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# MONTHLY DAIRY REVIEW OF CANADA 1942

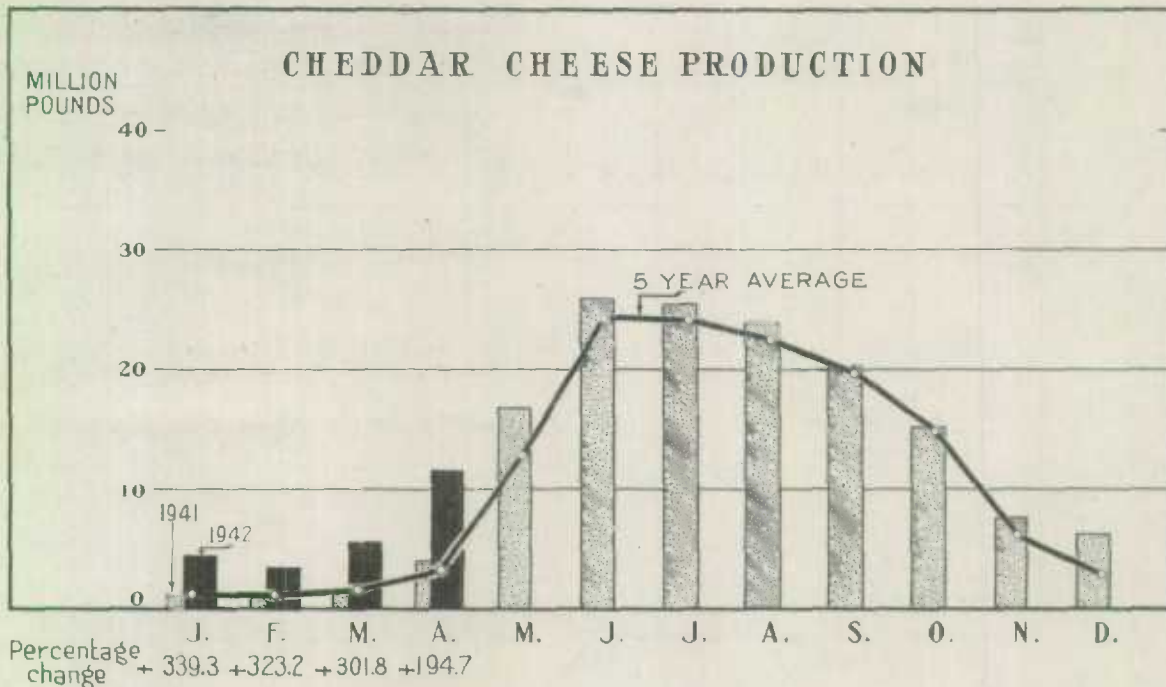
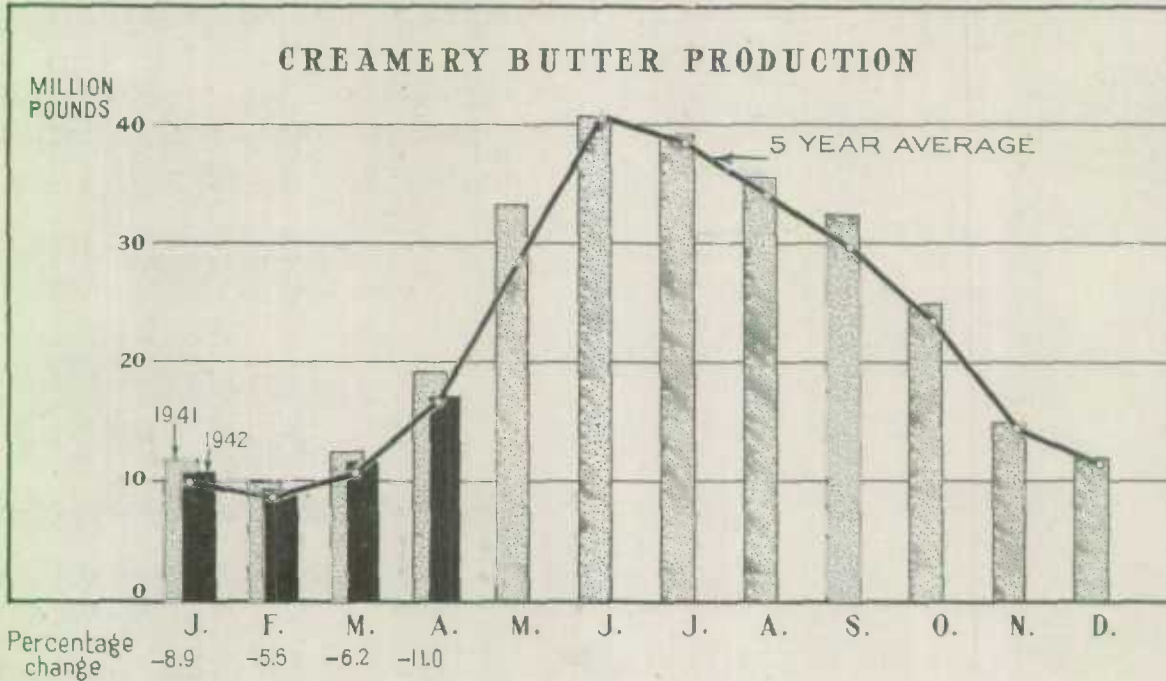
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APRIL

