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FRUIT REPORT

Ottawa, June 29th, 1932. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with six provincial governments, today issued a report concerning the condition of orchard and small fruits throughout Canada, as at June 22nd, along with preliminary estimates of the production of strawberries and raspberries.

CANADA. In general, orchard and small fruits show the effects of the relatively late season and growth has been backward. In the Maritimes the early season was characterized by cool weather and injurious frosts during the last week of May. In Quebec crops are later than usual but good yields are promised. Ontario conditions vary between different areas and in general a smaller fruit production is anticipated this year compared with last year. Apple prospects are slightly below average, with some varieties showing poorer prospects than others. Conditions in British Columbia are favourable and prospects for most fruits are good. Cherry production will likely be less than anticipated as a result of the late season and as a result of an excessive drop in some districts. Peaches are promising, while the production of apricots will likely be below average.

REPORTS BY PROVINCES

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Although the production of fruit in Prince Edward Island is largely for local consumption, prospects this year are for a substantially greater production than last year. An especially large increase is expected in the case of apples, as compared with last year, for the reason that in 1931 there was a very small bloom throughout the province. Cherries, pears, and plums, while produced on a rather small scale, are showing favourable development. A good yield of strawberries and raspberries is expected, but will be utilized locally.

NOVA SCOTIA. Fruit prospects in Nova Scotia reflect the relatively cool and backward spring. The apple crop shows a great deal of variation in the various districts of Nova Scotia, and also a considerable variation between the condition of varieties. In general, fairly good bloom is reported in spite of adverse weather conditions during that period, but reports indicate that the set is lighter than expected. In well cared-for orchards and where spraying has been carefully carried out, apple scab is under control. A frost on May 30th injured apples, strawberries and raspberries to a certain extent, although the full damage will not be known until later. In general, the province reports sufficient moisture, although a few points report that rain would be welcome at the present time.

Prospects for the production of cherries in Nova Scotia vary with different districts. Reports from some points indicate a heavy bloom and a good set, while other areas report a moderate set, as a result of the backward weather and a certain amount of frost damage late in May.

Prospects for plum production in Nova Scotia are not favourable at the present time. Cool weather with frost damage late in May have resulted in a fair bloom, but a decidedly below average set. The production of pears is on a very limited scale in Nova Scotia, and the condition is reported below average.

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture reports on June 22nd:

"Orchard conditions have changed but little since last week except that there is a considerable infestation of apple scab showing up on the foliage and young fruit in poorly sprayed and neglected orchards. Growers, who failed to have their orchards well protected before the heavy spore discharge on May 28th, will probably have some difficulty in keeping their fruit clean if weather conditions are unfavourable during the remainder of the season.

"Most varieties appear to be setting well where there was a bloom. Kings, Ribstons, Golden Russets and Ben Davis appear to be setting well in most districts.

"Favourable weather conditions for the balance of this week should enable most growers to complete the second post-blossom application. In most orchards one more application will probably be applied."

NEW BRUNSWICK. In general, the season is late in New Brunswick, owing to cool weather and considerable rainfall during the early part of the season. Prospects for apple production vary considerably within the province. In general, apple prospects are fairly good, with some varieties showing a fairly heavy set and others relatively light. In some cases damage was reported by frost late in May. Where orchards have been properly sprayed, apple scab is under control; and in general, insect damage has been light. Some points report slight damage resulting from dry weather following the low temperatures during the blossoming season.

Prospects for cherry production, a relatively small crop in New Brunswick, indicate a better outturn than last year.

QUEBEC. A fruit report covering the Province of Quebec will be issued about July 2nd.

ONTARIO. Apples. The apple crop will be lighter than last year. The bloom was only fair to light in western Ontario with none too favourable setting weather, while in eastern Ontario, where the bloom was generally good to heavy, the weather during and since setting period has been hot and dry, causing a large amount of dropping. The yield in eastern Ontario will be about the same as last year and in western Ontario, considerably less. Baldwins are a very light crop, due probably to the heavy yield last year. Moisture supplies are still sufficient but rains will shortly be needed, especially in eastern Ontario. Insect damage is about average but scab and fungus are reported as quite prevalent and sufficient to cause some concern.

