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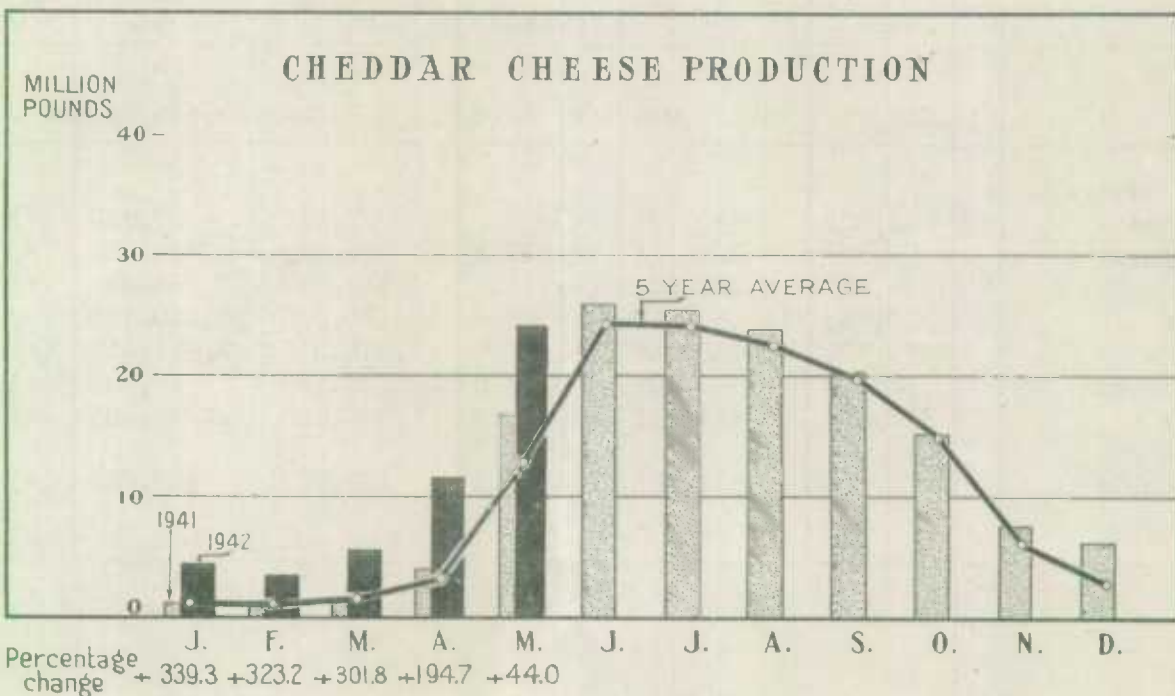
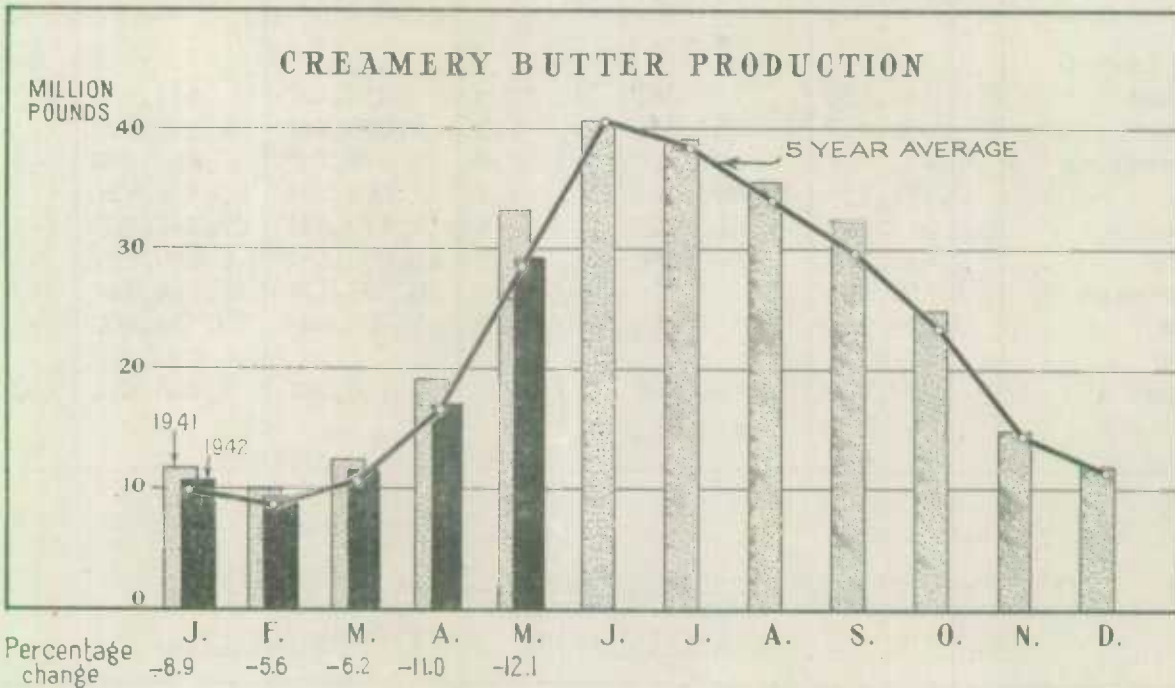
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I - PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES.