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I -- PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES.

APRIL AND THE CUMULATIVE JANUARY TO APRIL, 1941 and 1942.

Province	APRIL			JANUARY TO APRIL		
	1941	1942	% Change	1941	1942	% Change
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	19,143,150	17,029,081	(-) 11.0	53,289,061	48,803,078	(-) 8.4
Prince Edward Island	85,178	96,705	(+) 13.5	315,917	361,733	(+) 14.5
Nova Scotia	417,594	424,075	(+) 1.6	1,496,025	1,484,968	(-) 0.7
New Brunswick	187,200	163,245	(-) 12.8	473,445	447,749	(-) 5.4
Quebec	4,342,851	3,409,945	(-) 21.5	7,614,340	5,622,027	(-) 26.2
Ontario	7,043,779	5,957,330	(-) 15.4	21,104,988	18,529,872	(-) 12.2
Manitoba	2,032,731	1,902,571	(-) 6.4	6,549,911	6,088,989	(-) 7.0
Saskatchewan	2,105,120	2,251,735	(+) 7.0	6,630,028	7,305,595	(+) 10.2
Alberta	2,290,975	2,295,204	(+) 0.2	7,148,314	7,337,682	(+) 2.6
British Columbia	636,722	528,271	(-) 17.0	1,956,093	1,624,463	(-) 17.0

II -- PRODUCTION OF CHEDDAR CHEESE IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES

APRIL AND THE CUMULATIVE JANUARY TO APRIL, 1941 AND 1942.

Province	APRIL			JANUARY TO APRIL		
	1941	1942	% Change	1941	1942	% Change
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA (x)	3,922,695	11,558,430	(+) 194.7	7,377,424	26,059,345	(+) 253.2
Prince Edward Island	-	18,148	-	5,195	47,331	(+) 811.1
New Brunswick	-	85,604	-	-	246,824	-
Quebec	264,230	2,901,942	(+) 998.3	556,515	5,946,435	(+) 968.5
Ontario (x)	3,128,689	7,646,277	(+) 144.4	5,199,827	16,944,230	(+) 225.9
Manitoba	274,522	494,393	(+) 80.1	768,639	1,478,370	(+) 92.3
Saskatchewan	1,185	6,182	(+) 421.7	1,185	12,481	(+) 953.2
Alberta	185,743	312,917	(+) 68.5	624,179	1,094,432	(+) 75.3
British Columbia	68,326	92,967	(+) 36.1	221,884	289,242	(+) 30.4

(x) Ontario production revised to 3,049,107 pounds in January and 2,609,552 pounds in February.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DAIRY PRODUCTION IN CANADA

(April, 1942)

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in April decreased approximately 11 per cent as compared with the April make of 1941 and increased 46 per cent, as compared with the output for the preceding month. During the month of April 17.0 million pounds of butter were produced and during the four months ended April, the output reached a total of 48.8 million pounds. The decrease in the April make occurred in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

CHEESE PRODUCTION increased approximately 195 per cent in April as compared with April, 1941, and increased 107 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. The April make was approximately 11.6 million pounds and the total for the four months, January to April, amounted to 26.1 million pounds. The increase in the April make occurred in all provinces.

