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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Seeding and Harvesting Dates of Soviet Cereal Crops  
In Specified Regions

31 October 1950

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SEEDING AND HARVESTING DATES OF SOVIET CEREAL CROPS  
IN SPECIFIED REGIONS

Table of Contents

Introduction . . . . . 1

I WINTER WHEAT

A.	European USSR . . . . .	1
	1. Southern Export Zone . . . . .	1
	(a) North Caucasus Region . . . . .	1
	(b) South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories . . . . .	1
	2. Central Surplus Zone . . . . .	2
	(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region . . . . .	2
	(b) North and West Ukraine . . . . .	2
	3. Volga-Ural Surplus Zone . . . . .	2
	4. Northern Deficit Zone . . . . .	3
	(a) Upper Volga Region . . . . .	3
	(b) Central Industrial Region . . . . .	3
	(c) Northwestern Region . . . . .	3
	(d) White Russia . . . . .	3
	(e) Baltic States . . . . .	3
	(f) Northern Region . . . . .	4
B.	Asiatic USSR . . . . .	4
	1. Central Asiatic Zone . . . . .	4
	2. Transcaucasia . . . . .	4
	3. Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone . . . . .	4
	4. East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone . . . . .	4

II SPRING WHEAT

A.	European USSR . . . . .	5
	1. Southern Export Zone . . . . .	5
	(a) North Caucasus Region . . . . .	5
	(b) South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories . . . . .	5
	2. Central Surplus Zone . . . . .	5
	(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region . . . . .	5
	(b) North and West Ukraine . . . . .	6
	3. Volga-Ural Surplus Zone . . . . .	6
	4. Northern Deficit Zone . . . . .	6

Table of Contents Cont.

B.	Asiatic USSR . . . . .	7
1.	Ural-Western Siberia Surplus Zone . . . . .	7
2.	East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone . . . . .	7
3.	Central Asiatic Zone . . . . .	8
4.	Transcaucasia . . . . .	8

III WINTER RYE

A.	European USSR . . . . .	9
1.	Southern Export Zone . . . . .	9
	(a) North Caucasus Region . . . . .	9
	(b) South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories . . . . .	9
2.	Central Surplus zone . . . . .	9
	(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region . . . . .	10
	(b) North and West Ukraine . . . . .	10
3.	Ural-Volga Surplus Zone . . . . .	10
4.	Northern Deficit Zone . . . . .	11
	(a) Upper Volga Region and Molotov Oblast . . . . .	11
	(b) Central Industrial Region . . . . .	11
	(c) Northwestern Region . . . . .	11
	(d) Baltic States . . . . .	11
	(e) White Russia . . . . .	12
	(f) Northern Region . . . . .	12
B.	Asiatic USSR . . . . .	12
1.	Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone . . . . .	12
2.	Central Asiatic Zone and Transcaucasia . . . . .	12
3.	East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone . . . . .	13

IV OATS

A.	European USSR . . . . .	14
1.	Southern Export Zone . . . . .	14
	(a) North Caucasus Region . . . . .	14
	(b) South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories . . . . .	14
2.	Central Surplus zone . . . . .	14
	(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region . . . . .	14
	(b) North and West Ukraine . . . . .	15
3.	Volga-Ural Surplus Zone . . . . .	15

~~SECRET~~

Table of Contents Cont.

4.	Northern Deficit Zone . . . . .	15
	(a) Upper Volga Region and Molotov Oblast. . . . .	15
	(b) Central Industrial Region . . . . .	16
	(c) Northwestern Region . . . . .	16
	(d) Baltic States and Konigsberg . . . . .	16
	(e) White Russia . . . . .	16
	(f) Northern Regions . . . . .	17
B.	Asiatic USSR . . . . .	17
1.	Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone . . . . .	17
2.	East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone . . . . .	17
3.	Central Asiatic Zone . . . . .	17

V TABLES

Table A.	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Winter Wheat
Table B.	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Spring Wheat
Table C.	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Winter Rye
Table D.	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Oats.

VI MAPS

I	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Winter Wheat
II	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Spring Wheat
III	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Winter Rye
IV	Approximate Seeding and Harvesting Dates for Oats

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

31 October 1950

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM NO. 340

SUBJECT: Seeding and Harvesting Dates of Soviet Cereal Crops in Specified Regions.

INTRODUCTION

This memorandum deals with the optimum periods of seeding and harvesting wheat, rye, and oats in the USSR.

It is not possible precisely to time the seeding dates of any given cereal in any selected region of the USSR because the beginning and ending dates of each seeding period are highly dependent upon the climatic conditions of the region in general and upon local weather conditions in particular. Moreover, in any specified region, the period within which seeding continues (and subsequently the period within which a given stage of plant development occurs) varies from year to year not only because of fluctuating weather conditions but also because of variations of availability of skilled labor, required machinery, fuel for tractors, etc.

Basic data on seeding and harvesting periods in specified regions of the USSR, indicating average beginning and ending dates for the years 1922 to 1926, were published by the Soviet Union in 1928. After collectivized mechanization of agriculture got under way, theoretically shortening periods of operation, the Commissariat of Agriculture published a new series in 1935 indicating the percentage of winter grain, spring wheat, and oats that had been seeded at specified dates.

Based on these data and taking into consideration the impact of war on the Soviet agricultural economy, tables and maps have been prepared giving a series of optimum dates indicating the beginning and ending of seeding winter wheat, spring wheat, winter rye, and oats in specified regions of European and Asiatic USSR.

For present purposes European USSR has been divided into four zones:

- (1) The Southern Export Zone, including the North Caucasus region, South Ukraine, Crimea, and recently acquired former Rumanian territory.

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Note: This memorandum has not been coordinated with the intelligence organizations of the Department of State, Army, Navy, and Air Force.

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- (2) The Central Surplus Zone, including the Central Agricultural (Black Soil) region, North Ukraine, West Ukraine recently acquired from Poland, and Carpathian Ruthenia recently acquired from Czechoslovakia.
- (3) The Volga-Ural Surplus Zone, including the Lower and Middle Volga regions, Bashkir ASSR and Chkalov oblast of the Ural region and a small area in the northwestern part of Kazakh SSR.
- (4) The Northern Deficit Zone, including the rest of European USSR (1937 boundaries), the Baltic States, territory recently acquired from Finland, western White Russia recently acquired from Poland, and Konigsberg recently acquired from Germany.

Asiatic USSR has also been divided into four zones:

- (1) The Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone, including Ural regions east of the Ural mountains, West Siberia, and the northern oblasts of Kazakh SSR.
- (2) East Siberian-Far Eastern Zone, including East Siberia and the Far Eastern regions.
- (3) The Central Asiatic Zone, including the four central Asiatic republics and the southern oblasts of Kazakh SSR.
- (4) Transcaucasia, including the Asiatic republics south of the Caucasus mountains.

