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FRUIT REPORT

OTTAWA, August 6, 1948- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Marketing Service of the Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, issues to-day a report on the production of fruits in Canada as indicated by conditions on July 15.

S U M M A R Y

According to the first estimate of production of fruits in Canada, crops generally are about the same size as those of 1947. The apple crop, which is at present estimated at 14,945,000 bushels, shows very little change from last year when the production was set at 14,931,000 bushels. Reduced pear crops in all producing provinces have resulted in a decline in the Canadian total of 22% since last season. Production is currently estimated at 753,000 bushels compared with the previous crop of 965,000 bushels. The plum and prune crop is 20% smaller than that of a year ago and it is estimated at 619,000 bushels. Peaches, on the other hand, will be a heavier crop in both Ontario and British Columbia and the Canadian total is expected to amount to 1,932,000 bushels or 16% more than was produced last season. Apricots, which are grown commercially only in British Columbia, show a substantial increase this year at 184,000 bushels. The 1947 crop amounted to 159,000 bushels. There is little change in cherry production since last season. The 1948 crop is set at 312,000 bushels compared with 311,000 bushels a year ago. The strawberry crop, estimated at 26,967,000 quarts, shows an increase of approximately 6% since last year. The raspberry crop is also heavier than that of a year ago and is estimated at 18,738,000 quarts compared with 18,035,000 quarts. Loganberries, which are produced commercially only in British Columbia, are much more abundant this year and the harvest is expected to amount to 2,091,000 pounds compared with 1,728,000 pounds in 1947. An increase of 1% over last year's harvest brings the Canadian grape crop to 74,879,000 pounds.

NOVA SCOTIA - According to the first estimate of production, the apple crop this season shows a decrease of 9% from the 1947 level. The present estimate sets the crop at 3,300,000 bushels. While a few orchards have a good set of fruit, the crops

Price: \$1.00 per year.

generally are light. The quality of the fruit will not be as good as last season due to unsatisfactory weather during spraying. The pear crop, which is estimated at 22,000 bushels and the plum crop estimated at 9,000 bushels are also lighter than those of last season when 30,000 bushels of pears and 12,000 bushels of plums were produced. Strawberry and raspberry crops, on the other hand, are 20% larger than those of 1947 and are estimated at 660,000 quarts and 72,000 quarts respectively.

NEW BRUNSWICK - Production of apples, according to the first estimate, will amount to 271,000 bushels this year. This is 20% less than was harvested last season when the crop was estimated at 339,000 bushels. The strawberry crop shows no change since 1947 and is estimated at 1,200,000 quarts. Raspberries, on the other hand, have increased 12% and the current estimate is 45,000 quarts.

QUEBEC - A decline in the early prospects for the apple crop took place during the past month and production is now set at 1,300,000 bushels. The present estimate, however, is still 6% greater than that of last season when 1,230,000 bushels were harvested. Strawberries also are a lighter crop than was first expected. Production reached the peak rapidly and fell off sharply due to excessive heat and lack of moisture. Production is now estimated at 5,200,000 quarts, compared with 6,000,000 quarts in 1947. A 10% increase in raspberry production since last year brings the estimate to 220,000 quarts. The fruit is reported to be of excellent size and, with favourable weather, the picking season has been considerably extended.

ONTARIO - A slight improvement in the prospects for the apple crop is shown since last month. The current estimate of 2,408,000 bushels is 92,000 bushels greater than the previous estimate. The crop this year is still 13% below the 1947 level when 2,762,000 bushels were harvested. A substantial increase is also reported in the outlook for pears since last month. The anticipated harvest is now set at 259,000 bushels compared with 182,000 bushels a month ago. Production, however, is still well below the 1947 level when 395,000 bushels were harvested. Plum and prune prospects, on the other hand, have declined during the past month and at present a crop of 205,000 bushels is looked for. This is 24% less than was produced last year when the crop was estimated at 268,000 bushels. The prospects for the peach crop continue to improve. The anticipated harvest is now set at 1,159,000 bushels or 26% more than the previous harvest of 923,000 bushels. The cherry crop which is now estimated at 186,000 bushels is not as heavy as was anticipated a month ago, when the estimate was set at 211,000 bushels. Despite the decline, production is still 45% greater than the 1947 harvest. There was little change in the anticipated strawberry crop since last month. Production which is estimated at 10,265,000 quarts is 23% above the 1947 level of 8,356,000 quarts. Raspberry prospects improved since the last report and the crop is now estimated at 3,905,000 quarts. This is 15% more than was harvested last year. The grape crop which is estimated at 71,485,000 pounds is practically the same as was harvested last year.

