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THIRD ESTIMATE OF THE COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF FRUITS, 1966⁽¹⁾

Apples - Latest estimates place the 1966 crop at 19.9 million bushels, about 11 percent below the 1965 figure of 22.3 million bushels. Most of the decrease from last year is due to the small outturn in Quebec where production achieved a record of 7.7 million bushels in 1965 in contrast to the 4.1 million bushels harvested this year. The 1966 British Columbia apple crop shows an increase of about 1.2 million bushels over last year's, but not quite large enough to offset the decrease in Quebec.

Pears - The 1966 pear crop is estimated at 1.9 million bushels, an increase of more than 77 percent over the previous year's total production of 1.1 million bushels. The production is up in all three pear producing provinces: Nova Scotia, Ontario and British Columbia. Most of the increase over last year is due to the heavier British Columbia crop which reached an estimated 798,000 bushels, more than five times the size of 1965 crop of 128,000 bushels.

Sweet Cherries - Sweet cherry growers harvested 432,000 bushels this year compared with 241,000 bushels the previous season. An increase of more than 79 percent is mainly attributable to the large British Columbia production this year.

Sour Cherries - The 1966 sour cherry crop was estimated at 277,000 bushels as compared to 444,000 bushels harvested in 1965, a drop of 38 percent from 1965.

Peaches - The 1966 crop was estimated at 2.2 million bushels as compared with 1.6 million bushels the previous year, an increase of 35 percent. Most of this increase from the previous season was due to the recovery of the British Columbia peach crop from nil production last year caused by low temperature damage during the winter of 1964-65.

Apricots - Commercial apricot production, which is confined to British Columbia, reached 271,000 bushels in 1966 compared to only 2,000 bushels in 1965.

Plums & Prunes - Production amounted to 580,000 bushels, an increase of 12 percent over the previous year's total of 519,000 bushels.

Strawberries - Strawberry growers picked an estimated 27.8 million quarts, an increase of almost 61 percent, mainly attributable to the larger crops in Quebec and British Columbia.

Raspberries - Raspberry production amounted to 12.7 million quarts compared with the 13.4 million quarts harvested in 1965. Crops were comparable to those of the previous year in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and British Columbia, but considerably down in Ontario. Quebec production remained about the same as in the previous year.

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Crops Section Agriculture Division

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa

Grapes - The 1966 grape crop is expected to reach 112.4 million pounds, about 11 percent down from the 126.0 million pounds grown in 1965. Output was up in British Columbia but considerably down in Ontario.

Blueberries - The 1966 blueberry crop was placed at 36.0 million pounds, nearly 100 percent above that of 1965. Production was up in most provinces except Nova Scotia where the crop remained unchanged from the previous year's 7.0 million pounds.

Atlantic Provinces

The 1966 blueberry crop in Newfoundland reached an estimated 3.0 million pounds as compared to 2.3 million pounds picked in 1965. In Nova Scotia blueberry production of 7.0 million pounds was the same as in 1965, but in New Brunswick, pickers harvested a record crop of 6.0 million pounds as compared to 2.5 million pounds last year. The set of fruit was generally about average but size and quality were well above last year, particularly in New Brunswick and Newfoundland.

Strawberry crops however were somewhat disappointing in all three provinces due mainly to low yields as the result of poor weather conditions and drought in 1965. The set of fruit was light even on second year beds. Production reached 4.6 million qt. this year compared to 4.9 million qt. picked in the previous season in the Atlantic provinces.

The apple crop in New Brunswick remained the same in volume as last year. Blossom was good but the set of fruit was lower. Good size acted as a compensating factor and sizing was one of the best in recent years. Quality was also excellent.

In Nova Scotia the bloom was average but the set was considerably poorer than in 1965. As in New Brunswick the size of the fruit was well above last year as a result of ample moisture in the fall. The 1966 Nova Scotia apple crop at 2.7 million bushels was about 13 percent down from the previous year's 3.1 million bushels. The colour was very good and a much greater percentage of the crop was expected to be available for the fresh market.

The pear, plum and raspberry crops all turned out to be heavier than in the previous year. The Nova Scotia pear crop was one of the larger ones in recent years as a result of a heavy bloom, good set of fruit and better size than usual.

Plums after the setback of the winter of 1964-65 came back this year with a good blossom and heavy set. Production reached 6,000 bushels this year as compared with 1,000 bushels harvested in 1965. Throughout the Maritime Provinces, all crops were completely harvested with the exception of apples by the middle of October.