In general, the areas of intensive seedings of wheat, rye, and barley lie somewhat to the south of those planted in oats. Thus, an almost unbroken expanse of more or less dense seedings of winter wheat, winter rye, spring wheat, and barley spreads away fan-wise northwestward from its apex in the North Caucasus Region in the valleys of the Kuban and Don rivers east of the Azov sea through the Ukraine to the frontiers of Rumania and Poland, northeastward through the Lower and Middle Volga Region to the foothills of the Ural mountains and northward through the Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region into the marshes and forests of the Northern Deficit Region. Throughout this area winter grains seeded in the previous fall are in stages of vigorous growth during the spring months.

Spring grain<sup>1</sup> seeding normally begins the last week in March in the North Caucasus Region and continues into the first decade of May in

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1. Both spring wheat and spring barley.

- 11 -

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West Ukraine, the middle of May in the Central Agricultural Regions, and the last week of May in the upper foothills of the Ural Region. Thus, beginning the middle of April a belt of young growth moves continuously northward. The prevailing winds during May, June, and July sweep over this whole area in a generally northwestern direction.

The areas of intensive seeding of oats lie somewhat north of those of wheat and rye. The important areas from west to east are the wooded steppe regions of the Ukraine, the northern oblasts of the Central Agricultural Region, the northwestern counties of the Volga Regions, the republics of the upper Volga Region, and eastward into the Kama river drainage basin along the western slopes of the Ural mountains. Seeding begins around the last ten days in March in the Central Agricultural Region, the first of April in West Ukraine, and the second ten days in April in the upper Ural Region.

In Asiatic USSR, the only important concentrations of cereal acreages are found in the Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone. Oats are also seeded extensively throughout this zone.

- iii -

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I. WINTER WHEAT

A. EUROPEAN USSR seeded 88.8 percent of the total Soviet winter wheat acreage in 1938 of which 62.8 percent was seeded in what may be called the Southern Export Zone.

1. The Southern Export Zone includes the North Caucasus Region, South Ukraine, Crimea and the territories recently acquired from Rumania-- Izmail oblast, Moldavian ASSR and Chernovtsy oblast.

(a) The North Caucasus Region seeded 21.2 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The acreages of greatest density occur east of the Azov sea in the lower valley of the Don river in Rostov oblast, in the drainage basin of the Kuban river in Krasnodar Kray, and in the upper drainage basin of the Kuma river in Stavropol Kray, while less dense seedings extend eastward through Grozny oblast into Dagastan ASSR along the littoral of the Caspian sea.

(1) Seeding of winter wheat usually begins around the middle of September and continues through the second ten days of October.

(2) Harvesting of winter wheat usually begins during the first ten days in July and continues through the second ten days in July.

(b) The South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories seeded 38.6 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The heaviest seedings were in the west, in the valleys of the Dniester and Bug rivers in the Moldavian ASSR and in the oblasts of Odessa and Nikolayev. In this western area less dense seedings are found in Izmail oblast and Chernovtsy oblast. Heavy seeding also occurs in the lower Dnepr Valley in the oblasts of Kirovograd, Dnepropetrovsk, Zaporoshye, Kherson, and Crimea. In the industrial oblast of Stalino and the wooded oblast of Voroshilovgrad winter wheat seedings are less dense.

This whole region is treeless steppe or rolling steppe mostly without wooded areas except shelter belts or wind breaks extending both north-south and east-west.

(1) Seeding of winter wheat usually begins around the first ten days of September and continues to the middle of October.

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- (2) Harvesting of winter wheat usually begins in the first ten days in July and continues into the second ten days of July.

2. The Central Surplus Zone, which lies north of the Southern Export Zone, is better adapted to producing rye and oats than winter wheat. Nevertheless, 26.9 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938 was located in this zone, which comprises the Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region, North Ukraine, West Ukraine recently acquired from Poland, and Carpathian Ruthenia recently acquired from Czechoslovakia.

- (a) The Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region seeded 7.9 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The most heavily seeded areas lie in the upper drainage basin of the Don river, including Voronezh oblast and the eastern parts of Kursk and Orel. In the western parts of the two latter oblasts and in Bryansk oblast, winter wheat is seeded sparsely. Seedings in the eastern oblasts of Tambov and Penza as well as in the Mordov ASSR are widely scattered.

- (1) Seeding of winter wheat usually begins about the last ten days of August and continues through the first ten days of October.

- (2) Harvesting of winter wheat usually begins around the middle of July and continues to the first ten days of August.

- (b) North and West Ukraine seeded 19.0 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. There are only scattered acreages of winter wheat seeded in the oblasts of Kharkov, Poltava, Somy, Chernigov, Kiev, and Zhitomir of North Ukraine.

There is little winter wheat seeded in the marsh lands of the northern parts of Rovno and Volno oblasts or in the mountainous oblasts of Stanislaw and Trogobych of former Poland. Ruthenia seeds insignificant acreages of winter wheat. But in the upper drainage basins of the Dniester and the Polish Bug rivers, winter wheat is seeded heavily in the oblasts of Vinnytsa, Kamonets-Podolsk, Ternopol, and Lvov, and in the southern parts of Rovno and Volno oblasts.

- (1) Seeding of winter wheat usually begins about the last ten days in August and continues through the middle of October.

- (2) Harvesting of winter wheat usually begins in the first ten days in July and continues into the first ten days of August.

3. Volga-Ural Surplus Zone. This zone, as will be seen later, is a spring wheat surplus area. Little winter wheat is seeded—only 1.3 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938.

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This zone comprises Astrakhan and Stalingrad oblasts of the Lower Volga Region. A few thousand hectares are scattered in the Volga river valley or are crowded up against the Central Agricultural Region in the drainage basin of the middle Don river. The zone also includes Saratov, Ulanovsk, and Kuibyshev oblasts of the Middle Volga Region as well as Chkalov oblast and Bashkir ASSR of the Ural Region.<sup>1</sup>

(a) Seeding of winter wheat begins about the second ten days of August in the north and is usually completed by the end of September. In the south seeding begins later--about the first of September and continues into the last ten days of October.

(b) Harvesting periods of winter wheat are earlier in the south, beginning about the first ten days of July and ending the latter part of July. In the north, harvesting begins about the end of July and continues through the second ten days of August.

h. The Northern Deficit Zone seeded 0.5 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The non-black soils and climate of this whole northern part of European Russia are better adapted to rye and oats than to wheat. The zone comprises six regions and Molotov oblast of the Ural region which seeds no winter wheat.

