ECON 403: Crop Allocation Problem

Given the following information for a 1500 ac farm, construct a linear programming model that determines how much of each crop to plant.

Crop	Observed Acreage (ac)	Average Yield (bu/ac)	Price ($/bu)	Average costs ($/ac)
Wheat	500	42	$7.50	$192.0
Barley	200	70	$4.25	$169.5
Canola	450	38	$11.50	$229.0
Peas	250	45	$6.75	$163.8
Oats	100	110	$2.75	$152.50

1. Solve the following simple model using Excel's Solver:

Maximize $\quad R = \sum_{k=1}^{n}(p_k x_k y_k - c_k x_k)$

Subject to $\quad \sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k \leq 1500$

$\qquad\qquad x_k \geq 0$

2. Now include the following constraint and solve the problem again:

$$x_k \leq x_k^{obs} + 0.01, \forall k$$

For these constraints find the associated shadow prices, λ_k, and use this information to modify the objective function above assuming a quadratic cost function: $c_k = a\, x_k + b\, x_k^2$. Then:

$$b_k = 2 \times \lambda_k/x_k^{obs} \text{ and } a_k = c_k - \tfrac{1}{2} \times b_k \times x_k^{obs}$$

Use the cost function in place of $c_k x_k$ in the objective function, so the revised objective is:

Maximize $\quad R = \sum_{k=1}^{n}(p_k x_k y_k - a_k x_k - b_k x_k^2)$

Solve the revised problem using Solver.