BRITISH COLUMBIA - The British Columbia apple crop, which is currently estimated at 7,666,000 bushels is 10% greater than the 1947 harvest of 6,969,000 bushels. Pears, on the other hand, show a 13% decrease since last season and are estimated at 472,000 bushels. Plums and prunes also show a sharp decline, the crop being estimated at 405,000 bushels compared with 494,000 bushels a year ago. Peach production, on the other hand, is 5% greater than in 1947 and the crop is currently estimated at 773,000 bushels compared with 736,000 bushels. A 16% increase over last year's crop brings apricot production this year to 184,000 bushels. A decline of 31% from the 1947 level is shown in the production of cherries this year. The crop is now estimated at 126,000 bushels compared with 183,000 bushels in 1947. Strawberry production, estimated at 9,642,000 quarts, is 2% higher than in 1947 when 9,453,000 quarts were harvested. There is very little change in the production of raspberries since last season and the crop is estimated at 14,496,000 quarts, compared with 14,352,000 quarts a year ago. The loganberry crop in 1948 is substantially better than a year ago and is estimated at 2,091,000 pounds, an increase of 21%. Grapes are also a better crop this year, anticipated production being estimated at 3,394,000 pounds, compared with 2,759,000 pounds in 1947.

BRITISH FRUIT CROPS

As Reported by Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, on July 15.

Apples (Dessert and Cooking)

On present prospects the apple crop is likely to be about 340,000 tons, which is considerably less than the 590,000 tons of the record 1947 crop, but above the 1938-47 average of 298,000 tons. Yields of early varieties are considered good, but of the later kind, Cox's are expected to be a medium crop and Bramley's slightly below average.

Pears (excluding Perry Pears)

Prospects for pears are moderate. Production is estimated at 27,500 tons, which is slightly below the 1938-47 average of 28,000 tons and much less than the 33,600 tons of 1947.

Plums and Damsons

Although Victorias and Damsons are likely to be less than in 1947, the early varieties of cooking plums are very heavy and a total crop of 146,000 tons is expected, which although less than the record crop of 168,000 tons in 1942, is nearly as large as the 149,000 tons of 1947 and considerably above the 1938-47 average of 111,000 tons.

Cherries

At 25,000 tons, the estimate of the cherry crop is well above the 1938-47 average of 18,000 tons.

Strawberries

Early varieties were poor owing to dry weather in May, but the main crop has been very good and the total weight of the crop above the average of recent years.

Raspberries

There is a good yield on the small acreage.



FIRST ESTIMATE OF FRUIT PRODUCTION IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES
IN 1948 AND FINAL ESTIMATE FOR 1947

Item	Unit	1947	1948
CANADA-			
Apples	bu.	14,931,000	14,945,000
Pears	bu.	965,000	753,000
Plums and Prunes	bu.	774,000	619,000
Peaches	bu.	1,659,000	1,932,000
Apricots	bu.	159,000	184,000
Cherries	bu.	311,000	312,000
Strawberries	qt.	25,559,000	26,967,000
Raspberries	qt.	18,035,000	18,738,000
Loganberries	lb.	1,728,000	2,091,000
Grapes	lb.	74,249,000	74,879,000
NOVA SCOTIA-			
Apples	bu.	3,631,000	3,300,000
Pears	bu.	30,000	22,000
Plums and Prunes	bu.	12,000	9,000
Strawberries	qt.	550,000	660,000
Raspberries	qt.	60,000	72,000
NEW BRUNSWICK -			
Apples	bu.	339,000	271,000
Strawberries	qt.	1,200,000	1,200,000
Raspberries	qt.	40,000	45,000
QUEBEC-			
Apples	bu.	1,230,000	1,300,000
Strawberries	qt.	6,000,000	5,200,000
Raspberries	qt.	200,000	220,000
ONTARIO -			
Apples	bu.	2,762,000	2,408,000
Pears	bu.	393,000	259,000
Plums and Prunes	bu.	268,000	205,000
Peaches	bu.	923,000	1,159,000
Cherries	bu.	128,000	186,000
Strawberries	qt.	8,356,000	10,265,000
Raspberries	qt.	3,383,000	3,905,000
Grapes	lb.	71,490,000	71,485,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA -			
Apples	bu.	6,969,000	7,666,000 ^{1/}
Pears	bu.	542,000	472,000
Plums and Prunes	bu.	494,000	405,000
Peaches	bu.	736,000	773,000
Apricots	bu.	159,000	184,000
Cherries	bu.	183,000	126,000
Strawberries	qt.	9,453,000	9,642,000
Raspberries	qt.	14,352,000	14,496,000
Loganberries	lb.	1,728,000	2,091,000
Grapes	lb.	2,759,000	3,394,000

^{1/} Reduction since last month due to change in method of estimating.