The production of CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS for the month of March registered an increase of approximately 10 per cent as compared with the same month last year and an increase of 54 per cent as compared with the preceding month. During March 14.7 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products were manufactured in Canada and 2.8 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products. EVAPORATED MILK included in the former increased approximately 13 per cent as compared with the same month last year and increased approximately 60 per cent as compared with the preceding month. SKIM MILK POWDER included in the latter showed a decrease of approximately 4 per cent as compared with the same month last year and an increase of 47 per cent as compared with the preceding month. During the three months January to March, 32.8 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products and 7.1 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products were produced in condenseries and creameries in the Dominion, making a total of 17.5 million pounds for March and 39.9 million pounds for the three months ended March.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRICES at Montreal, as quoted daily by the Canadian Commodity Exchange for the first grade product, averaged  $35\frac{1}{4}$  cents a pound, compared with  $31\frac{1}{2}$  cents in April, 1941. Export cheese at Montreal based on daily quotations, averaged 16 cents in April compared with 14 cents in April, 1941. Domestic cheese at Montreal averaged  $25\frac{1}{2}$  cents in March and  $22\frac{1}{2}$  cents in April, 1942.

The combined output of creamery butter and cheddar cheese during the month of April represented the equivalent of 528.1 million pounds of milk, registering an increase of approximately 36.0 million pounds as compared with the combined make in terms of milk for the same month a year ago. Creamery butter represented 75.5 per cent and cheese represented 24.5 per cent of the total.

The domestic disappearance of butter in the month of March amounted to 22.0 million pounds, representing an increase of 11.6 per cent as compared with the same month last year and an increase of 6.2 per cent in comparison with the preceding month. This estimate is based on storage and transit stocks amounting to 11.1 million pounds at April 1, 1942, and exports and imports amounting to 45,100 pounds and 123 pounds, respectively.

### Dairy Production Conditions in Canada

A summary of the situation revealed in the reports of Observers and Dairy Correspondents in the different provinces of Canada is offered herewith.

Rather cool weather with overcast skies and occasional showers was more or less general in the Eastern Provinces during the first half of April. After the 20th. of the month the weather became quite warm and high temperatures were recorded. In the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia cool backward weather predominated; although there too, a great deal of warm weather was reported during the last part of the month and for a few days unprecedented temperatures prevailed. In many parts of Eastern Canada there was very little growing weather early in April and while the season appeared to have opened up about two weeks earlier than in 1941, very little field work was done until the 18th. or 20th. of the month, which was only a few days in advance of the previous year. The pastures made an early start but growth was slow. In the Central Provinces a lack of moisture retarded the development of pastures. In Manitoba and parts of the West rain and snow delayed field work. In the Western Provinces as a whole the season is considered to be a few days behind the season of 1941. Rainfall was above normal in many sections of the Prairies and on the Western coast. Pastures were reported as quite satisfactory in Manitoba, fair in Saskatchewan but somewhat poor in some sections of Alberta and in British Columbia.

Dairy herds were turned into pastures early in the month and were reported to be in fairly good condition in all sections of the country, indicating the effects of good feeding during the winter months. Reports from Dairy Correspondents covering the period up to the end of March indicated a slight increase in cow numbers as compared with March 1941 and a fractional increase in the percentage of cows being milked. For Canada as a whole the percentage of the milking cows to total cows was 66 percent. Milk production in March showed a general increase over the same month of the previous year and the production per cow advanced from 12 pounds to approximately 13½ pounds per day. There was little change in the quantity of butter made on farms as compared with a year ago but more milk was consumed at home and greater quantities were fed to livestock.

