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Memorandum

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THIRD ESTIMATE OF FRUIT PRODUCTION 1955 WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR 1954
AND PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PLANTED ACREAGES OF CERTAIN VEGETABLES GROWN
FOR SALE IN 1955.

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OF STATISTICS
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The information on estimates of production of fruits and the crop conditions as set out in this release is based on reports made as of the middle of September for Ontario and during the latter part of September for the Maritimes and Quebec. In the case of British Columbia the crop estimates refer to the middle of September while the reports on conditions were prepared as of October 3rd. Accordingly all estimates apply to the situation as it existed at the time when the reports concerned were made.

Apples

Latest estimates place the 1955 commercial apple crop at 18.6 million bushels, up from 1954 by 4 million bushels or 28 per cent. The substantial increase in the 1955 Canadian apple crop has been brought about by larger harvests in all provinces for which estimates of commercial apple production are prepared. The largest increase is in Nova Scotia where the 1955 crop of 4.0 million bushels is 85 per cent or 1.8 million bushels above the 1954 production. The next greatest increase, in terms of total volume of fruit, is in Ontario where this year's 3.9 million bushel crop is 812,000 bushels or 26 per cent above that of last year. The 1955 crop in Quebec, placed at 3.2 million bushels is 675,000 bushels above last year, an increase of 27 per cent. The British Columbia crop now stands at 7.1 million bushels a 9 per cent increase over last year.

Reports from Nova Scotia state that the crop has sized well and a higher production than had been anticipated earlier in the season is now indicated. Colour is excellent and the quality of the fruit is very high. The harvesting of McIntosh and Gravensteins was in full swing at the end of September. As warehouse space is limited however, early varieties were not being picked in many orchards at that time. Packing is being done only as orders for early fruit come in. In New Brunswick also, conditions are favourable and the fruit is showing good size and colour. The harvesting of the early varieties was nearly completed by the end of September and the quality of the crop was better than had been anticipated earlier. The quality of the apple crop in Quebec is described as excellent. Picking was underway at the beginning of October. In view of the large crop there was some doubt as to whether or not all apples might be harvested.

In Western Ontario the fruit was generally of moderate size. In spite of some losses from wind, insects and sun scald, a crop 28 per cent above last year was being picked. About one half of the McIntosh crop had been harvested in the Southern counties by the middle of September. All early varieties had been picked and marketed or stored by that time. In Eastern Ontario conditions had also improved during the last month and an increase in production over last year almost as great proportionally as that of Western Ontario was expected. The size of fruit was generally described as good except in a few orchards where the trees were bearing a very heavy crop.

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The quality of the British Columbia apple crop is good with respect to both size and colour. Favourable weather for the balance of the season is needed, however. With the season being unusually late this year a long open fall will be needed in order that the crop may be harvested before severe frosts.

Pears

Estimates place the 1955 pear crop at 1.5 million bushels, 16 per cent above that of last year. The crop was up in all three producing provinces, British Columbia, Ontario and Nova Scotia. The largest increase was in Ontario where this year's crop of 799,000 bushels exceeded that of last year by 20 per cent. Production in British Columbia at 620,000 bushels, was 11 per cent above that of last year and the Nova Scotia crop of 45,000 bushels was up by 12 per cent. In Western Ontario all Bartletts were in storage. The Kieffer variety was reported to be sizing only fairly well but other varieties were being offered in ample volume.

Reports from British Columbia indicate that Bartlett pears did not size as well as expected. This has resulted in a slight downward adjustment in the crop estimate during the last few weeks. Anjou pears, on the other hand, are up to the previously estimated volume and are showing very good quality.

Plums and Prunes

The 1955 output of plums and prunes is now estimated at 854,000 bushels, 19 per cent above that of last year. Crops were larger than last year in Ontario, British Columbia and Nova Scotia, the provinces where plums and prunes are grown commercially. In Western Ontario all the plums except the late blues were off the trees by the middle of September. Heavy losses from brown rot were reported. In British Columbia early varieties had been picked by September 23rd in the Okanagan Valley, with the later varieties still to be harvested.