Quebec

A period of cold weather prior to full blossom was experienced in the Quebec apple growing areas. Later in the season the June drop was abnormally heavy. In addition, the unfavourable distribution of rainfall during the summer, resulted in smaller than normal sizes and finally, about a third of the crop was damaged by wind and hail. Latest estimates place the 1966 Quebec apple crop at 4.1 million bushels, not much more than half as great as the record 1965 crop of 7.7 million bushels, and 21 percent less than 1961-1965 average.

Strawberries and raspberries, on the other hand, produced normal crops this year, as a result of more favourable weather conditions for these crops, which in 1965 were reduced by drought. Revised estimates placed the 1966 strawberry crop at 7.2 million quarts, very much greater than 1965 figure of 2.0 million, while raspberry production stands at almost 1.4 million quarts, also heavier than the previous season at 1.2 million.

Blueberry production estimated at 16.6 million pounds, was more than five times the size of the 1965 crop. Favourable weather conditions last summer brought about this increase in production, and quality was excellent.

Ontario

In 1966, Ontario fruit growers harvested smaller crops than in 1965 of all fruits except apples, pears, peaches and sweet cherries. Pears were up by about 15 percent this year. The latest estimates place the apple crop at 5.8 million bushels in 1966, an increase of 7 percent from last year's final figure of 5.4 million bushels. Peaches and sweet cherries were also up this year by about 7 and 21 percent respectively.

The first reports in May of 1966 indicated that orchards and small fruit plantations had generally wintered well except peaches which showed an increased amount of dead wood, particularly to last year's growth, with three to five year old trees being most seriously affected. However, prospects for fruits generally were good at this stage of the crop season.

June reports indicated that weather was generally favorable during the pollination period and the set was also good on most tree fruits. Temperatures generally were seasonable with from one to almost two inches of rain which proved most beneficial.

By the middle of July conditions had turned dry over most of fruit growing area. Temperatures were above normal but most tree fruits did not suffer except on sweet and sour cherries. Nevertheless a good soaking rain was wanted to ensure continued sizing of all fruit crops. The strawberry harvest was finished with production slightly less than that of last year.

Reports as of August 17 for Western Ontario indicated that the generous rainfall throughout the district relieved the drought and restored good growing conditions. Insects and diseases were generally well controlled. Sour cherry and raspberry picking was completed with yields smaller than the previous season due in part to the earlier drought. Grape vines were showing good growth especially after the rains, but the crop was expected to be some 4 percent down from last year's record.

Reports from Eastern Ontario based on conditions at August 17 indicated that above normal temperatures prevailed from mid-July to August 9, followed by a period of normal temperatures. Some orchards were showing the effects of the prolonged dry weather. However, the rains on August 16 improved the size of apples and pears in Eastern Ontario. Moisture supplies were generally adequate subsequent to the middle of August throughout most of the fruit growing area in Eastern Ontario. Temperatures were seasonable. In the Niagara Peninsula, however, the August rains were not quite in time to replenish soil moisture for the early varieties of peaches and pears but was sufficient to increase the size of late varieties of these crops.

By mid October apples were developing good colour and size although the maturity dates were expected to be delayed as for most other fruit crops. Apple production was estimated to be greater than last year though the sizing and colouring were delayed by about a week as compared to the previous season. Harvesting of fall varieties was commencing and growers had started picking McIntosh for storage. Some slight scab infection had been noted in some orchards but this was generally well controlled.

British Columbia

In contrast to the previous season, the winter of 1965-66 was extremely mild with good snow cover. As a result, fruit trees and plantings wintered well and a good show of bloom followed in the spring in most of fruit growing areas. The production of all crops was heavier this year than last.

Latest estimates place the 1966 apple crop at 6.8 million bushels 21 per cent greater than in 1965. Soft fruit production was also back to normal or near normal levels.

By the end of May, small fruit plantings appeared very promising and good crops of all tree fruits crop were in prospect. Throughout the early part of the season prospects continued good although crops were sporadically threatened by pear psylla, cherry fruit flies and scab.

By the middle of July, the strawberry, raspberry, early apricot and early peach harvests were under way. Loganberries were approaching peak production and cherry picking was tapering off.

By the middle of August, growers had practically finished picking loganberries and raspberries, and cranberries were showing excellent size. The blueberry harvest was continuing with large variations in yields. In the Interior apricot picking was almost over and substantial losses (1/3 of crops) to cherries through splitting due to rain was reported.

By the end of September the McIntosh apple harvest was completed. Size and colour on all apples were better than normal. The colour on Delicious was improving and the harvest was expected soon.

(1) Estimates released in this memorandum, except where otherwise indicated, are based on reports submitted to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics by the Quebec Bureau of Statistics and Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture personnel in the various fruit growing areas. All 1966 figures are subject to revision. All reports refer to conditions as of the middle of October or shortly thereafter with the exception of those referring to British Columbia fruit crops. The British Columbia small fruits estimates were dated August 30 and tree fruit as of September 28. Accordingly, all estimates apply to the situation as it existed at the time when the reports concerned were made.