A shortage of labour is having some effect on dairy production and Observers are of the opinion that high beef prices may introduce a greater degree of competition between beef raising and dairy farming. This is more definitely indicated in the Prairie Provinces than in Eastern Canada. Farmers are continuing to give increased patronage to Cheese Factories where a choice is given to them in marketing this product.

### DAIRY PRODUCTION CONDITIONS IN THE PROVINCES

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. The season was very early in this province, probably ten days ahead of last year. The grass has already made a nice start and dairy herds are going to pasture in better conditions than for a few years past. The weather was comparatively dry during April. In Charlottetown the rainfall was less than 2 inches, the lowest for the past 41 years. The scarcity of farm labour is expected to restrict developments in Dairy Farm enterprises. There has been quite an increase in young stock throughout the province and dairy correspondents also report greater numbers of cows. The volume of milk produced in May will not, it is believed, be any greater than that produced in May a year ago.

NOVA SCOTIA. Dairy farmers completed the winter with ample stocks of feed in the barns and dairy herds are in good condition. The spring season appears to be about two weeks ahead of the 1941 season and the month of April was the warmest since 1921. The rainfall was light, precipitation at Nappan being 1.96 inches compared with a normal of 2.63 inches. The soil has been drying up rapidly and seeding is already underway. Pastures are well advanced and farmers are top dressing with fertilizers to a greater extent than formerly. Dairymen seem to be holding their cows on farms as fewer cow sales were made this spring. This might indicate some increase in cow numbers and a corresponding increase in milk production over that of the previous year. The reports of Dairy Correspondents during the past few months showed consistent gains in the percentage of cows milking. In the month of March the percentage advanced from 67 in 1941 to 76 in 1942. Milk production is up and the production per cow in March increased from 12 to 14 pounds per day. Labour is a limiting factor. Farmers are expecting to pay up to \$50 a month or more for hired men and the difficulty in procuring farm help has caused some changes in farm ownership.

NEW BRUNSWICK. Dairy cattle wintered in good condition and have gone to pasture about ten days earlier than last year. There was very little rain during the last part of April; the weather was unusually warm and farmers have been able to make good progress with field work. The precipitation at Fredericton fell to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches as compared with a normal of approximately  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The temperatures were slightly above normal and the hours of bright sunshine were exceptionally high. The number of dairy cows on farms during the past three months exceeded those for the corresponding period of the previous year, quite a number having come into production in March. Cattle are being better fed and more milk is being produced on farms. Production per cow in both February and March showed slight advances over the previous year. Despite a shortage of labour farmers are carrying on as usual; those leaving the farms being mainly transit labourers seeking more lucrative employment. A considerable advance in the total milk production in New Brunswick is anticipated in May as compared with the same month of the preceding year.

QUEBEC. The spring season opened up about two weeks earlier than in 1941, but owing to a set-back in the forepart of April, farmers commenced field operations only a few days earlier than last year. Dairy herds have been grazing in the fields for some time and on account of the shortage of rain during the last part of April it is feared that pastures will be over-grazed before the grass has a chance to develop. Farmers are responding well to the need for dairy production and it is the opinion that existing prices will encourage further developments along this line. During the past couple of months, there has been a tendency to shift patronage from creameries to fluid markets, but with the opening of cheese factories and the setting of maximum prices for this product a greater degree of stability is anticipated. Farmers are milking more cows where labour is available but on the whole a slight reduction in numbers is indicated. The percentage of cows milking has increased, however, moving from 48 percent in March, 1941 to 58 percent in March 1942. More milk is being produced and the production per cow in March increased from 8.2 to 10.4 pounds per day. It is expected that the production of milk for the month of May will register a substantial increase over that of May 1941.

