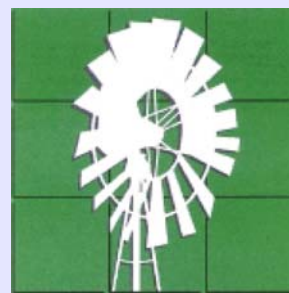


# Service bulletin

## Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products

2011



### Highlights

#### Honey

In 2011, Canadian beekeepers produced 78.1 million pounds of honey, a decline of nearly 4.0 million pounds or 4.8%, from 2010.

On average, each colony had a yield of 124 pounds, down from 132 pounds per colony in 2010.

In Alberta, which accounts for over 40% of Canada's honey production, yields fell by 13 pounds per colony to 117 pounds. The decline was the result of several factors, including a long winter and rainy spring and increased splitting of colonies as farmers increased their hives.

The two other Prairie provinces account for an additional 40% of national production. In Manitoba, a hot, dry season provided good conditions for bee activity, resulting in above-average production. Yields averaged 200 pounds per colony, up from 165 pounds from 2010.

In Saskatchewan, yields and production were lower in 2011 with average yields at 177 pound per colony, down from 214 pounds in 2010.

Canada had 7,671 beekeepers in 2011, 268 more than in 2010. They managed about 627,700 beehives, an increase of 7,400 from 2010.

In 2010, the total value of honey produced amounted to \$146 million, up 15.5% from 2009.

#### Maple Products

In 2011, farmers produced 8.6 million gallons of maple syrup and maple syrup products, a 17.6% increase from 2010. The increase was attributed to a favourable season and better yields in many of the maple producing regions.

The total value of maple products, including maple syrup, sugar and butter, was \$349.5 million, up 20.1% from 2010.

Quebec producers accounted for 90% of maple syrup production in Canada. Quebec's total production in 2011 amounted to 7.7 million gallons, 1 million gallons more than what was produced in 2010. This was due to a longer season along with better yields per tap. The 2011 production was 5.5% less than the record crop of 2009 which reached 8.1 million gallons.

The average price per gallon in Quebec remained relatively steady at \$38.17 in 2011, compared to \$37.86 in 2010.

## Statistical tables

**Table 1**  
**Production and value of honey**

	Beekeepers <sup>1</sup>	Colonies <sup>1</sup>	Honey		
			Production of honey, total <sup>2</sup>	Production of honey, total <sup>2</sup>	Value of honey, total <sup>3</sup>
	number		thousands of pounds	metric tonnes	thousands of dollars
<b>Canada<sup>4</sup></b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	7,274	600,027	78,672	35,695	114,692
2010	7,403 <sup>r</sup>	620,291 <sup>r</sup>	82,101 <sup>r</sup>	37,251 <sup>r</sup>	145,853 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	7,671	627,713	78,134	35,451	..
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	24	2,993	203	92	459
2010	33	2,605 <sup>r</sup>	201 <sup>r</sup>	91 <sup>r</sup>	603 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	40	2,954	295	134	885
<b>Nova Scotia</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	236	18,840	515	233	1,094
2010	215	18,500	528	240	1,584
2011 <sup>p</sup>	220	16,200	352	160	1,059
<b>New Brunswick</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	203	4,346	208	94	489
2010	204	4,288	257	117	963
2011 <sup>p</sup>	209	4,500	208	94	822
<b>Quebec</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	255	35,968	3,079	1,397	7,650
2010	262 <sup>r</sup>	39,812 <sup>r</sup>	4,459 <sup>r</sup>	2,023 <sup>r</sup>	9,516 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	265	39,900	3,511	1,593	8,780
<b>Ontario</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	2,400	79,710	6,677	3,029	13,316
2010	2,600	83,150	8,814 <sup>r</sup>	3,999 <sup>r</sup>	22,035 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	2,900	87,000	8,787	3,987	..
<b>Manitoba</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	548	77,284	13,803	6,263	16,796
2010	490 <sup>r</sup>	78,000	12,870	5,839	19,562 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	492	77,000	15,400	6,987	23,100
<b>Saskatchewan</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	1,016	91,200	18,718	8,493	24,263
2010	965	86,000	18,404	8,350	28,526 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	850	90,000	15,930	7,228	24,692
<b>Alberta</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	706	246,800	33,067	15,003	43,765
2010	769 <sup>r</sup>	266,000 <sup>r</sup>	34,580 <sup>r</sup>	15,690 <sup>r</sup>	56,230 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	760	272,000	31,824	14,439	55,865
<b>British Columbia</b>					
Average 2006 to 2010	1,885	42,886	2,402	1,090	6,860
2010	1,865	41,936	1,988 <sup>r</sup>	902 <sup>r</sup>	6,834 <sup>r</sup>
2011 <sup>p</sup>	1,935	38,159	1,826	828	6,774

1. Beekeeper and colony numbers may include pollinators that may not extract honey.

2. Production excludes inventory.

3. Value excludes inventory sales except for in Quebec.

4. Does not include Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Note(s):** Figures are compiled by Statistics Canada from provincial data, except for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island where data are collected through a Statistics Canada mail survey.