TABLE 1. Third Estimate of the Commercial Production of All Fruits 1966 with Latest Estimates for 1965

Kind of Fruit	Estimated Production				
	Volumetric Units or Pounds			Tons	
	Unit	1965	1966	1965	1966
		'000	'000		
Canada -					
Apples	bu.	22,292	19,851	501,570	446,648
Pears	bu.	1,063	1,881	26,575	47,025
Plums and prunes	bu.	519	580	12,975	14,500
Peaches	bu.	1,606	2,170	40,150	54,250
Apricots	bu.	2	271	50	6,775
Cherries, sweet	bu.	241	432	6,025	10,800
Cherries, sour	bu.	444	277	11,100	6,925
Strawberries	qt.	17,282	27,777	11,151	18,439
Raspberries	qt.	13,365	12,705	9,607	9,215
Loganberries	lb.	991	1,101	496	550
Grapes	lb.	126,012	112,380	63,006	56,190
Blueberries	lb.	18,139	36,050	9,069	18,025
Cranberries (1)	lb.	1,550	1,850	775	925
Newfoundland -					
Blueberries	lb.	2,264	3,000	1,132	1,500
Prince Edward Island -					
Strawberries	qt.	1,600	1,200	1,000	750
Blueberries	lb.	250	300	125	150
Nova Scotia -					
Apples	bu.	3,100	2,700	69,750	60,750
Pears	bu.	48	70	1,200	1,750
Plums	bu.	1	6	25	150
Strawberries	qt.	2,000	2,100	1,250	1,312
Raspberries	qt.	32	40	20	25
Blueberries	lb.	7,000	7,000	3,500	3,500

(1) British Columbia only.

TABLE 1. Third Estimate of the Commercial Production of All Fruits 1966 with Latest Estimates for 1965

Kind of Fruit		Estimated Production				
		Volumetric	Units or Pounds		Tons	
		Unit	1965	1966	1965	1966
			'000	'000		
New Brunswick -						
Apples	bu.		450	450	10,125	10,125
Strawberries	qt.		1,300	1,300	812	812
Raspberries	qt.		50	60	31	38
Blueberries	lb.		2,500	6,000	1,250	3,000
Quebec -						
Apples	bu.		7,733	4,100	173,992	92,250
Strawberries	qt.		1,995	7,250	1,247	4,531
Raspberries	qt.		1,165	1,345	728	841
Blueberries	lb.		3,081	16,550	1,540	8,275
Ontario -						
Apples	bu.		5,383	5,774	121,118	129,915
Pears	bu.		887	1,013	22,175	25,325
Plums and prunes	bu.		369	334	9,225	8,350
Peaches	bu.		1,606	1,726	40,150	43,150
Cherries, sweet	bu.		212	256	5,300	6,400
Cherries, sour	bu.		444	277	11,100	6,925
Strawberries	qt.		7,581	7,294	4,738	4,559
Raspberries	qt.		2,083	1,073	1,302	671
Grapes	lb.		125,600	108,000	62,800	54,000
British Columbia -						
Apples	bu.		5,626	6,827	126,585	153,608
Pears	bu.		128	798	3,200	19,950
Plums and prunes	bu.		149	240	3,725	6,000
Peaches	bu.		-	444	-	11,100
Apricots	bu.		2	271	50	6,775
Cherries, sweet	bu.		29	176	725	4,400
Strawberries	qt.		2,806	8,633	2,104	6,475
Raspberries	qt.		10,035	10,187	7,526	7,640
Loganberries	lb.		991	1,101	496	550
Grapes	lb.		412	4,380	206	2,190
Blueberries	lb.		3,044	3,200	1,522	1,600
Cranberries	lb.		1,550	1,850	775	925

British Columbia reported negligible commercial production for peaches in 1965 due to a severe winter-kill during early crop season.

For all Provinces other than British Columbia the original estimates secured by the Bureau were stated in measures of volume (except grapes and blueberries). These were converted to tons at the following rates: 1 quart of strawberries, raspberries = 1.25 pounds; 1 bushel of apples = 45 pounds; 1 bushel of all other tree fruits = 50 pounds (net weight). In the case of British Columbia tree fruits, the volumetric estimates were calculated as follows: 1 bushel of apples = 45 pounds; 1 bushel of all other tree fruits = 50 pounds (net weight); 1 quart of berries = 1.5 pounds.