Peaches

Estimates prepared as of the middle of September placed the 1955 peach crop at 2.7 million bushels, 13 per cent above that of last year. The Ontario crop of 2.1 million bushels was 33,000 bushels or 2 per cent below that of 1954. However, this decline in the East was more than offset by a very large increase in British Columbia. In 1955, 613,000 bushels of peaches were harvested in British Columbia, an increase of 126 per cent over last year's production of 271,000 bushels. The 1954 crop was extremely small due to spring frost damage. The season in British Columbia however, continues backward. The peach varieties J.H. Hale and Elberta were still coming in at the beginning of October.

Grapes

The 1955 crop estimated at just under 86.8 million pounds is 6 per cent below that of 1954. The berries in the vineyards of Western Ontario were showing improved sizing as the principal varieties matured. The sugar content is reaching satisfactory levels. In British Columbia the crop was being harvested during the early part of October.

Other Fruit Crops

Crop estimates for apricots and cherries remain virtually unchanged from those published in September 1955 while no changes have been made in the estimates of strawberries, raspberries and loganberries.

This report was prepared in the Agriculture Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from information received from the various Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Quebec Provincial Bureau of Statistics and the Canada Department of Agriculture. The material for Ontario was submitted by the Ontario Committee on Fruit and Vegetable Statistics.

Third Estimate of Fruit Production, 1955, with Comparable
Figures for 1954

Kind of Fruit	Production in Volumetric Units			Production in Tons <u>1/</u>	
	Unit	1954 '000	1955 '000	1954 tons	1955 tons
Canada -					
Apples	bu.	14,500	18,585		
Pears	bu.	1,261	1,464	31,525	36,600
Plums and prunes	bu.	716	854	17,900	21,350
Peaches	bu.	2,425	2,734	60,625	68,350
Apricots	bu.	118	178	2,950	4,450
Cherries	bu.	500	513	12,500	12,825
Strawberries	qt.	27,971	22,479	18,633	14,847
Raspberries	qt.	12,839	12,265	9,178	8,862
Loganberries	lb.	1,056	1,463	528	732
Grapes	lb.	92,774	86,793	46,387	43,396
Prince Edward Island -					
Strawberries	qt.	780	790	488	494
Nova Scotia -					
Apples	bu.	2,157	4,000		
Pears	bu.	40	45	1,000	1,125
Plums and prunes	bu.	20	30	500	750
Strawberries	qt.	715	825	447	516
Raspberries	qt.	37	40	23	25

Third Estimate of Fruit Production, 1955, with Comparable
Figures for 1954.

Kind of Fruit	Production in Volumetric Units			Production in Tons ^{1/}	
	Unit	1954	1955	1954	1955
		'000	'000	tons	tons
New Brunswick -					
Apples	bu.	250	425		
Strawberries	qt.	775	850	484	531
Raspberries	qt.	50	45	31	28
Quebec -					
Apples	bu.	2,500	3,175		
Strawberries	qt.	8,500	5,000	5,312	3,125
Raspberries	qt.	350	300	219	188
Ontario -					
Apples	bu.	3,071	3,383		
Pears	bu.	664	799	16,600	19,975
Plums and prunes	bu.	486	602	12,150	15,050
Peaches	bu.	2,154	2,121	53,850	53,025
Cherries	bu.	410	402	10,250	10,050
Strawberries	qt.	7,992	8,638	4,995	5,399
Raspberries	qt.	3,170	2,306	1,981	1,441
Grapes	lb.	91,000	84,800	45,500	42,400
British Columbia -					
Apples	bu.	6,522	7,102		
Pears	bu.	557	620	13,925	15,500
Plums and prunes	bu.	210	222	5,250	5,560
Peaches	bu.	271	613	6,775	15,325
Apricots	bu.	118	178	2,950	4,450
Cherries	bu.	90	111	2,250	2,775
Strawberries	qt.	9,209	6,376	6,907	4,782
Raspberries	qt.	9,232	9,574	6,924	7,180
Loganberries	lb.	1,056	1,463	528	732
Grapes	lb.	1,774	1,993	887	996

^{1/} The original estimates secured by the Bureau were stated in measures of volume (except loganberries and grapes). These were converted to tons at the following rates; 1 quart of strawberries or raspberries = 1.25 pounds (except in British Columbia where the rate of 1 quart = 1.50 pounds was used) and one bushel of all other fruits = 50 pounds (net weight).