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

Province	MAY			JANUARY TO MAY		
	1941	1942	% Change	1941	1942	% Change
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	33,190,284	29,167,784	(-) 12.1	86,479,345	77,970,862	(-) 9.8
Prince Edward Island	140,103	179,861	(+) 28.4	456,020	541,594	(+) 18.8
Nova Scotia	603,417	612,210	(+) 1.5	2,099,442	2,097,178	(-) 0.1
New Brunswick	402,947	407,739	(+) 1.2	876,392	855,488	(-) 2.4
Quebec	9,471,632	7,853,703	(-) 17.1	17,085,972	13,475,730	(-) 21.1
Ontario	10,067,643	8,815,828	(-) 12.4	31,172,631	27,345,700	(-) 12.3
Manitoba	3,658,780	3,170,438	(-) 13.3	10,208,691	9,259,427	(-) 9.3
Saskatchewan	4,158,094	4,026,757	(-) 3.2	10,788,122	11,332,352	(+) 5.0
Alberta	3,909,730	3,377,220	(-) 13.6	11,058,044	10,714,902	(-) 3.1
British Columbia	777,938	724,028	(-) 6.9	2,734,031	2,348,491	(-) 14.1

II - PRODUCTION OF CHEDDAR CHEESE IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES

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

Province	MAY			JANUARY TO MAY		
	1941	1942	% Change	1941	1942	% Change
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	16,853,938	24,276,008	(+) 44.0	24,231,362	50,335,353	(+) 107.7
Prince Edward Island	2,027	40,525	(+) -	7,222	87,856	(+) -
New Brunswick	29,934	188,135	(+) 528.5	29,934	434,959	(+) -
Quebec	2,985,131	6,408,941	(+) 114.7	3,541,646	12,355,376	(+) 248.9
Ontario	12,930,788	16,396,223	(+) 26.8	18,130,615	33,340,453	(+) 83.9
Manitoba	479,876	633,048	(+) 31.9	1,248,515	2,111,418	(+) 69.1
Saskatchewan	34,768	39,502	(+) 13.6	35,953	51,983	(+) 44.6
Alberta	314,516	441,151	(+) 40.3	938,695	1,535,583	(+) 63.6
British Columbia	76,898	128,483	(+) 67.1	298,782	417,725	(+) 39.8

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DAIRY PRODUCTION IN CANADA

(May, 1942)

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in May decreased approximately 12 per cent as compared with the May make of 1941 and increased 71 per cent, as compared with the output for the preceding month. During the month of May, 29.2 million pounds of butter were produced and during the five months ended May, the output reached a total of 78.0 million pounds. The decrease in the May make occurred in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

CHEESE PRODUCTION increased approximately 44 per cent in May as compared with May 1941, and increased 110 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. The May make was approximately 24.3 million pounds and the total for the five months, January to May, amounted to 50.3 million pounds. The increase in the May make occurred in all provinces.