The condition of the chief varieties of apples in Ontario on June 22nd was as follows: (1--Poor; 2--Below average; 3--Average; 4--Above average; 5--Exceptionally good).

Baldwins	1.8	Spys	3.1	Greenings	2.7
Ben Davis	3.4	McIntosh	2.8	Starks	2.7

On the basis of crop development up to June 22nd, correspondents indicate the production outlook as compared with last year as follows:

Baldwins	-	Decrease	35%	Starks	-	Decrease	12%
Greenings	-	Decrease	10%	Ben Davis	-	Same as last year	
Spys	-	Decrease	5%	McIntosh	-	Decrease	5%

Cherries. The sweet varieties are very spotty and inclined to be light in many sections. Sweet cherries have a much better set on the mountain ridge than along the lake front where some orchards show only about 50% of a full crop. Sour cherries have a good showing throughout the province and promise a heavier yield than last year. Insect and disease trouble is about normal with some orchards reporting bad infestation of black aphid.

Pears. Reports from correspondents indicate a yield just slightly below normal. Keifers are quite light but most other varieties promise a fair yield. The fruit is developing well and promises to be of a better quality than last year.

Peaches. There was generally a heavy bloom and a heavy set with most orchards requiring thinning. Moisture conditions have been satisfactory and size of fruit should be good. Curl leaf is heavy in orchards where spraying was not thoroughly done. Insect damage is reported as slight.

Plums. Prospects are for a light crop. There was plenty of bloom but a poor and irregular set on nearly all varieties in Lincoln and Wentworth where over two-thirds of the commercial crop is grown. Other sections of the province report an average crop. Insects and disease are causing less loss than usual.

Grapes. Grapes have a good bloom and appear to be setting well. Leaf hopper is more prevalent than usual and thorough spraying will be required to catch the next brood of hoppers. Present prospects look well for a full crop. A considerable new acreage is coming into production this year.

Based upon crop development up to June 22nd, correspondents indicate the following production outlook for fruit crops other than apples:

Pears	-	Decrease	6%	Plums	-	Decrease	22%
Peaches	-	Decrease	3%	Grapes	-	Increase	6%
Cherries	-	Increase	10%				

BRITISH COLUMBIA. Hot weather in June injured strawberries on Vancouver Island and Lower Mainland. It is also reported that raspberry blight has injured raspberry canes. Apples and pears are developing satisfactorily. In the Salmon Arm and Sorrento districts temperatures and moisture conditions have been ideal. A rather heavy drop of apples is reported and apple scab has recently developed. In the Vernon district a heavy June drop of all tree fruits is reported. Kelowna reports good growth of all crops. In the Kottenay and Arrow Lakes district the season is about a week late. The drop has been quite heavy on some varieties of apples and lighter on others. Sweet cherries are not as promising as a few weeks ago. In the Creston Valley area strawberries and raspberries are good. Cherries do not promise as well as a few weeks ago and a heavy drop has occurred.

CONDITIONS OF SELECTED FRUIT CROPS ON JUNE 22, 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	Apples	Cherries	Pears	Peaches	Plums	Grapes
Prince Edward Island	3.5	5.0	3.0	---	3.0	---
Nova Scotia	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
New Brunswick	2.8	2.8	3.0	---	2.0	---
Ontario	2.9	3.2	2.8	3.7	2.3	3.4

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PRODUCTION OF STRAWBERRIES AND RASPBERRIES

Province	Strawberries Preliminary Estimate	Raspberries Preliminary Estimate
	(Quarts)	(Quarts)
Prince Edward Island	90,000	7,000
Nova Scotia	1,300,000	50,000
New Brunswick	1,220,000	65,000
Ontario	9,893,000	3,723,000
British Columbia	4,463,762	1,579,873

NOTE: In the case of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Ontario, the above estimates refer to total production and not production in commercial areas. In the case of these provinces production in commercial areas is somewhat smaller this year than last year. The estimate for British Columbia is based upon commercial production.

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