(a) Upper Volga Region on the east, seeding unimportant acreages of winter wheat, comprises Kirov oblast in the north, Chuvash and Tartar ASSR in the south and Mari and Udmurt ASSR in the central areas.

(b) Central Industrial Region, comprising the oblasts of Moscow, Yaroslavl, Kaluga, Tula, Ryazan, Vladimir, Ivanovo, Kostroma, and Torok, seed winter wheat more densely than any other of the deficit regions, but these acreages are widely scattered among forests and swamps.

(c) Northwestern Region, comprising Smolensk, Velikiye Luki, Kalinin, Novgorod, Pskov, and Leningrad oblasts, seed scattered unimportant acreages of winter wheat.

(d) White Russia, including territories recently acquired from Poland, seeds unimportant acreages of winter wheat.

(e) In the Baltic States, including Konigsberg, recently acquired from Germany, only Lithuania seeds small scattered acreages. In the other states little winter wheat is grown.

1. For historical reasons 1,100 hectares seeded in West Kazakh and Aktubinsk of the Kazakh SSR are included in the Volga-Ural Surplus Zone.

- 3 -  
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(f) Northern Region, including Karelo-Finnish ASSR, Murmansk, Archangel, Vologda, and Komi ASSR, seeds insignificant acreages or no winter wheat at all.

(1) Seeding of winter wheat in the Northern Deficit Zone begins around the middle to the last of August and is completed about the first to the middle of September.

(2) Harvesting of winter wheat begins about the second ten days in July and continues through the middle to the latter part of August.

B. ASIATIC USSR seeded 11.2 percent of the total Soviet winter wheat acreage in 1938 of which 53.7 percent was seeded in the Central Asiatic Zone.

1. The Central Asiatic Zone comprises Uzbek SSR, Turkmen SSR, Tadjik SSR, and Kirgiz SSR as well as the southern oblasts of the Kazakh SSR.

(a) Seeding of winter wheat begins around the middle of October and continues through the first ten days of November.

(b) Harvesting dates are not available.

2. Transcaucasia seeded 44.6 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938, chiefly in Azerbaidzhan SSR.

(a) Seeding of winter wheat begins around the first ten days of October and continues to the end of the month.

(b) Harvesting dates are not available.

3. Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone is a spring wheat region in which winter wheat survives the severe winters with difficulty. This zone seeded only 1.7 percent of all the winter wheat seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938.

(a) Seeding of winter wheat begins about the first ten days of August and continues through the middle of October.

(b) Harvesting of winter wheat begins about the first ten days of August and continues to the end of the month.

4. East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone seeds insignificant acreages of winter wheat.

- 4 -  
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## II. SPRING WHEAT

A. EUROPEAN USSR seeded 52.1 percent of the total Soviet spring wheat acreage in 1938 of which 14.1 percent was seeded in the Southern Export Zone.

### 1. Southern Export Zone.

(a) North Caucasus Region seeded 8.2 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. Practically all of this spring wheat was seeded in the Middle valley of the Don river in the northern counties of Rostov oblast. There were only a few thousand scattered acreages in the Kuban river valley in Krasnodar Kray while insignificant acreages were seeded in the upper drainage basin of the Kuma river and along the Caspian sea littoral in Dagestan ASSR.

(1) Seeding of spring wheat usually begins the last ten days in March and may continue as late as the middle of May.

(2) Harvesting of spring wheat usually begins the middle of July and continues to the end of the month.

(b) South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories seeded 5.9 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The heaviest seedings were in Voroshilovgrad oblast. Important acreages continued westward through northern Stalino oblast and Dnepropetrovsk oblast. In other areas spring wheat was sparsely seeded in scattered acreages or not seeded at all except in Moldavia ASSR and Izmail oblast in the west where spring wheat was an important crop.

(1) Seeding of spring wheat usually begins the second ten days in March and may continue as late as the first ten days of May.

(2) Harvesting of spring wheat usually begins the middle of July and continues into the last ten days of the month.

2. Central Surplus Zone, which lies north of the Southern Export Zone, is an important oats region and is not well adapted to spring wheat production except in the southern tip of the Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region. Nevertheless, the zone seeded 12.9 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938.

(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region seeded about 10.0 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The most densely seeded area was in the middle drainage basin of

5  
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the Don river in the southern part of Voronezh oblast. Important acreages were seeded in Mordov ASSR and Penza oblast in the eastern part of the region. In other oblasts of the region acreages were scattered among other crops.

(1) Seeding of spring wheat usually begins the latter part of March in Voronezh oblast and may continue through the middle of May.

(2) Harvesting of spring wheat usually begins toward the end of July and continues to the middle of August.

(b) North and West Ukraine seeded 2.9 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. Relatively important acreages were scattered among other crops in Kharkov, Poltava, and Sumy oblasts in the east, and to a lesser extent in West Ukraine. Other oblasts seeded little or no spring wheat.

(1) Seeding of spring wheat usually begins in the first ten days in April and continues into the first ten days of May.

(2) Harvesting of spring wheat usually begins in the second ten days in July and continues into the second ten days of August.

3. Volga-Ural Surplus Zone seeded 55.5 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. The heaviest seedings of spring wheat were found in Stalingrad and Saratov oblasts in the middle drainage basin of the Don river and on the steppes west of the Volga river. Heavy seedings continued northward through Ulanovsk oblast, thence, eastward through northern Kulbyshev oblast of the Middle Volga Region into Bashkir ASSR of the Ural Region. Dense seedings continued northward in Molotov oblast in the middle valley of the Kama river and the drainage basin of the Bielaya river. Important acreages of spring wheat also occur in Chkalov oblast in the southern foothills of the Ural mountains extending southward into west Kazakh oblast and Aktubinsk oblast of the Kazakh SSR in the drainage basin of the Ural river.

(a) Seeding of spring wheat begins about the first ten days in April in the south and continues into the last ten days in May in the North.

(b) Harvesting of spring wheat usually begins about the second ten days in July in the south and continues through the second ten days in September in the north.

4. Northern Deficit Zone seeded 17.4 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in European USSR in 1938. There are important seedings of spring wheat in the Udmurt ASSR and in the southern counties of Chuvash and

- 6 -  
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Tartar ASSR. Otherwise, throughout this whole area of the Northern Deficit Zone, spring wheat was not an important grain and was seeded in scattered plots in farming districts likewise scattered for the most part among swamps and wooded regions.

- (a) Seeding of spring wheat begins around the second ten days of April and may continue in the north until the end of May.
- (b) Harvesting of spring wheat begins around the second ten days of August and continues into the middle of September.