The production of CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS for the month of April registered an increase of approximately 9 per cent as compared with the same month last year and an increase of 37 per cent as compared with the preceding month. During April 20.0 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products were manufactured in Canada and 4.0 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products. EVAPORATED MILK included in the former increased approximately 12 per cent as compared with the same month last year and increased approximately 31 per cent as compared with the preceding month. SKIM MILK POWDER included in the latter showed an increase of approximately 5 per cent as compared with the same month last year and an increase of 49 per cent as compared with the preceding month. During the four months January to April, 52.8 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products and 11.1 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products were produced in condenseries and creameries in the Dominion making a total of 24.0 million pounds for April and 63.9 million pounds for the four months ended April.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRICES at Montreal, as quoted daily by the Canadian Commodity Exchange for the first grade product, averaged 35 cents a pound, compared with 30 3/8 cents in May, 1941. Export cheese at Montreal based on daily quotations averaged 20 cents in May compared with 14 cents in May, 1941. Domestic cheese at Montreal averaged 22 1/2 cents in April and 20 cents in May, 1942.

The combined output of creamery butter and cheddar cheese during the month of May represented the equivalent of 954.7 million pounds of milk, registering a decrease of approximately 11.0 million pounds as compared with the combined make in terms of milk for the same month a year ago. Creamery butter represented 71.5 per cent and cheese represented 28.5 per cent of the total.

The domestic disappearance of butter in the month of April amounted to 21.5 million pounds, representing an increase of 5.8 per cent as compared with the same month last year and a decrease of 2.3 per cent in comparison with the preceding month. This estimate is based on storage and transit stocks amounting to 6.6 million pounds at May 1, 1942, and exports and imports amounting to 85,200 pounds and 74,845 pounds, respectively.

DAIRY PRODUCTION CONDITIONS IN CANADA

(Based on reports of Observers and Dairy Correspondents)

Summary. - The milk production of Canada is moving up to still higher levels, and during the month of May appears to have made a considerable advance over that of the previous year. More cows are being kept on farms for dairying purposes, and female calves being raised for future use are at least equal in numbers to those of a year ago. Many farmers have taken advantage of higher beef prices to rid themselves of marginal producers. It is believed, however, that these are being replaced with others, and probably better cows coming into maturity.

The weather was cool and backward throughout the month of May in all parts of Canada. Rain was plentiful in the Eastern Provinces; Manitoba was abundantly supplied with sub-surface moisture, while the north-western and central sections of Saskatchewan and the east-central areas of Alberta suffered to some extent from dry weather. The drought situation in the districts mentioned was relieved somewhat with snow and rain during the latter part of the month and pastures are returning to normal. Pasture conditions in the Eastern Provinces are excellent, and despite the late season, the growth of grass in British Columbia has been quite satisfactory. A heavy hay crop is in prospect in Eastern Canada and also in Manitoba. The late rains promise to improve the condition of meadows and hay lands on the Western Prairies, and it is possible that the crop will measure up to the average. May temperatures were below normal throughout the Dominion, with low extremes in Western areas. Frosts were general in northern Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta on at least two occasions during the month, and in other sections frosts were recorded more frequently.

It is evident that farmers are making a special effort to increase milk production. Dairy Correspondents reported greater numbers of cows on farms in April as compared with the same month a year ago, and the percentage of cows actually milking revealed a Dominion average of 73.4 as against 71.7 in April, 1941. Based on all cows in dairy herds, the production of milk per cow rose from 15.4 to 16.3 pounds; and making comparisons on the basis of those actually milking, the yield moved up from 21.6 to 23 pounds per cow per day. For the Dominion as a whole there was no change in the quantities of milk used in farm homes. Five of the provinces reported slight increases, and four provinces, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, recorded declines. The diversion of milk from creameries to cheese factories continues in the two central provinces where cheese factories are in sufficient number to offer competition.