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PLANTED ACREAGES FOR COMMERCIAL PRODUCTIONS OF CERTAIN VEGETABLES GROWN FOR SALE IN 1955

The accompanying tables show preliminary estimates of planted commercial acreages of the thirteen vegetables specified in 1955 with comparable figures for 1954 for all provinces for which estimates are prepared. All estimates include acreage planted for processing and for sale on the fresh market. Crops grown either on farms or elsewhere for home consumption only are not included. The estimates for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta were based on the response received to a mail-questionnaire survey of a random sample of growers reporting sales of vegetables to the 1951 census. Estimates were prepared in co-operation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the Quebec Bureau of Statistics. Vegetable acreage estimates for Ontario were prepared by an inter-departmental committee on fruit and vegetable statistics. The British Columbia estimates are those published by the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

The total planted acreage of commercial vegetables in the provinces for which estimates are made is estimated at 200,400 acres in 1955, 15 per cent above that of 1954. Planted acreage was up in all provinces except Alberta where there was a decline of about 1 per cent. Practically all of the increase in acreage this year was due to larger acreages of the five principal canning crops, asparagus, beans, corn, peas and tomatoes. The area planted to celery, spinach, onions and lettuce was lower in 1955 than in 1954 while acreage of all other crops were up.

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PLANTED COMMERCIAL ACREAGES OF CERTAIN VEGETABLES IN 1955 WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR 1954.

	Canada		Nova Scotia		New Brunswick	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	- acres -					
Asparagus	3,530	3,770				
Beans	8,920	9,580	400	570	80	110
Beets	3,400	3,510	70	100	170	120
Cabbage	6,200	6,480	300	350	120	140
Carrots	8,000	8,760	520	600	150	200
Cauliflower	2,440	2,440				
Celery	2,600	2,360				
Corn	39,380	43,980	300	320	130	140
Lettuce	5,750	5,000				
Onions	6,210	6,070				
Peas	47,590	60,420	1,900 ^{1/}	2,000 ^{2/}		
Spinach	1,430	1,220				
Tomatoes	39,010	46,810	290	310	180	180
Total Area	174,460	200,400	3,780	4,250	830	890



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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PLANTED COMMERCIAL ACREAGES OF CERTAIN VEGETABLES
IN 1955 WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR 1954.

	Quebec		Ontario		Manitoba	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	- acres -					
Asparagus	400	400	2,630	2,830	90	80
Beans	5,000	5,500	1,180 <u>3/</u>	1,170 <u>3/</u>	280 <u>2/</u>	300 <u>2/</u>
Beets	1,410	1,560	1,320	1,330	90	60
Cabbage	1,470	2,000	3,020	2,840	480	460
Carrots	2,800	3,500	3,120	3,260	320	270
Cauliflower	550	620	1,010	990	480	440
Celery	1,020	1,020	1,020	820		
Corn	11,000	11,000	21,360 <u>3/</u>	25,270	1,430 <u>3/</u>	1,630 <u>3/</u>
Lettuce	1,860	1,690	2,980	2,590	220	70
Onions	990	1,160	3,820	3,880	540	430
Peas	12,000	17,140	23,390 <u>3/</u>	29,910 <u>3/</u>	1,050 <u>3/</u>	1,700 <u>3/</u>
Spinach	320	200	720	750		
Tomatoes	7,230	7,800	29,280	36,410	260	200
Total Area	46,050	53,590	94,850	112,050	5,240	5,640

	Alberta		British Columbia	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	- acres -			
Asparagus			410 <u>4/</u>	460
Beans	510 <u>3/</u>	550 <u>3/</u>	1,470 <u>4/</u>	1,380
Beets			340 <u>4/</u>	340
Cabbage	280	150	530 <u>4/</u>	540
Carrots	220	170	870 <u>4/</u>	760
Cauliflower			400 <u>4/</u>	390
Celery			560	520
Corn	3,000	3,500	2,160 <u>4/</u>	2,120
Lettuce			690 <u>4/</u>	650
Onions	80	40	780 <u>4/</u>	560
Peas	4,710 <u>3/</u>	4,300 <u>3/</u>	4,540 <u>4/</u>	5,370
Spinach			390 <u>4/</u>	270
Tomatoes			1,770 <u>4/</u>	1,910
Total Area	8,800	8,710	14,910 <u>4/</u>	15,270

- 1/ Includes New Brunswick
- 2/ Includes New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, refers to crops grown for processing only in all three provinces.
- 3/ Refers to crops grown for processing only.
- 4/ Revised.