THE CROP REPORTING CYCLE at a Glance

DECEMBER

Field Crop Survey

During winter, while snow still covers the fields, farmers provide their preliminary seeding intentions on the December Field Crop Survey, including area estimates of the type of crop and area that they intend to seed. Farmers also provide the first reading of farm stock levels after the preceding fall harvest, which contributes to a supply and disposition exercise.

MARCH

On-farm stocks of principal field crops

At the mid-point of the crop year, a model-based approach uses historical survey data and administrative data to produce mid-year estimates of farm stocks.

JUNE

Field Crop Survey

With planting well underway and, in many cases, fully complete, farmers provide final area estimates of what they have actually seeded during the collection of the June Field Crop Survey.

Climatic events, including flooding, and poor weather conditions often contribute to differences between seeding intentions collected in the winter and final seeded area.

Farmers also report their final reading of farm stocks as the crop year comes to an end.

JULY & AUGUST

Model-based estimates of principal field crop production

In July and August, as crops are growing and maturing, a crop yield model uses satellite, agroclimatic and administrative data to produce preliminary yield and production estimates on two separate occasions throughout the summer.

NOVEMBER

Field Crop Survey

In November, when much of the harvest across the country is complete, farmers provide the final harvested area, yield and production data that they have actually obtained.

These are the final estimates of the year, and this release is often considered the most important of the year because these data will be incorporated into the supply and disposition exercise.

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