.22	1.19	-1.9%	2.16
Wild Rye,	0.08	-	0.26	0.99	0.85	-14.1%	0.84
Sweet Clover				0.09	0.59	573.6%	0.35
other species- 9 (2014/15)	2.04	2.80	1.41	2.77	1.14	-58.9%	1.36
Data by crop year, July - June, Quantity = millions of lbs., value = millions of CDN \$							

## Canadian Exports by Province:

Manitoba continues to lead Canadian grass and legume seed exports in both quantity and value. Grass and legume seed exports saw over \$60 million go back into Manitoba's farming community, while Alberta saw grass and legume seed export sales contribute over \$45 million to that province. The prairies continue to dominate production of grass/legume seed, with these 3 provinces contributing to over 93 % of exports (quantity) and 87% of the value of these exports.

However, it should be noted that export data is based on which province the seed leaves the country. Seed grown in one province but sold to a processor in another, will be recorded as exported out of the processors' province. (e.g.: for BC growers in the Peace country, their deliveries are mainly to processors located in the Alberta Peace region).

Canadian Exports of Grass/Legume Seed by Province											
Quantity	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Value	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Canada	91.3	111.9	99.8	95.9	85.9	Canada	81.2	119.8	124.5	136.3	134.7
Manitoba	43.8	53.7	44.8	40.2	36.7	Manitoba	37.9	56.9	57.8	63.2	61.3
Alberta	31.5	37.2	39.2	35.4	32.2	Alberta	25.5	33.6	42.3	43.7	45.8
Sask	11.0	11.4	8.6	13.3	11.1	Sask	12.7	16.4	13.9	20.2	19.6
Ontario	1.9	4.6	5.0	3.4	3.3	Ontario	2.1	8.0	8.5	5.4	5.4
B.C.	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	B.C.	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.3
Quebec	1.2	3.1	0.6	1.9	1.2	Quebec	1.6	3.3	0.8	2.5	1.3
N.S.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	NFLD	-	-	0.1	-	-
N.B.	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	N.B.	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
NFLD	-	-	0.1	-	-	N.S.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
P.E.I.	0.1	-	-	-	-	P.E.I.	0.0	-	-	-	-
Quantity = (millions of lbs.)						Value = (millions of \$)					

## Summary:

Canadian grass and legume seed exports will continue to fall as fewer growers, controlling more and more acres, continue to leave the grass and legume seed production sector. Once a valued cash crop, times have changed. With larger equipment, younger growers, and better opportunities growing traditional grains and oilseeds crops, production of grass and legume seed has fallen. Returns for these crops, despite price quotes increasing, has not been enough incentive to draw more acres into production. There will always be a place for grass and legume seed production, but current conditions have not provided enough incentive for this agriculture sector to expand. Until these "incentives" happen, don't expect Canada's share of the world grass and legume export market to increase anytime soon.

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