B. ASIATIC USSR seeded 47.9 percent of the total Soviet spring wheat acreage in 1930 of which 72.2 percent was seeded in Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone.

1. Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone is by far the most important spring wheat region in the USSR. Geographically, it includes two oblasts of the Ural Region, lying in the eastern foothills of the Ural mountains—Sverdlovsk and Chelyabinsk—and one oblast—Kurgan, situated in the treeless steppe regions. The zone also includes the west Siberian oblasts of Tyumen, Omsk, and Novosibirsk as well as Altay Krai. The spring wheat acreages in several of the northern oblasts of Kazakh SSR are also included in this surplus zone—Kustary, Patropavlovsk, Kokchetav, Akmolinsk, and Pavlodar.

The Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone seeded 72.2 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1930. This zone extends east and west a few degrees on either side of the 50th parallel, so the range of seeding and harvesting dates is not great.

- (a) Seeding of spring wheat usually begins the first ten days in April and continues into the last ten days of the month.
- (b) Harvesting of spring wheat usually begins the second ten days in August and continues through the middle of September.

2. East-Siberia-Far Eastern Zone seeded 13.3 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1930. Practically all of the spring wheat was grown in East Siberia in the oblasts of Kamarovo, Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk, Buryat-Mongol, and Chita. Relatively small acreages of spring wheat were seeded in the Far Eastern oblasts.

- (a) Seeding of spring wheat in Eastern Siberia begins about the second ten days in May and continues to the first ten days in June.
- (b) Harvesting of spring wheat in Eastern Siberia begins about the second ten days in August. End date of harvesting is not available.

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(c) Seeding dates in the Far East are about ten days earlier than in East Siberia.

(d) Harvesting dates are about the same as those of East Siberia.

3. Central Asiatic Zone seeded about 12.5 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938. The zone comprises Uzbek SSR, Turkmen SSR, Tadzhik SSR, and Kirgiz SSR as well as the southern oblasts of Kazakh SSR.

(a) Seeding of spring wheat in the lowlands begins around the second ten days in March and continues to the first ten days of April. In the highlands, seeding begins the first ten days in April and continues to the first ten days of May.

(b) Harvesting of spring wheat begins about the last ten days in June in the lowlands and about the end of July in the highlands. The end dates for harvesting are not available.

4. Transcaucasia seeded 1.6 percent of all the spring wheat seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938.

(a) Seeding of spring wheat begins the last ten days in March and continues into the last ten days in May.

(b) Harvesting of spring wheat begins about the middle of July. There is no information regarding the end dates of harvesting.

~~- 8 -  
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III. WINTER RYE<sup>1</sup>

A. EUROPEAN USSR seeded 92.1 percent of the total Soviet acreage of winter rye in 1938 of which only 6.5 percent was seeded in the Southern Export Zone.

1. Southern Export Zone. The densest seeding of winter rye in the Southern Export Zone is found in the northern counties of Rostov oblast of the North Caucasus Area, in the middle drainage basin of the Don River.

(a) North Caucasus Region seeded 2.3 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. Seeding of winter rye in this area is negligible except in the middle drainage basin of the Don river as noted above.

(1) Seeding of winter rye usually begins around the middle of September and continues into the last ten days of October.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye usually begins during the first ten days in July and continues into the second ten days in July.

(b) South Ukraine, Crimea, and Former Rumanian Territories seeded 4.2 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. In the eastern Ukraine important acreages were seeded in the oblasts of Voroshilovgrad, Stalino, Dnepropetrovsk and northern Zaporozhye. Seedings in other districts of the area, though significant, were scattered.

(1) Seeding of winter rye usually begins around the first ten days in September and continues into the second ten days of October.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye usually begins in the first ten days of July and continues into the second ten days of July.

2. Central Surplus Zone seeded 33.0 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. Heavily seeded areas of winter rye form a v-shape belt with its apex in the upper drainage basin of the Don River and its right leg extending northeast into the Upper Volga Region. The left leg of the triangle extends northwest through the forest area of North Ukraine and south White Russia to the Polish frontier.

1. Spring rye acreage in the USSR is negligible.

- 9 -  
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(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region seeded 16.7 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. The heaviest seedings occur in the upper drainage basin of the Don river in south Voronezh oblast. Heavy seedings continue to the northeast in Tambov and Penza oblasts and in the eastern part of Mordov ASSR. Toward the west, winter rye is heavily seeded in northern Kursk and southern Orel oblasts. Though less heavily seeded, important acreages of rye are found in all the other oblasts of the Central Agricultural Region.

(1) Seeding of winter rye usually begins in the last ten days of August and continues through the first ten days of October.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye usually begins around the middle of July and continues through the last ten days of July.

(b) North and West Ukraine seeded 16.3 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. An "island" of heavy seeding occurs in Poltava oblast. A belt of dense seeding begins in the northern part of Sumy oblast and extends westward through Chernigov oblast, the northern part of Kiev oblast, into Zhitomir and Kamenev-Podolsk oblasts. Heavy seeding of winter rye is found in the former Polish territories now constituting West Ukraine. Important seeding also occurs in Kharkov and Vinnitsa oblasts of North Ukraine. Winter rye seeding in Carpathian Ruthenia is unimportant.

(1) Seeding of winter rye begins about the last ten days in August and continues through the middle of October.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye usually begins about the second ten days in July and continues into the first ten days of August.

3. Ural-Volga Surplus Zone seeded 16.8 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. Heavy seeding of winter rye occurs in northwestern Stalingrad oblast of the Lower Volga Region and in western Saratov oblast and Ulanovsk oblast of the Middle Volga Region. Seedings are important in eastern Saratov oblast, Kuibyshev oblast and in western Chkalov oblast. Heavy seeding of winter rye also occurs in Dzharkir ASSR in the western foothills of the Ural Mountains.

(a) Seeding of winter rye begins about the second ten days of August in the north and is usually completed by the end of September. In the south seeding begins later, about the first of September and continues into the second ten days of October.

(b) Harvesting periods of winter rye are earlier in the south, beginning about the first ten days in July and continuing into the last ten days of July. In the north harvesting begins about the first of August and continues into the second ten days of August.

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4. Northern Deficit Zone seeded 41.7 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. Rye is by far the most important cereal crop grown in this zone. The heaviest seedings are found in the Kama-Volga area comprising Molotov oblast<sup>1</sup>, Tartar ACSR, Chuvash ACSR, Udmurt ACSR, Mari ACSR, and the western part of Kirov oblast.

(a) Upper Volga Region and Molotov Oblast seeded 13.3 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. This area, lying in the valleys of the Kama River and Upper Volga River, is one of the most densely seeded rye areas in the USSR.

