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THIRD ESTIMATE OF THE COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF FRUITS, 1969(1)

Apples. — Latest estimates place the 1969 apple crop at 487,845 tons, about 8 per cent above the 1968 outturn of 451,801 tons. Present indications are that the crop will be larger in all apple producing provinces, with the exception of Quebec where this year's crop is about 4.5 thousand tons smaller than that of 1968.

Pears. — The 1969 pear crop is estimated at 29,075 tons, a decline of some 31 per cent from the 1968 production of 42,350 tons. Although production was up in both Ontario and Nova Scotia, the increase was not enough to offset the decrease that occurred in British Columbia.

Sweet Cherries. — Sweet cherry growers harvested 8,200 tons this year as compared with 8,350 tons in 1968. A drop in outturns occurred in British Columbia but a larger crop was picked in Ontario.

Sour Cherries. — The 1969 sour cherry crop is estimated at 10,225 tons as compared to the 1968 crop of 8,050 tons. This represents an increase of about 27 per cent.

Peaches. — The crop of peaches in 1969 is estimated at 43,750 tons, 10 per cent lower than the last year's crop of 48,675 tons. This reduction is due to the fact that there was no crop in British Columbia.

Apricots. — Commercial apricot production, which is confined to British Columbia, reached only 225 tons in 1969. This was in sharp contrast to the 3,625 tons produced in 1968.

Plums and Prunes. — The 1969 production amounted to 8,350 tons, 1,250 tons less than last year's harvest.

(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 1969 figures are subject to revision. All reports refer to conditions as of the middle of November or shortly thereafter with the exception of those referring to British Columbia fruit crops. The British Columbia small fruits and tree fruit — estimates were dated as of November 26, Accordingly, all estimates apply to the situation as it existed at the time when the reports concerned were made.

Agriculture Division
Crops Section

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Strawberries. — Strawberry growers in 1969 picked an estimated 18,754 tons, an outturn that was 15 per cent less than last year's crop of 22,030 tons. Production in 1969 was lower in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and British Columbia which more than offset the larger crops produced in Quebec and Ontario.

Raspberries. — Raspberry production amounted to 8,583 tons as compared to 7,567 tons harvested in 1968. Crops were higher than those of last year in all producing provinces.

Grapes. — The 1969 grape crop is estimated at 62,478 tons, about 3 per cent above the 1968 crop of 60,894 tons. Ontario, the major grape producing province, had a 1969 crop of 60,678 tons as compared to the previous year's outturn of 54,700 tons.

Blueberries. — Blueberry growers in 1969 harvested 13,877 tons of blueberries this year, 76 per cent above the 1968 crop of 7,890 tons. This year's outturns were higher in all producing provinces, with the exception of British Columbia where the 1969 crop of 1,362 tons was substantially below the 1968 production of 2,576 tons.

Summary of Growing Conditions and Crop Productions

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Throughout most regions the growing season was quite favourable for fruit crop production. A cool, wet spring was experienced in the Atlantic Provinces which resulted in delayed operations. During early July the weather conditions were generally excellent, although some regions were somewhat dry. As the month progressed, heavy rains were experienced which helped the blueberry crop. At July 23 tree fruit crops were generally reported to be in good condition. At this time strawberries were past their peak and owing to the favourable weather Maritime growers harvested a fair volume of 3,406 tons compared with 3,649 tons in 1968.

August weather was quite favourable for fruit crops, although perhaps a little on the dry side. In the second week of September some hurricane damage occurred in varying degrees throughout the Atlantic provinces, and some damage was done to the apple crop. By September 17 the blueberry picking was almost completed and due to the good weather conditions growers harvested 8,515 tons, a sharp increase over the 1968 crop of 2,309 tons. Also at September 17 it was reported that the size and quality of the pear crop was good and that little damage had been done by the hurricane.

The 1969 apple crop in Nova Scotia is place at 74,250 tons, 18 per cent above last years' crop of 62,775 tons. In early September the crop looked very promising and good colour was beginning to show up. Hand thinning of the later varieties was being carried out. The heavier crop this year in the Maritimes was mainly attributed to the fine weather that prevailed through the bloom period which allowed for a good set. Also, there was practically no early frost damage this year. In New Brunswick the apple crop in 1969 was 11,250 tons, 1,462 tons more than the production of the previous year.

In Nova Scotia, the pear crop in 1969 was 1,750 tons as compared to the 1,325 tons in 1968. This year good yields were obtained with both the Clapp and Bartlett varieties. Sizing was good which also contributed to the above average crop.

The raspberry crop in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was up from the levels of 1968, while the production of plums in Nova Scotia dropped to 75 tons in 1969, from 125 tons harvested in 1968.

