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Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Chief, Agricultural Branch: T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

FRUIT REPORT.

Ottawa, May 25, 1932. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with six provincial governments, today issued a report covering the condition of fruit and production prospects throughout Canada as at May 16th.

CANADA. In general, orchard and small fruits throughout Canada came through the past winter and early spring months with relatively light damage. Considerable winter killing of raspberries is reported in Ontario, and to a lesser extent, in Nova Scotia. In the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario, the season is from ten days to two weeks later than last year, and crop development has been retarded by cool weather during the early spring. Prospects for fruit production in British Columbia are very favourable. Bloom has developed excellently throughout the province and is practically over at the present time. The outlook for apple production in British Columbia is considerably above average.

CONDITIONS OF SELECTED FRUIT CROPS ON MAY 16th, 1932.

By Provinces.

The following table shows the condition of various fruit crops in the six provinces, based upon the following rating: 1= Poor; 2= Below average; 3= Average; 4= Above average; 5= Exceptionally good.

Province	Strawberries and Raspberries	Apples	Cherries	Pears	Peaches	Plums
P. E. I.	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0
N. S.	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.8
N. B.	3.4	3.1	2.0	---	---	2.8
Que.	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.0	---	---
Ont.	3.4	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.8	3.2
B. C.	3.0	5.0	5.0	3.0	4.0	4.0

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. The season in Prince Edward Island has been backward to date, ranging from ten days to two weeks later than last year. In general, orchard and small fruits wintered without noticeable damage, although there are traces of injury resulting from sleet and high winds in April. Early spring temperatures have been cool, but in general not unfavourable, except in so far as the season will be of shorter duration than last year. While the crops are not far enough advanced to judge accurately, it is thought that there has not been any early spring damage to buds and prospects for bloom are considered good. Strawberries and raspberries range from fair to good, and 1931 plantings are in good condition.

NOVA SCOTIA. In general, orchard and small fruits in Nova Scotia wintered well, although some winter killing is reported in the case of raspberries and strawberries. Spring temperatures have been lower than usual and growth in some areas is retarded. Some points report that further moisture is needed to promote proper development. Very little spring damage to buds is reported and in general prospects for bloom are good throughout the province. The situation in respect to strawberries and raspberries is mixed; some points expect lower production this year, resulting from dry weather in 1931 and a certain amount of winter killing. 1931 plantings of strawberries and raspberries are in a fair condition.

NEW BRUNSWICK. Orchard and small fruits wintered well in New Brunswick with very little damage reported. Spring temperatures have been cool and as a result, crop development has been backward in many districts. Spring moisture conditions have been satisfactory, although in recent weeks rainfall would have been helpful. No early spring damage to buds is reported. Prospects for bloom vary with different districts and different crops, but are generally good. The lateness of the season in parts of New Brunswick makes it difficult to judge the possibilities for bloom this year. Strawberries and raspberries are developing well, although later than last year. 1931 plantings of strawberries and raspberries have wintered well.

QUEBEC. Orchard and small fruits came through the winter with very little damage in the Province of Quebec. Spring weather, though somewhat late, has been satisfactory for fruit development. Prospects for bloom are good and very little damage is reported to buds. Prospects for the production of strawberries and raspberries throughout the Province of Quebec are good and 1931 plantings are in good condition. The recent dry weather has constituted an adverse factor in crop development.

General prospects for the province of Quebec are summarized as follows:-

Strawberries and raspberries: average for the whole province.

Apples: average in the Eastern Townships; exceptionally good in the South-East of Montreal and above the average in the Quebec district and the Lower St. Lawrence.

Cherries: above the average in the Quebec and Lower St. Lawrence districts; average in the Eastern Townships, and exceptionally good in the Montreal district.

Pears: exceptionally good in the Montreal district.

ONTARIO. The mild winter weather which prevailed throughout the entire province was favourable to all kinds of fruits with the exception of raspberries, which suffered about 20% damage from heaving and frosts. Raspberries are badly infested with tree crickets in some districts. The snow and ice storm of January 1st caused considerable damage to orchards in south western Ontario. Damage by mice, while not serious, has been greater than average. Peach trees are showing all indications for bad infestations of curl leaf, especially on early varieties, but, with warmer weather at hand, a great deal of this may be overcome.

Spring temperatures have been cold and have retarded early growth sufficiently to prevent injury of buds from frost. Rainfall has been sufficient and in some districts has delayed spraying operations. Cherries are expected to recover from the drought from which they have suffered during the past two years. The bloom for all classes of fruit, except orchards, has been reported as excellent. Indications point to a light crop of baldwins and generally a lighter crop of apples than last year. Apple trees which did not bear last year show good promise this year and young orchards also show good prospects. Peaches, pears, cherries, and plums have a heavy bloom and providing weather is favourable during the setting period, the prospects are for a better than average crop.

The strawberries have wintered exceptionally well in both eastern and western Ontario and prospects are for a bumper crop. The acreage of strawberries is reported larger than last year. Raspberries suffered considerable winter killing in all sections of the province and the crop will likely be less than average.

Orchards have received more care and attention this year than in previous years. An increase is reported in San Jose scale.

The season is about two weeks late but this has only served to protect the blossoms from danger of frost.

BRITISH COLUMBIA. Prospects for fruit production in the fruit areas of British Columbia are very favourable at the present time. Practically no damage was suffered by orchards and small fruit stocks during the past winter. Spring moisture conditions have been excellent and spring temperatures have been quite satisfactory. No early spring damage is reported to buds in British Columbia. Bloom developed excellently throughout the Province and is practically over. The prospects for the production of strawberries and raspberries are very good at the present time, and last year's plantings are reported to be in good condition. Present indications are that British Columbia will have a satisfactory crop of small fruits and stone fruits, while the outlook for apple production is considerably above average.

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