

REDSKINS HARVEST WILD RICE

At Lac du Bois east of Winnipeg, the Indians are out in their old war-canoes to reap the harvest of wild rice that grows here. Their methods may be primitive but a small team can gather more than a hundred pounds of rice in an hour.

Bill Williams, who owns 500 acres of rice fields, built his harvester himself from old scraps. The blades knock the kernels from the stalks into a trough in the machine - so there's little manual labour needed until the sacks are full and they're taken to the weighing room.

The deal is over, so on goes the rice to be processed. Canada's wild rice is the world's most expensive cereal - about twenty-five bob a pound. So it's back to the old cornflakes for me tomorrow morning.