(1) Seeding of winter rye begins about the middle of August and continues through the first ten days of September.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye begins about the end of July and continues through the middle of August.

(b) Central Industrial Region seeded 9.7 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. The most heavily seeded districts are contiguous to the Central Agricultural Region in the oblasts of Kaluga, Tula, Ryazan and the southern counties of Gorki Oblast. In the other oblasts--Moscow, Yaroslavl, Vladimir, Ivanovo, Gorki (north of the Volga) and Kostroma--seeding of winter rye, although important, was scattered among forests and marshes.

(1) Seeding of winter rye begins after the middle of August and continues to the end of the month.

(2) Harvesting begins toward the end of July and continues to the middle of August.

(c) Northwestern Region seeded 5.3 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. Important acreages of winter rye were seeded in Smolensk, Novgorod and the northern part of Kalinin oblast. Seedings in Velikiye Luki, Pskov and Leningrad oblasts were scattered.

(1) Seeding begins about the second ten days in August and continues to the middle of September.

(2) Harvesting begins about the last ten days in July and continues through the last ten days in August.

(d) Baltic States including Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Königsberg seeded 4.6 percent of all the winter rye seeded in

1. Molotov oblast is geographically in the Ural Region, while the other districts make up the Upper Volga region.

- 11 -  
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European USSR in 1938. The most important seedings were in the southwest in Lithuania.

(1) Seeding and

(2) Harvesting periods for winter rye are about the same as in the Northwestern Region.

(e) White Russia, including the territory recently acquired from Poland, seeded 6.8 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. The most heavily seeded districts were in former Polish territory in the oblasts of Brest and Baranovichi in the west, and in the east Vitebsk, Mogilev, and Gomel oblasts as well as in the valley of the Pripyet River in the south.

(1) Seeding of winter rye begins about the end of August and continues through the second ten days of September.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye begins about the second ten days of July and continues into the second ten days of August.

(f) Northern Region seeded only 1.8 percent of all the winter rye seeded in European USSR in 1938. These acreages were widely scattered among swamps and forests, chiefly in Vologda oblast.

(1) Seeding of winter rye begins about the first ten days in August and continues into the second ten days of August.

(2) Harvesting of winter rye begins about the second ten days in August and continues into the first ten days of September.

B. ASIATIC USSR seeded 7.9 percent of the total Soviet winter rye acreage in 1938 of which 75.8 percent was seeded in widely scattered acreages throughout Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone.

1. Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone<sup>1</sup>. The most concentrated seedings are found in eastern Kurgan oblast and southern Tyumen oblast.

(a) Seeding of winter rye begins about the second ten days in August and continues into the first ten days of October.

(b) Harvesting of winter rye begins about the first ten days in August and continues through the last ten days in August.

2. Central Asiatic Zone and Transcaucasia seeded only negligible acreages of winter rye in 1938.

1. The Ural-West Siberian Zone is surplus in spring wheat.

- 12 -  
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3. East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone seeded 20.6 percent of all the winter rye in Asiatic U.S.R. in 1930. All but a negligible part of this winter rye was seeded in East Siberia.

(a) Seeding of winter rye in East Siberia begins about the second ten days in August and continues until the first ten days in October.

(b) Harvesting of winter rye in East Siberia begins about the middle of August. End date of harvesting period is not available.

- 13 -  
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IV. OATS

A. EUROPEAN USSR seeded 74.4 percent of the total Soviet oats acreage in 1930 of which 7.8 percent was seeded in the Southern Export Zone.

1. Southern Export Zone

(a) North Caucasus Region seeded 4.0 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1930. The greater part of these seedings was found in the valleys north of the Kuban River in Krasnodar Krai extending eastward into Stavropol Krai in the upper drainage basin of the Kuma river and in Grozny oblast. Oats occurred in scattered seedings in the western and northern counties of Rostov oblast.

(1) Seeding of oats usually begins about the last ten days in March and may continue until the middle of May.

(2) Harvesting of oats usually begins about the middle of July and continues to the end of the month.

(b) South Ukraine, Crimea and Former Rumanian Territories seeded 3.8 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1930. On the whole, oats seedings in South Ukraine were scattered. Dnepropetrovsk oblast was the most important area. There were little or no seedings in the Black Sea and Azov Sea littorals. Crimea seeded some oats in an east-west belt across the middle areas. Some oats were also seeded in the western drainage basin of the Dniester river in former Rumanian territory. None of these seedings was important.

(1) Seeding of oats begins around the middle of March and ends around the second ten days in April.

(2) Harvesting of oats usually begins about the middle of July and continues into the last ten days of the month.

2. Central Surplus Zone, lying north of the Southern Export Zone, is an important oats area which seeded 25.7 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1930.

(a) Central Agricultural (Black Soil) Region seeded 14.6 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1930. The heaviest seedings occurred in the east in Mordov ASSR and in Penza and Tambov oblasts. Only scattered seedings of oats were found in the upper Don River Valley (in Voronezh oblast), but heavier seedings occurred westward in Kursk, Orel and Bryansk oblasts.

- 14 -

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(1) Seeding of oats usually begins about the last ten days in March and may continue as late as the middle of May.

(2) Harvesting of oats usually begins toward the end of July and continues into the middle of August.

(b) North and West Ukraine seeded 11.1 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. The heaviest seedings occurred in an irregular belt beginning in Sumy oblast in the east and extending westward through southern Chernigov, central Kiev, Winnitsa and southern Zhitomir, Kamenits-Podolsk, Ternopol and southern Rovno into Lvov and Volno oblasts.

(1) Seeding of oats begins around the last ten days of March and ends around the first of May.

(2) Harvesting of oats begins about the second ten days of July and continues into the second ten days in August.

3. Volga-Ural Surplus Zone seeded 13.7 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. In the Lower Volga Region little or no oats were seeded east of the Volga River. On the west side of the river seedings were scattered. In the Middle Volga Region heavy seedings occurred north of the city of Saratov and in Ulanvosk oblast with scattered seedings in the northern part of Kuibyshev oblast. In the Ural Region there are scattered seedings of oats in Chkalov oblast and heavy seeding in Bashkir ASSR.

(a) Seeding of oats begins about the first ten days in April in the south and continues into the second ten days in May in the North.

(b) Harvesting begins about the second ten days in July in the south and continues into the first ten days in September in the north.

4. Northern Deficit Zone seeded 52.0 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. Oats were seeded generally in varying degrees of density throughout the whole zone. The heaviest seedings were in the Central Industrial Region, the Upper Volga Region and in Molotov oblast.

(a) Upper Volga Region and Molotov oblast seeded 15.7 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. There were heavy seedings in Kirov oblast, particularly in the northwestern counties. Heavy seedings of oats also occurred in the lower Kama River valley. Seeding of oats in Molotov oblast were heavy.