**Table 2**  
**Production and farm value of maple products**

	2010			2011 p		
	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Gross value of maple products	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Gross value of maple products
	thousands of gallons	kilolitres	thousands of dollars	thousands of gallons	kilolitres	thousands of dollars
<b>Canada</b>	<b>7,274<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>33,068</b>	<b>291,079<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>8,552</b>	<b>38,877</b>	<b>349,453</b>
Nova Scotia <sup>1</sup>	28	127	1,534 <sup>r</sup>	31	141	1,667
New Brunswick <sup>2</sup>	309	1,405	18,620	341	1,550	21,728
Quebec <sup>3</sup>	6,649 <sup>r</sup>	30,226	251,700 <sup>r</sup>	7,690	34,959	293,500
Ontario <sup>2</sup>	288	1,309	19,225	488	2,218	32,559

1. Estimates produced by Nova Scotia horticulture industry specialists.

2. Beginning in 1986, survey data for New Brunswick and Ontario are weighted using the number of taps made on maple trees in the spring of the year of the most recently completed census of agriculture.

3. Estimates produced jointly by the "Table filière acéricole", "Cintech Agroalimentaire", "Groupe AGÉCO", "Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ)" and the regional specialists of the "ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ)".

**Note(s):** Conversion factors: 1 gallon of syrup equals 10.0 pounds of maple sugar. One gallon of syrup weighs 13.24760 pounds. One gallon of syrup equals 10.4 pounds of taffy. Maple taffy is reported by Quebec and Nova Scotia only and commenced reporting in 1965 and 1983 respectively. The conversion of maple taffy to syrup varies with the density of syrup that year.

## Annual honey survey

### Data sources

Prior to the 1999 crop year, Statistics Canada compiled data on Honey and other Apiary Product Farms through a combination of survey taking and administrative sources of data. Estimates published for the provinces of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan were based on a probability sample survey of beekeeping operations in those provinces. Provincial departments of agriculture in the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia carried out their own surveys to independently estimate all honey variables published in this annual bulletin.

Beginning with the 1999 crop year, the provinces of Nova Scotia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan were added to the list of provinces for which data was compiled solely from provincially administered survey vehicles. While these surveys cover the same subject matter as the Statistics Canada survey, each province customizes its own questionnaire to request supplementary data on topics relevant to its apiculture industry. It is worth noting that no data has ever been collected or compiled for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador with respect to this industry.

In September of 2000, Statistics Canada conducted a census of beekeepers in the provinces of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. The survey frame in these provinces was drawn from a list compiled after the conclusion of the 2001 Census of Agriculture and augmented from a registration list provided by the respective agricultural authorities in each of those two provinces. The Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick Honey Survey is now conducted as a mail out/mail back survey. Honey surveys prior to September of 1999 were conducted through a computer assisted telephone interview process.

The goal of the Statistics Canada Honey Survey is to provide an estimate of the quantity and value of the domestic commercial production of honey.

### Revisions

The estimates are preliminary when first published and subject to revision in the next year. There are relatively few revisions made to the estimates due to the availability of administrative data at the time estimates are initially published.

## Maple products

The data for New Brunswick and Ontario in this release, were prepared by Statistics Canada. Survey data for New Brunswick and Ontario are weighted using the number of taps made on maple trees in the spring of 2006, as reported on the 2006 Census of Agriculture.

Estimates for the province of Quebec were prepared by "l'Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ)".

## Data quality description

### Sources

Maple product estimates are collected and compiled by Statistics Canada on an annual basis. Data collection for Ontario and New Brunswick takes the form of a mail-in survey sent by Statistics Canada to all known producers in these provinces. Quebec, which is the world leader in maple production, as well as Nova Scotia provide the estimates using administrative data.

Data for New Brunswick and Ontario are collected and compiled by Statistics Canada, Agriculture Division. The data from all provinces are assembled and published by Statistics Canada.

### Methodology

#### Nova Scotia

Specialists provide all administrative data on maple production in the province of Nova Scotia.

#### New Brunswick and Ontario

Questionnaires for these provinces received by Statistics Canada are manually scanned for inconsistencies upon receipt. They are then data captured using a system of electronic edits designed to detect data inconsistencies and to reject most anomalies. These anomalies are investigated and manually corrected to assure accuracy of reporting. The resultant tabulations are compared to previous years and the most recent Census. Significant variations are identified and investigated. Finally, the data are weighted using the number of taps made on maple trees as reported on the most recent Census.

#### Quebec

The production data are established by the "Table filière acéricole". It is composed of all the Industry representatives. This committee takes into account various data sources in its analysis which are predominantly: "Cintech Agroalimentaire", "Groupe AGÉCO", "ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ)", "Fédération des producteurs acéricoles du Québec (FPAQ)" and the processing industry.

The production value data are established by MAPAQ and ISQ from the numbers provided by FPAQ and MAPAQ regional specialists.

### Data quality

The Maple Products Survey is a non-probability survey, the data for which are collected at year-end. Statistics Canada revises their portion of the data only when significant outliers are received subsequent to the compilation of the data. The published data from Quebec represents a consensus of representatives from the industry. The major elements that permit the industry representatives to provide official statistics are a probability survey of maple producers, a weekly follow up of a regional target group, data on syrup classification and international trade.

**Conversion factors (revised in 1995)**

**Note:** Conversion factors were revised beginning in 1995 due to improved measurement standards in the province of Quebec.

1 gallon of syrup = 10.0 pounds of maple sugar

1 gallon of syrup = 10.4 pounds of maple taffy

1 gallon of syrup = 13.24760 pounds of syrup

1 pound = 0.454 kilograms

1 gallon = 4.546 litres

1 litre = 0.220 gallons

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The following members have contributed to this publication:

**Marco Morin**, Chief, Crops Section

**Lorie Shinder**, Head, Horticulture Unit

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## Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 <sup>s</sup>	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
P	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published
*	significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

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