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THIRD ESTIMATE OF FRUIT PRODUCTION 1956 WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR
1955 AND PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF PLANTED ACREAGES OF CERTAIN
VEGETABLES GROWN FOR SALE IN 1956

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 October for Ontario and during the early part of October for the Maritimes and Quebec. In the case of British Columbia the crop estimates refer to the middle of September. Accordingly all estimates apply to the situation as it existed at the time when the reports concerned were made.

Apples

Latest estimates place the 1956 commercial apple crop at 11.8 million bushels, down from 1955 by 7.3 million bushels or 39 per cent. The substantial decrease in the 1956 Canadian apple crop has been brought about by reduced harvests in all apple-producing provinces. The greatest proportional decline was in Quebec where the 1956 crop of 2.6 million bushels is 49 per cent below that of last year. British Columbia, where the crop is estimated at 4.4 million bushels (down 32 per cent), showed the smallest decline from last year.

Reports from Nova Scotia indicate that the harvest is retarded with the crop about a week to ten days later than average. Picking of Gravensteins was about complete by October 2 and the harvest of late fall varieties was general early in October. Lack of sunshine and low temperatures have hindered sizing but the colour is reported to be excellent. In New Brunswick a crop of 250,000 bushels is anticipated, 25,000 bushels less than had been estimated earlier in the season. The decline in prospects was attributed to poor growing conditions and to a heavy drop of fruit. In Quebec picking was underway on October 12. The Quebec crop is placed at 2.6 million bushels, 49 per cent below 1955. The quality of the apples is good but a heavy drop early in the second week of October will mean that many good quality apples will have to be sold as windfalls and a considerable proportion will be processed. It was anticipated that picking would continue well on into the latter part of October.

Production in Ontario, estimated at 2.7 million bushels, is 32 per cent less than in 1955. In Eastern Ontario the crop of 743,000 bushels is 50 per cent as great as last year's heavy output. Reports at mid-October state that the McIntosh variety turned out somewhat better than had been expected earlier in the season due to good sizing and a minimum drop. After September 25 the colour was average or better on this variety. Harvesting of Spy, Delicious and other winter varieties was progressing favourably under ideal conditions on October 15. Scab has not been a serious problem in most orchards this season. Reports from Western Ontario indicate that by mid-October harvesting was complete except for Spy, Russet and other late varieties. Spot-picking of Spy had begun in some areas. Very little wind injury and less dropping than usual was reported this

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year. Apple maggot infestation, however, was heavy. The crop estimates for Western Ontario stood at 2.0 million bushels, 22 per cent less than last year.

In British Columbia the apple crop was estimated at 4.4 million bushels, 32 per cent less than in 1955. The reduction was attributed to low temperature damage in November of 1955 and February 1956. Growing conditions throughout most of the 1956 season had been favourable.

Pears

Estimates place the 1956 pear crop at 1.45 million bushels, 4 per cent below last year's crop. Pears were the only fruit to approach 1955 production levels in 1956. Production in Ontario at 833,000 bushels was practically the same as in 1955. By October 15 only a part of the Kieffer crop and a few other late varieties were left to pick in Western Ontario. Bartletts were all harvested and in storage. Sizing had improved towards the latter part of the growing season and the quality was excellent with yields being equal to those of last year. The relative absence of wind reduced limb-rub damage. Latest estimates indicated a British Columbia crop of 526,000 bushels, 9 per cent below 1955.

Plums and Prunes

The 1956 plum and prune crop is now estimated at 599,000 bushels, 28 per cent below last year, with production down in all three producing provinces. The Ontario crop, at 382,000 bushels, is 34 per cent less than in 1955. In the western section of the province heavy losses from brown rot, which continued into late September, reduced the crop below earlier production forecasts. Most types had been harvested by October 15. The British Columbia prune crop, now placed at 202,000 bushels, is larger than previously anticipated. Favourable growing conditions during this season largely offset the effect of winter damage.

Peaches

Estimates prepared as of the middle of October place the 1956 peach crop at 1.7 million bushels, 40 per cent below that of last year. The Ontario crop of 1.3 million bushels was down by 44 per cent. In British Columbia an estimated 381,000 bushels were harvested, 26 per cent less than last year. Yields in Western Ontario were extremely irregular.

Grapes

Latest estimates indicate a grape crop of 80.8 million pounds, 15 per cent below the 1955 production. In Western Ontario, the principal producing area, weather conditions during the first two weeks of October were mostly quite warm with long periods of sunshine. This prolonged the maturing of Concord grapes and all other late varieties.

Other Fruit Crops

Crop estimates for apricots and sweet cherries remain virtually unchanged from those published in September, 1956 while no changes have been made in the estimates of sour cherries, 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, 1956, with Comparable Figures for 1955