Prince Edward Island. - Favourable weather conditions on the Island during the month of May, permitted farmers to finish up their work in record time. There was a great deal of sunny weather and the rainfall was light. Pastures made a steady growth during the month and there is no evidence of winter killing. Farmers are keeping more cows but on account of a shortage of help a change from dairying to beef production is indicated. The percentage of milking cows milked in April fell about 1 per cent from that shown in April, 1941. This was offset, however, by increases in the production per cow which advanced from 13.9 pounds to 14.7 pounds per day. There was a sharp decline in the production of farm-made butter; less milk was used in farm homes and smaller quantities were fed to livestock.

NOVA SCOTIA. The holdings of milking cows in this province appear to be slightly lower than last year. Three reasons are given for this reduction. First of all there is a shortage of labour, second, beef prices are comparatively high, and in some districts the hay shortage in the early spring induced farmers to sell off their cows when good prices were offered by outside buyers. The volume of milk, however, is being well maintained. The amount sold for fluid milk distribution is considerably higher than last year and it is believed that this increase will just about balance with the loss in butter-fat deliveries to creameries. Differing from other sections of the Maritimes, more butter was made on farms. Reports from Dairy Correspondents covering the month of April show that approximately 80 per cent of cows were being milked during that month as compared with 81 per cent during April last year; but the fact that milk production per cow rose from 16.4 pounds to 17.6 pounds per day, advanced the total milk supply. Pastures were in good shape at the end of May. Dairy herds were turned out to graze much earlier than in the previous year and are reported to be in splendid condition. The use of milking machines promises to meet the labour shortage to some extent.

NEW BRUNSWICK. The weather was dry in the province during the first part of May, but the latter part of the month was inclined to be showery. Pastures were reported in splendid condition and the production of milk is being maintained at a higher level than that of a year ago. A few farmers are turning to beef production. This condition is by no means general, however, and in districts where dairy farming predominates there is very little change, regardless of existing labour conditions. Milk cow numbers were reported by Dairy Correspondents to be slightly lower in April than was the case in April, 1941, yet the proportion actually milking increased from 74 to 76.5 per cent. Besides it is the opinion of observers that the situation will show further improvement when cows freshening later in the season come into production. The milk output per cow was 16.5 pounds per day, slightly higher than that shown a year ago. Butter made on farms declined considerably, but more milk was fed to livestock in April than in the same month of the previous year.

QUEBEC. Pastures are fairly satisfactory throughout Quebec. The weather during May was cool and damp, and some frost damage occurred to meadows and pastures in the Joliette district. Elsewhere little damage was reported. Dairy cattle were released to pastures early in the season and a considerable amount of over-grazing has been reported. Cow numbers are a little higher than last year, but significant changes are not expected on account of a shortage of labour, low hay supplies in the early spring and the activities of outside buyers in purchasing cows for shipment out of the country. There seems to be some evidence of a reduction in the numbers of calves as compared with those on farms a year ago, particularly in the areas served by concentrated milk plants. The percentage of cows milking was higher in April of this year than in the same month of 1941 and the milk production per cow increased from 14.5 to 15.1 pounds per day. Competition with the beef industry is not affecting the production of milk in this province. Compared with the same month last year, a heavy reduction occurred in the April production of Dairy Butter and the consumption of milk in farm homes also fell to a lower level.