- 15 -  
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(1) Seeding of oats begins around the second ten days in April and continues through the second ten days in May.

(2) Harvesting of oats begins in the second ten days of August and continues into the second ten days in September.

(b) Central Industrial Region is an important oats producing district which seeded 14.3 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. Important seedings occurred in the oblasts of Tula, Ryazan, Vladimir, southeastern Moscow and the central part of Gorki. Seedings in the oblasts of Kaluga, northwestern Moscow, Yaroslavl, Ivanovo, and Kostroma were scattered.

(1) Seeding of oats begins about the second ten days in April and continues through the second ten days of May.

(2) Harvesting begins about the second ten days in August and continues into the second ten days in September.

(c) Northwestern Region seeded about 7.5 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. Important seedings occurred in western Smolensk oblast and southwestern Velikiye Luki oblast. In other oblasts seedings were scattered and not important.

(1) Seeding usually begins around the middle of April and continues into the second week of June.

(2) Harvesting begins around the third week in July and continues into the second week of September.

(d) Baltic States and Konigsberg seeded 6.2 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. Seedings were for the most part scattered and unimportant.

(1) Seeding, and

(2) Harvesting dates are similar to those in the Northwestern Region.

(e) White Russia also seeded 6.2 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. Important seedings occurred in Mogilev and Gomel oblasts in the east and Baranovichy oblast in the west. Otherwise acreages were scattered and unimportant.

(1) Seeding of oats begins about the second ten days in April and continues through the last ten days in May.

(2) Harvesting begins around the middle of August and continues into the first ten days of October.

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(f) Northern Regions seeded only 2.9 percent of all the oats seeded in European USSR in 1938. Scattered seedings were found in Vologda oblast.

(1) Seeding of oats usually begins around the second ten days in April and continues into the second ten days in June.

(2) Harvesting of oats usually begins around the first of September and continues through the second ten days of September.

B. ASIATIC USSR seeded 25.6 percent of the total Soviet oats acreage in 1938 of which 69.2 percent was seeded in the Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone.

1. Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone seeded 69.2 percent of all the oats seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938. Dense seedings occurred in the eastern part of the Ural Region in Kurgan oblast, eastern Chelyabinsk and southeastern Sverdlovsk oblasts as well as in the adjoining West Siberian oblast of Tyumen. Important seedings occurred toward the east in Omsk and Novosibirsk oblasts and in Altay Krai.

(a) Seeding of oats begins about the second week in April and continues into the second ten days of June.

(b) Harvesting of oats begins about the second ten days in August and continues to the middle of September.

2. East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone seeded 25.0 percent of all the oats seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938. All but small scattered acreages were seeded in East Siberia.

(a) Seeding of oats in East Siberia usually begins about the second ten days of April and continues into the middle of June.

(b) Harvesting of oats begins about the first of September. The end dates of harvesting are not available.

3. Central Asiatic Zone seeded only 5.3 percent of all the oats seeded in Asiatic USSR in 1938. Practically all seedings occurred in Kirgiz SSR.

(a) Seeding of oats usually begins about the first of April and continues into the second ten days of May.

(b) Harvesting begins about the end of July. The end dates of harvesting are not available.

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4. Transcaucasia seeded only negligible acreages of oats in 1930.

- (a) Seeding, and
- (b) Harvesting dates are not available.

- 18 -

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TABLE A

APPROXIMATE SEEDING AND HARVESTING DATES FOR WINTER WHEAT IN  
SPECIFIED REGIONS OF THE USSR

Specified Regions	Seeding Season		Harvesting Season	
	Beginning	Ending	Beginning	Ending
<b>EUROPEAN USSR</b>				
<b>Southern Export Zone</b>				
North Caucasus	15 Sept	20 Oct	1 July	20 July
South Ukraine	10 Sept	15 Oct	1 July	15 July
<b>Central Surplus Zone</b>				
Central Agricultural	20 Aug	10 Oct	15 July	1 Aug
North Ukraine	25 Aug	15 Oct	5 July	1 Aug
<b>Ural Volga Surplus Zone</b>				
Lower Volga	1 Sept	20 Oct	10 July	20 July
Middle Volga	20 Aug	30 Oct	20 July	1 Aug
Bashkir ASSR	10 Aug	1 Oct	1 Aug	20 Aug
<b>Northern Deficit Zone</b>				
Tatar ASSR (Upper Volga)	10 Aug	10 Sept	30 July	15 Aug
Central Industrial	20 Aug	30 Aug	30 July	15 Aug
Northwestern	15 Aug	30 Aug	20 July	20 Aug
Northern	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.
White Russia	30 Aug	20 Sept	20 July	10 Aug
<b>ASIATIC USSR</b>				
<b>Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone</b>				
Ural	10 Aug	1 Sept	1 Aug	20 Aug
West Siberia	20 Aug	10 Oct	10 Aug	30 Aug
Kazakh SSR	25 Aug	20 Oct	n. a.	n. a.
<b>Central Asiatic Zone</b>				
Uzbek SSR	15 Oct	5 Nov	n. a.	n. a.
Transcaucasia	10 Oct	31 Oct	n. a.	n. a.

n. a. - not available

Source: Seeding dates are CIA estimates based on 1932-1935 data for winter grain published in Selskoe Khozyaistvo USSR 1935, page 349.

Harvesting dates are CIA estimates based on winter grain data published in Statistical Review of USSR July 1928.

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TABLE B

APPROXIMATE SEEDING AND HARVESTING DATES FOR SPRING WHEAT IN SPECIFIED

REGIONS OF THE USSR

Specified Regions	Seeding Season		Harvesting Season	
	Beginning	Ending	Beginning	Ending
<u>EUROPEAN USSR</u>				
Southern Export Zone				
North Caucasus	25 Mar	15 May	15 July	30 July
South Ukraine	20 Mar	10 May	15 July	25 July
Central surplus Zone				
Central Agricultural	25 Mar	20 May	30 July	10 Aug
North Ukraine	1 Apr	10 May	20 July	10 Aug
Ural Volga Surplus Zone				
Lower Volga	1 Apr	15 May	20 July	10 Aug
Middle Volga	1 Apr	15 May	10 Aug	30 Aug
Bashkir ASSR	5 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	10 Sept
Northern Deficit Zone				
Tatar ASSR (Upper Volga)	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	10 Sept
Central Industrial	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	1 Sept.
Northwestern	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	1 Sept
Northern	1 May	1 Jun	1 Sept	15 Sept
White Russia	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	5 Sept
<u>ASIATIC USSR</u>				
Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone				
Ural	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	15 Sept
West Siberia	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	15 Sept
Kazakh SSR	1 Apr	10 May	25 July	n. a.
East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone				
East Siberia	20 May	5 Jun	20 Aug	n. a.
Far East	10 Apr	1 Jun	20 Aug	n. a.
Central Asiatic Zone				
Uzbek SSR	10 Mar	1 Apr	25 Jun	n. a.
Kirgiz SSR	1 Apr	5 May	20 July	n. a.
Transcaucasia	25 Mar	30 May	15 July	n. a.

n. a. - not available

Source: Seeding dates - Statistical Review of USSR, March 1928, page 17, quoted by OFAR, USDA. Revised in conformity with 1932-1935 data published in Selskoe Khozyaistvo USSR 1935, pages 360-361.