Kind of Fruit	Production in Volumetric Units			Production in Tons <u>1/</u>	
	Unit	1955 '000	1956 '000	1955 tons	1956 tons
Canada -					
Apples	bu.	19,142	11,762		
Pears	bu.	1,510	1,454	37,750	36,350
Plums and prunes	bu.	828	599	20,700	14,975
Peaches	bu.	2,883	1,716	72,075	42,900
Apricots	bu.	184	85	4,600	2,125
Cherries, sweet	bu.	221	88	5,525	2,200
Cherries, sour	bu.	542	352	13,550	8,800
Strawberries	qt.	22,674	17,505	15,112	11,138
Raspberries	qt.	12,099	5,339	8,706	3,573
Loganberries	lb.	1,237	344	618	172
Grapes	lb.	94,752	80,837	47,376	40,418
Prince Edward Island -					
Strawberries	qt.	890	1,550	556	969
Nova Scotia -					
Apples	bu.	3,250	1,850		
Pears	bu.	42	45	1,050	1,125
Plums and prunes	bu.	20	15	500	375
Strawberries	qt.	825	950	516	594
Raspberries	qt.	40	40	25	25
New Brunswick -					
Apples	bu.	450	250		
Strawberries	qt.	850	1,200	531	750
Raspberries	qt.	45	50	28	31
Quebec -					
Apples	bu.	5,000	2,555		
Strawberries	qt.	5,000	6,250	3,125	3,906
Raspberries	qt.	300	350	188	219
<u>Ontario</u>					
Apples	bu.	4,037	2,727		
Pears	bu.	887	883	22,175	22,075
Plums and prunes	bu.	576	382	14,400	9,550
Peaches	bu.	2,370	1,385	59,250	33,375
Cherries, sweet	bu.	105	38	2,625	950
Cherries, sour	bu.	542	352	13,550	8,800
Strawberries	qt.	7,578	5,976	4,736	3,735
Raspberries	qt.	2,566	3,007	1,604	1,879
Grapes	lb.	92,760	80,000	46,380	40,000

Third Estimate of Fruit Production, 1956, with Comparable Figures for 1955

Kind of Fruit	Production in Volumetric Units		Production in Tons ^{1/}		
	Unit	1955 '000	1956 '000	1955 tons	1956 tons
British Columbia -					
Apples	bu.	6,405	4,380		
Pears	bu.	581	526	14,525	13,150
Plums and prunes	bu.	232	202	5,800	5,050
Peaches	bu.	513	381	12,825	9,525
Apricots	bu.	184	85	4,600	2,125
Cherries, sweet	bu.	116	50	2,900	1,250
Strawberries	qt.	7,531	1,579	5,648	1,184
Raspberries	qt.	9,148	1,892	6,861	1,419
Loganberries	lb.	1,237	344	618	172
Grapes	lb.	1,992	837	996	418

^{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 1956

The accompanying tables show preliminary estimates of planted commercial acreages of the thirteen vegetables specified in 1956 with comparable figures for 1955 for all provinces for which estimates are prepared. All estimates, except where otherwise indicated, 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 199,360 acres in 1956, practically the same as last year. The acreage was down somewhat, in the two most important producing provinces of Ontario and Quebec but up in British Columbia and Alberta.

The areas planted of beans, corn, lettuce, onions and peas were lower this year than last while the acreages of asparagus, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, spinach and tomatoes were up.

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PLANTED COMMERCIAL ACREAGES OF CERTAIN VEGETABLES IN 1956 WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR 1955

	Canada		Nova Scotia		New Brunswick	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	- acres -					
Asparagus	3,680	3,780	-	-	-	-
Beans	9,580	9,380	570	580	110	90
Beets	3,570	3,790	100	50	120	210
Cabbage	6,450	6,880	350	350	140	150
Carrots	8,560	8,870	600	500	200	260
Cauliflower	2,370	2,680	-	-	-	-
Celery	2,450	2,450	-	-	-	-
Corn	44,620	44,340	320	270	140	220
Lettuce	5,010	4,850	-	-	-	-
Onions	6,050	5,830	-	-	-	-
Peas	59,160	54,370	2,000 ^{1/}	1,960 ^{1/}	2/	2/
Spinach	1,230	1,440	-	-	-	-
Tomatoes	45,590	51,200	290	230	180	160
TOTALS	193,320	199,860	4,230	3,940	890	1,090



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PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF PLANTED COMMERCIAL ACREAGES OF CERTAIN
VEGETABLES IN 1956 WITH COMPARABLE FIGURES FOR 1955

	Quebec		Ontario		Manitoba	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	- acres -					
Asparagus	400	360	2,740	2,890	80	60
Beans	5,500 ^{3/}	5,120 ^{3/}	1,170 ^{3/}	1,270 ^{3/}	300 ^{3/}	310 ^{3/}
Beets	1,560	1,690	1,390	1,390	60	100
Cabbage	2,000	2,250	2,810	2,840	460	450
Carrots	3,500	3,380	3,060	3,540	270	240
Cauliflower	620	750	920	1,020	440	450
Celery	1,020	1,000	910	970	-	-
Corn	11,640 ^{3/}	11,140 ^{3/}	25,270	23,650	1,630 ^{3/}	1,680 ^{3/}
Lettuce	1,690	1,700	2,600	2,420	70	80
Onions	1,160	1,050	3,850	3,800	430	440
Peas	16,780 ^{3/}	15,100 ^{3/}	29,910 ^{3/}	23,300 ^{3/}	1,700 ^{3/}	1,530 ^{3/}
Spinach	200	200	760	1,000	-	-
Tomatoes	7,800	8,690	35,210	39,330	200	300
TOTALS	53,870	52,480	110,600	107,920	5,640	5,640

	Alberta		British Columbia	
	1955	1956	1955	1956
	- acres -			
Asparagus	-	-	460	470
Beans	550 ^{3/}	450 ^{3/}	1,380	1,560
Beets	-	-	340	350
Cabbage	150	300	540	540
Carrots	170	160	760	790
Cauliflower	-	-	390	460
Celery	-	-	520	480
Corn	3,500	4,250	2,120	3,130
Lettuce	-	-	650	650
Onions	40	70	570	470
Peas	4,300 ^{3/}	5,630 ^{3/}	4,470	6,850
Spinach	-	-	270	240
Tomatoes	-	-	1,910	1,990
TOTALS	8,710	10,860	14,380	17,980

1/ Includes New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; refers to crops grown for processing only in all three provinces.

2/ Included with Nova Scotia.

3/ Refers to crops grown for processing only.