ONTARIO. Production conditions in this province are very promising. There appears to be quite a sizable increase in the numbers of cows retained on farms; the calf population has also advanced and female calves are being held in greater numbers than ever before. In fact in many districts it is difficult to procure calves without paying exceptionally high prices. Pastures have made a sturdy growth due to frequent rains and cool weather during the month of May. Dairy herds went out to grass several weeks ahead of last year and are in splendid condition. There was no frost damage reported to pastures or meadows and the prospects for the hay crop are exceptionally favourable. A few farmers are short of help but there is no indication of any unfavourable reaction to dairying enterprises. The percentage of dairy cows actually milking advanced from 76.1 in April, 1941 to 78.1 in April, 1942. The production of milk is well up from last year. The yield per cow advanced in April from 16.6 to 18.9 pounds per day. A sharp drop in the farm butter make is indicated in all reports and some farmers have ceased making this products entirely. More milking machines are being used, particularly in dairying districts where large herds are being kept.

MANITOBA. Frequent and substantial rains were reported during May; moisture conditions were never better and meadow lands were soaked well below the root zone. There is a sturdy growth of pasture grass, while meadow forage is thick and tall, showing that an abundant hay crop is in prospect. Dairy herds were released to pastures early in May about ten days ahead of the previous year. There is very little change indicated in the milk cow population, but 68.4 per cent of milk cows were reported in production in April as compared with 63.2 per cent in the same month of 1941. More calves are being kept for replacement purposes on many farms. An increase in milk production is expected later on when all cows come into lactation. No change in the milk production per cow was reported by Dairy Correspondents in April as compared with the same month last year. In common with other provinces the production of dairy butter was substantially reduced, giving more milk for factories and fluid distribution.

SASKATCHEWAN. The weather was generally cool and backward during the month of May with frost and snow in some areas. Frost was general on the 16th. and 29th. of the month. At the Experimental Station at Scott the temperatures fell below the freezing point seventeen times between May 1 and May 29. There was a shortage of moisture in many areas, although during the latter part of the month snow and rain relieved the situation. The most definite drought conditions existed in the central and north western areas. Pastures on the whole are only fair, but outside the areas mentioned have not suffered as yet from lack of moisture. There appears to be very little change from last year in the numbers of cows on farms. However, 65 per cent were reported in production in April as compared with 64 per cent in the same month of the preceding year. There was no indication of any change from dairy to beef production. High prices have given farmers an opportunity to sell off "boarder cows", but these are being replaced by younger stock coming into maturity. Milk production is definitely on the increase and the average yield per cow of 15 pounds per day as reported by Dairy Correspondents in April was slightly above that of the same month last year. Less butter was made on farms and reductions occurred both in the quantities of milk fed to livestock and consumed on farms. More milk, therefore, was available for butter making and whole milk sales.

Alberta. - Dry weather conditions prevailed in many areas during May particularly in east central sections. Low temperatures were general throughout the greater part of the month and frosts occurred about the middle of the month and again on the 29th. Pastures have not suffered extensively from the lack of moisture, but more rain is required to produce proper growth. There appears to be little change in the numbers of cows on farms as compared with last year. The dairy cow population is also being well maintained despite the tendency to divert their use to that of beef production. It appears to be the general opinion that although a number of early spring calves were sold for veal, the total holdings of female calves are equal to those of a year ago. The percentage of cows milking in April increased from 66.1 per cent in 1941 to 71.5 per cent in 1942. Milk production per cow also advanced from 15.5 to 18 pounds per day. As elsewhere farm-made butter suffered a sharp reduction; more milk was fed to livestock but lesser quantities were used in farm homes. The production of milk is above that of the previous spring season. The butter output has not suffered as yet although additional quantities of milk are being used in cheese factories and for fluid milk distribution.

British Columbia. - The season was about two weeks later than last year. For the most part the weather was cool and cloudy with scattered showers which delayed farm work. Farmers experienced some difficulty in preparing land for late sown crops, particularly corn. The hay crop is good, and pastures are quite satisfactory. There are more cows on farms than a year ago, and according to Dairy Correspondents' reporting for April, 81.7 per cent were milked as compared with 79.7 in April, 1941. The production of milk has not greatly increased over that of a year ago, and the yield per cow of 17 pounds per day in the month of April was practically on a par with that of the same month last year.

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