TABLE 2. Minimum Prices for Processing for Strawberries, Raspberries, Cherries, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Prunes and Grapes in the Province of Ontario

	1965	1966
	cents per qt.	
Strawberries(1)	18.0	19.5
Purple raspberries (No. 1 grade) (1)	35.5	36.5
Red raspberries (No. 1 grade) (1)	37.5	39.0
	dollars per ton	
White sweet cherries (2)	280.50	300.50
White sweet cherries for brining purposes (2)	270.50	290.50
Black sweet cherries(2)	310.50	340.50
Black sweet cherries for brining purposes(2)	220.50	240.50
Sour cherries(2)	150.50	260.50
Bartlett pears(2)		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter	130.50	115.50
Less than 2 inches in diameter	90.50	75.50
Kieffer pears(2)		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter	67.00	67.00
Less than 2 inches in diameter	40.00	40.00
All varieties other than Bartlett or Kieffer:		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter	110.50	100.50
Less than 2 inches in diameter	90.50	75.50
Peaches(2)		
Jubilee, Marilyn, Victory, Elberta and all other varieties of the Elberta type	125.50	125.50
Other varieties	120.50	120.50
Plums and Prunes(2)		
Felenburg, German and Stanley prunes	95.50	105.50
Damson plums	120.50	132.50
Other varieties	75.50	82.50
Grapes(2)		
Delaware, Dutchess, Muscat, President, Marshall Foch, Johannisburg Riesling and Seibel White S9110, S10868 S6468	157.00	
All other varieties	107.00	
Classification depending on variety Class 1		102.50
Class 2		105.00
Class 3		110.00
Class 4		125.00
Class 5		125.00
Class 6		160.00
Class 7		175.00
Class 8		180.00
Class 9		250.00

(1) Source: Ontario Berry Growers' Marketing Board.

(2) Source: Ontario Tender Fruit Growers' Marketing Board.

TABLE 3. Estimate of Commercial Production of Apples, Pears, Peaches, Apricots, Sweet and Sour Cherries, Strawberries and Grapes in United States 1965 and 1966

Kind of Fruit	Estimated Production				
	Volumetric Units or Pounds			Tons	
	Unit	1965	1966	1965	1966
		'000	'000		
United States -					
Apples	bu.	136,050	128,250	3,265,200	3,078,000
Pears	bu.	20,687	30,326	508,674	742,650
Peaches	bu.	73,864	72,757	1,772,736	1,746,168
Apricots	bu.	9,467	8,246	227,200	197,900
Cherries, sweet	bu.	3,126	3,700	87,520	103,610
Cherries, sour	bu.	6,317	3,143	176,870	88,000
Strawberries	qt.	307,317	315,803	230,488	236,852
Grapes	lb.	8,703,320	7,613,740	4,351,660	3,806,870
California -					
Strawberries	qt.	133,907	122,253	100,430	91,689

Source: United States Department of Agriculture as of October 1, 1966.

The United States Department of Agriculture published the original estimates of apples, pears and peaches in bushels; apricots, cherries, sweet and sour, and grapes in tons; strawberries in pounds. Conversion rates used to express apples, pears and peaches in tons were: 1 bu. of apples = 48 lb.; 1 bu. of pears = 50 lb. (except California where 1 bu. = 48 lb.); 1 bu. of peaches = 48 lb. Conversion rates used to express apricots and cherries in bushels were: 1 bu. of apricots = 48 lb.; 1 bu. of cherries = 56 lb. Strawberries were converted at the rate of 1 qt. = 1.5 lb. (Conversion Factors and Weights and Measures for Agricultural Commodities and Their Products - United States Department of Agriculture, May, 1952.)

TABLE 4. Estimated Apple Production in England & Wales - 1966 with Latest 1965 Figures (1)

	Estimated Production			
	1965	1966	1965	1966
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Dessert Apples	15,511	13,600	349	306
Cooking Apples	12,222	8,400	275	189
Total	27,733	22,000	624	495

(1) Source: Commonwealth Economic Committee - October 18, estimate 1966 crop.

TABLE 5. Estimated Apple Production in France, 1966(1), with comparable 1965 Figures

	Estimated Production			
	1965	1966	1965	1966
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Table Apples	51,911	60,311	1,168	1,357

(1) Source: Commonwealth Economic Committee (October 18, estimate 1966 crop).

TABLE 6. Estimated Apple Production in Western Germany, 1966(1) with latest 1965 Figures

	Estimated Production			
	1965	1966	1965	1966
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Apples	58,000	69,022	1,305	1,553

(1) Source: Commonwealth Economic Committee. October 18, estimate 1966 crop.

TABLE 7. Estimate of Apple Production in Italy, 1966 with Comparable 1965 Figures(1)

	Estimated Production			
	1965	1966	1965	1966
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Apples	107,022	122,489	2,408	2,756

(1) Source: Commonwealth Economic Committee. (October 18, estimate 1966 crop).

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