ONTARIO. Although the season opened up early in this province the cool backward weather in the first part of April delayed farm work until after the middle of the month. Pastures came through the winter in fair condition with very little winter killing but a shortage of moisture during the last ten days of April limited the growth of grass. Owing to a shortage of hay and other feeds, farmers have turned dairy cows into the fields earlier than usual and the danger of over-grazing pastures is anticipated. Since there was a rather poor catch of grass last year it is expected that a greater acreage will be sown this spring. The weather was exceptionally warm during the last half of April. The soil is in good shape and farmers have made nice progress with seeding operations. At Delhi in Southern Ontario the rainfall was only 1.79 inches as against a normal of 4.59 inches. At Kpuskasing in the North it was only .91 inches as compared with 1.92 inches. There appear to be fewer cows on farms than last year but there is a greater percentage of cows being milked. More milk is being produced and the milk production per cow advanced during the last three months. In March it rose from 13 pounds in 1941 to nearly 17 pounds in 1942.

MANITOBA. Field operations in this province were delayed to some extent by cool, wet weather and although there was a great deal of warm weather during the last part of April the season is possibly a few days behind that of 1941. Rainfall during the month was exceptionally heavy. The sloughs are well filled and the soil is laden with moisture. At Morden there was over 2 inches of precipitation between April 1 and May 5, which was slightly above normal, and at Winnipeg there was 3 inches as compared with a normal of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Growth commenced early, pastures are quite satisfactory and dairy herds are in fair to good condition. Cows are being sold to quite an extent between farms; those with little labour offering them to others who are in a better position to utilize them for milking purposes. There is no apparent increase in cow numbers although the percentages milking compared with those of 1941 have been somewhat higher since the first of the year. In March the percentage was 66 compared with 63 percent in the same month of 1941. There was also a slight increase in milk production but the volume of milk in May is not expected to be any greater than that of May in the previous year. There is a shortage of labour and farmers are paying from \$45 to \$50 a month. The labour shortage together with high beef prices are tending to restrict Dairy Production; but on the other hand more milk is required for young stock and the need for skim milk for feeding young pigs is expected to maintain the deliveries to Creameries at a comparatively high level.

SASKATCHEWAN. Cool, cloudy weather with showers was general throughout the province in April although there was a great deal of warm weather in the last ten days of the month. The rainfall at Indian Head was 1.3 inches and at Scott 1.83 inches as compared with the normal precipitation of less than 1 inch. Pastures have made a nice start, dairy herds left the stables in good condition and have been grazing in the open fields since the middle of April. Up to the end of March fewer cows were reported on the farms of Dairy Correspondents and little change was shown from last year in the percentage of cows being milked. Milk Production showed no increase over March of the previous year although more was used in butter factories. Observers offer the opinion, however, that an increase may be expected in the month of May when more cows come into lactation. High beef prices and the shortage of farm help are factors tending to limit developments in dairying, while long distances from market with fewer trucks or cars in operation may reduce deliveries to Milk Markets and Dairy Factories.

ALBERTA. Dairy farmers used up most of their feed supply by April and cattle were turned into fields earlier than usual. The season opened early but cool and cloudy weather in the first half of April delayed farm operations so that field work is a few days behind last year. High winds and a shortage of moisture retarded the growth of grass in Central and Southern Alberta, and at the end of April the hilltops were just beginning to take on a green appearance. In Northern Alberta where there is more moisture, pastures have made a better showing. There was no apparent increase in cow numbers as compared with those reported a year ago, although a larger percentage of the cows are being milked. In March 1941 the figures given represented 63 percent of the total cow numbers while in March 1942 the average percentage was over 65 percent. Milk Production showed a definite increase in March over that of the same month last year and the production per cow moved up from 13 to 15½ pounds per day.

BRITISH COLUMBIA. The season has been rather backward in the province according to reports received as of May 1. In most districts it was probably ten days to two weeks behind last year. There has been a great deal of rain and the weather for the most part was quite cold. The grass is poor and farmers are still feeding dairy cows in stables or pastures. Cold weather and chilly winds have had a detrimental effect on production which may not be entirely offset by additional feeding. Sales of milk cows continue but Dairy Correspondents reporting to the end of March showed a general advance in holdings as compared with a year ago. On the other hand, a smaller percentage of cows are being milked. In the month of March the percentage fell from 83 in 1941 to 77 in 1942. In the last two months there has been some increase in the production per cow.