Harvesting dates - Ibid, July 1928, quoted by OFAR, USDA

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TABLE C

APPROXIMATE SEEDING AND HARVESTING DATES FOR WINTER RYE IN  
SPECIFIED REGIONS OF THE USSR

Specified Regions	Seeding Season		Harvesting Season	
	Beginning	Ending	Beginning	Ending
<b>EUROPEAN USSR</b>				
<b>Southern Export Zone</b>				
North Caucasus	15 Sept	25 Oct	5 July	15 July
South Ukraine	10 Sept	20 Oct	5 July	15 July
<b>Central Surplus Zone</b>				
Central Agricultural	20 Aug	10 Oct	15 July	25 July
North Ukraine	25 Aug	15 Oct	10 July	5 Aug
<b>Ural Volga Surplus Zone</b>				
Lower Volga	1 Sept	20 Oct	5 July	25 July
Middle Volga	20 Aug	30 Oct	20 July	5 Aug
Bashkir ASSR	10 Aug	1 Oct	1 Aug	20 Aug
<b>Northern Deficit Zone</b>				
Tatar ASSR (Upper Volga)	15 Aug	10 Sept	30 July	15 Aug
Central Industrial	20 Aug	30 Aug	30 July	15 Aug
Northwestern	10 Aug	15 Sept	25 July	30 Aug
Northern	5 Aug	20 Aug	20 Aug	5 Sept
White Russia	30 Aug	20 Sept	20 July	10 Aug
<b>ASIATIC USSR</b>				
<b>Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone</b>				
Ural	15 Aug	1 Oct	5 Aug	20 Aug
West Siberia	20 Aug	10 Oct	10 Aug	30 Aug
<b>East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone</b>				
East Siberia	20 Aug	10 Oct	15 Aug	n. a.
Far East	30 Aug	10 Oct	5 Aug	n. a.

n. a. - not available

Source: Seeding: Statistical Review of USSR, August 1928, page 20. Revised in conformity with 1932-1934 data, published in Selskoe Khozyaistvo USSR 1935, page 394.

Harvesting: Statistical Review of USSR, July 1928.

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TABLE D

APPROXIMATE SEEDING AND HARVESTING DATES FOR OATS IN  
SPECIFIED REGIONS OF THE USSR

Specified Regions	Seeding Season		Harvesting Season	
	Beginning	Ending	Beginning	Ending
<u>EUROPEAN USSR</u>				
Southern Export Zone				
North Caucasus	20 Mar	15 May	15 July	30 July
South Ukraine	15 Mar	20 Apr	15 July	25 July
Central Surplus Zone				
Central Agricultural	25 Mar	15 May	30 July	15 Aug
North Ukraine	20 Mar	1 May	20 July	10 Aug
Ural-Volga Surplus Zone				
Lower Volga	1 Apr	5 May	20 July	5 Aug
Middle Volga	1 Apr	15 May	10 Aug	30 Aug
Bashkir ASSR	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	10 Sept
Northern Deficit Zone				
Tartar ASSR (Upper Volga)	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	20 Sept
Central Industrial	10 Apr	20 May	20 Aug	10 Sept
Northwestern	15 Apr	10 Jun	20 Aug	10 Sept
Northern	10 Apr	10 Jun	1 Sept	20 Sept
White Russia	10 Apr	30 May	15 Aug	5 Oct
<u>ASIATIC USSR</u>				
Ural-West Siberian Surplus Zone				
Ural	10 Apr	10 Jun	20 Aug	15 Sept
West Siberia	10 Apr	10 Jun	20 Aug	15 Sept
Kazakh SSR	10 Apr	10 Jun	25 Aug	n. a.
East Siberia-Far Eastern Zone				
East Siberia	20 Apr	15 Jun	1 Sept.	n. a.
Far East	10 Apr	15 Jun	25 Aug	n. a.
Central Asiatic Zone				
Kirgiz SSR	1 Apr	20 May	30 July	n. a.