#### ORDERS AFFECTING THE SALE AND PRICES OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

March 27.

##### Ice Cream Production

The production of Ice Cream and Sherbets on and after April 1 was limited in volume and in the quantity of fat used in manufacture of same to the volume and fat used in the corresponding month of the previous year. This Order, Number 38 of the Dairy Products Board, was published in an Extra of the Canada Gazette on the above mentioned date.

April 15.

Order Number 39, issued on the above date as an amendment to Order Number 38 was also made effective as of April 1. It limits the sale or export of Ice Cream, ice cream mix, and specialized products during any three month period commencing with January 1, April 1, July 1 or October 1, to a volume and fat content in manufacture no greater than that sold, exported or used in manufacture during the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The order makes exceptions for sales made under contract to the Defence Services, Canteens, Charitable Organizations, etc.

April 22.

##### Cheese Prices

An announcement was made by the Honourable J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture on the above mentioned date regarding the provisions of the contract made with the British Ministry of Food, whereby the export price of cheese (f.o.b. Montreal) would be set at 20 cents a pound; and Canada shall be expected to supply 125 million pounds during the course of the ensuing year. An announcement made at the same time by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board setting the maximum price of First grade, 94 score cheese at 24 cents a pound, (f.o.b. factory shipping point).

April 25

##### Maximum Prices of Milk and Milk Products

Order Number 124 respecting milk products was issued by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in an Extra of the Canada Gazette on the above date. The order is



effective from May 1.

Fluid Milk areas were set up, numbering from 1 to 16, showing the maximum prices at which fluid milk might be sold at retail in each of these districts. These prices range from 11 to 13 cents a quart in Principal Markets and 11 to 14 cents outside Principal Markets. The prices are based on milk testing not less than 3.5 percent butterfat.

The order also sets up maximum prices at which manufacturers of Concentrated Milk are required to sell their product. The wholesale prices of Creamery Butter solids were scheduled as follows, with prints 1 cent higher:

	Quebec City, Montreal, Toronto or Vancouver	Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta
	Cents per lb.	
May to October .....	35	33 $\frac{1}{4}$
November .....	35 $\frac{3}{4}$	34
December .....	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	34 $\frac{3}{4}$
January .....	37 $\frac{1}{4}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$
February .....	38	36 $\frac{1}{4}$
March and April .....	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	36 $\frac{3}{4}$

Provision has also been made for additions to the maximum prices in effect prior to April 30, 1942, for butter on sale which was made before the effective date of this order. These additions for other than retail sales, range from  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a cent for butter to be sold in the coming November to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents for butter to be sold in March and April of next year. The additions in the case of retail sales range from 1 to 4 cents for the same months.

The maximum prices for the current make of Cheddar Cheese f.o.b., factory shipping point after all bonuses and premiums paid by Provincial or Federal Authorities are included, shall be as follows:

First grade (94 score and over) .....	24 cents
First grade (93 score) .....	23 cents
First grade (92 score) .....	22 cents
Second grade (87 to 91 score) .....	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents
Third grade (under 87 score) .....	21 cents

Dealers selling cheese at other than retail prices may add transportation charges, plus of 3-8 of a cent per pound per month from date of manufacture to cover storage, interest and shrinkage, and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound for commissaries and mark-ups of first buyer, jobber, wholesale or distributor; and those selling cheese at retail prices may add to the maximum prices shown in the schedule above, the price actually paid by them, plus transportation charges and the retailers normal mark-up which must not exceed 25 percent of the price at which the product is sold.

May 1.

Order Number 127 of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board contains an amendment making it necessary for maximum milk prices which were lower than those set forth in the previous order when it became effective on May 1, to continue in effect in all areas outside Principal Markets. These prices are subject to variation, however, by order of any Provincial Authority with the concurrence of the Board.