n. a. - not available

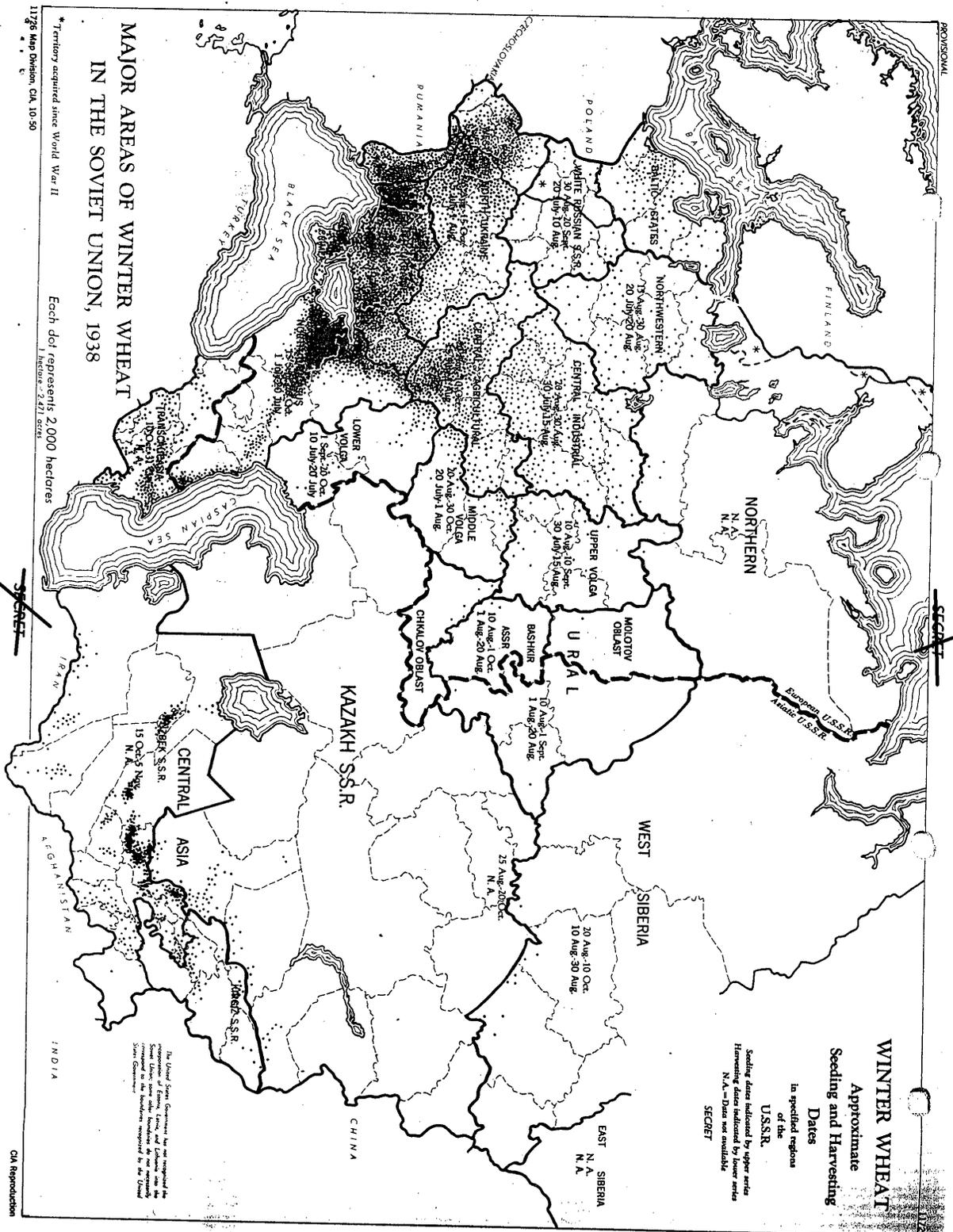
Source: Seeding dates - Statistical Review of USSR, March 1928, page 17, quoted by OFAR, USDA, Revised in conformity with 1932-1935 data published in Sel'skoe Khozyaistvo USSR 1935, pages 360-361.

Harvesting dates - Ibid, July 1928, quoted by OFAR, USDA.

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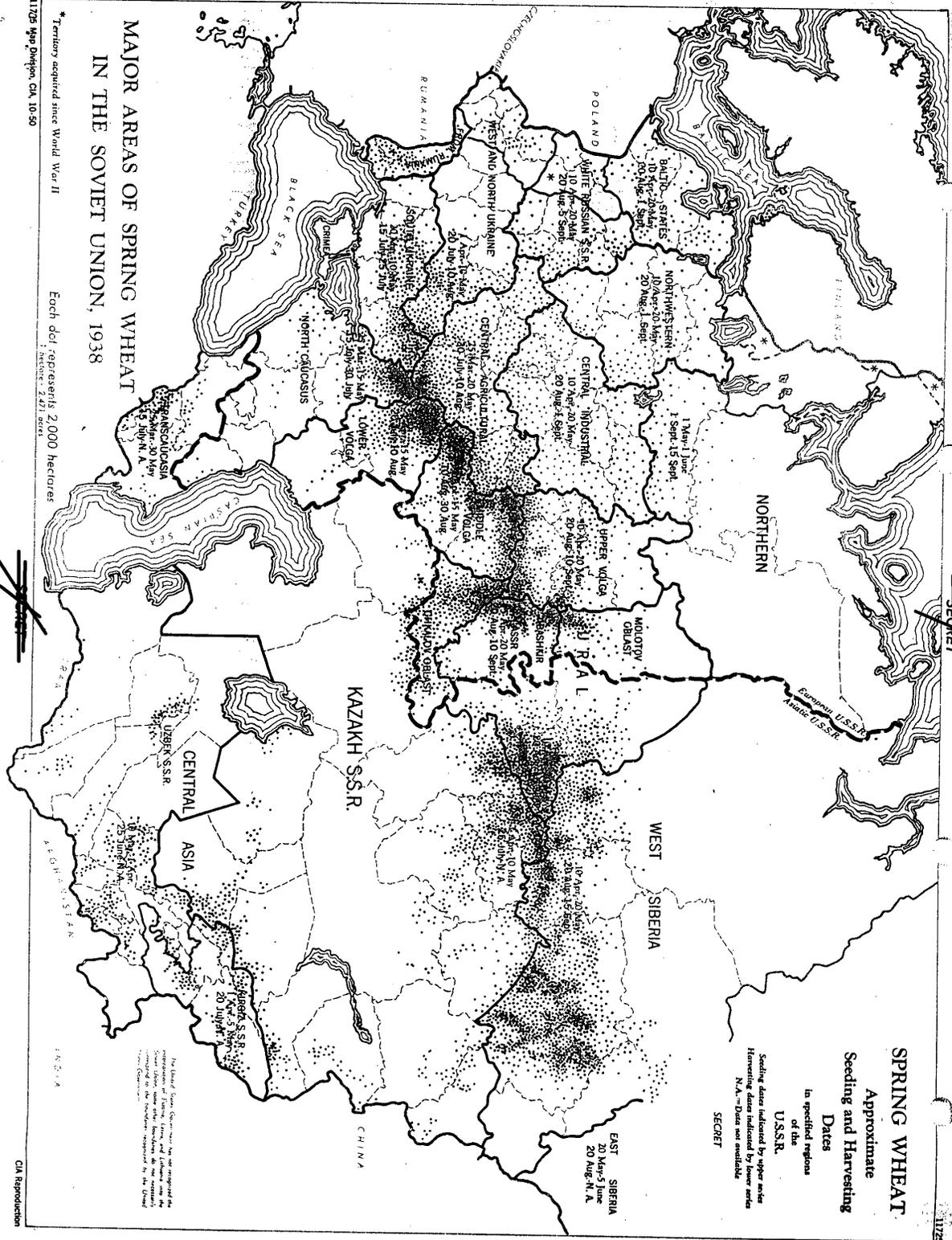
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**SPRING WHEAT**  
 Approximate  
 Seeding and Harvesting  
 Dates  
 in specified regions  
 of the  
 U.S.S.R.

Seeding dates indicated by upper outline  
 Harvesting dates indicated by lower outline  
 N.A. - Data not available  
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**MAJOR AREAS OF SPRING WHEAT  
 IN THE SOVIET UNION, 1938**

\*Territory acquired since World War II  
 Each dot represents 2,000 hectares  
 1:100,000  
 1:100,000

No Bound. Lines. Government has not recognized the independence of these areas and continues to regard them as territory under its jurisdiction. Boundaries are shown for information only. Boundaries do not constitute an official position of the Government. Boundaries are shown for information only.