QUEBEC

Throughout most of Quebec a cool, wet spring delayed plant growth and slowed progress with spring work. On May 20 it was reported that good snow cover in the Terrebonne and l'Assumption districts had brought strawberry patches through the winter in good condition. But in districts south of Montreal some damages had been caused by frost. Raspberries also benefited by the heavy layer of snow and at May 20 indications were for a good crop.

On May 26 and 27 severe frosts occured in the Montreal district and light damage was done to apple and strawberry blossoms. By June 11 some apple growers had applied five or six sprays to control scab.

By June 15 apple trees in Eastern Quebec were in full bloom and a good crop was anticipated.

Heavy rains were received in Eastern Quebec during the last two weeks of June and apple growers had to increase the amount of spraying. At June 30 strawberry and blueberry crops were promising in the eastern region. Rains and bad weather which prevailed in the Montreal district since early spring resulted in scab damage in many orchards.

By the middle of July apple growers had to increase sprays for scab on account of changes in weather. Blueberry development was quite good and a large crop was expected. The strawberry picking was in full swing and market offerings were heavy.

At the end of July growers had finished picking an estimated strawberry crop of 5,688 tons compared to 4,750 tons harvested in 1968.

In August many parts of Quebec reported that precipitation was much above average, although temperatures were about normal. Growers picked an excellent raspberry crop of 688 tons, in spite of some losses due to mildew. At August 11, it was reported that in Eastern Quebec the apple crop was progressing favourably owing to sufficient rains. In the Montreal district early apple varieties were being harvested and later varieties were making excellent progress although scab was a problem.

In September the first ten days were warm but later the weather turned wet and windy. At mid-September the apples were showing good colour but many were spotted with scab. By late September the blueberry harvest was completed with growers having picked 4,000 tons as compared with 3,005 tons in 1968.

The apple production totalled 121,545 tons, slightly less than the 1968 crop of 126,090 tons.

ONTARIO

Most Ontario orchards and small fruit plantations over wintered well. During May and June cool wet weather caused some damage to peach and cherry trees. This weather delayed apple blossom development and interrupted spray schedules resulting in some scab and mildew problems. July was generally two to five degrees below normal with heavy precipitation which resulted in maturity dates being approximately three days behind last year. This weather did not damage the strawberry crop as growers picked 6,964 tons an increase of 26 per cent over last year. A dry spell in late July prevented a repeat of last years sweet cherry splitting which resulted in

a 27 per cent increase over last year. Spraying kept tree fruit disease in check throughout most of Ontario.

Very warm temperatures with normal precipitation in August helped the fruit crops to progress well. The reported production of sour cherries was 10,225 tons an increase of 27 per cent over last year. Raspberry growers harvested 926 tons.

Unusually dry, warm weather conditions in September quickly advanced the harvesting dates. The latest estimates place the apple crop at 150,232 tons, 10 per cent higher than last years' outturn. Peaches at 43,750 tons are 10 per cent above last year's crop. The pear crop at 21,850 tons is above last years outturn of 18,550 tons.

The plums and prunes production reached 4,750 tons as compared to 6,025 tons for 1968. The 1969 grape crop at 60,678 tons is about 11 per cent more than the 1968 harvest.

In summary the Ontario fruit growers harvested larger crops of all fruits in 1969, than in 1968; with the exception of the smaller crop of plums and prunes.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Weather during the 1968-69 winter was one of the most severe on record and winter injury resulted in no peach crop this year. Winter injury was confined mainly to fruit buds and tree damage was not considered too serious. However, the cool, wet spring weather added in the recovery of injured trees. On May 7 raspberry prospects in the lower Fraser Valley were reported to be fair to good, but strawberry prospects were poor. From Summerland, reports in the early spring indicated that in all probability there would be small crops of pears, grapes and apricots.

In the first three weeks of June the weather was hot and dry but it became cool and unsettled with above average rainfall during late June and early July. The strawberry harvest was completed about the last of June. However, a small crop of only 2,696 tons was harvested due to loses from mould. Small sizes were obtained due to the hot weather.

In July the weather was normal which resulted in good growing conditions in all parts of the province. The raspberry crop was completed about the end of the month and 6,907 tons were picked, slightly more than the 1968 production of 6,317 tons.

The loganberry harvest was finished up early in August and final outturns totalled 608 tons, 24 per cent less that the 1968 crop.

The weather in August was generally sunny and warm with moderately cool nights in the interior of the province, but it was unsettled on Vancouver Island. At the end of August the blueberry harvest was nearing completion and final outturns were 1,362 tons, 1,214 tons less than the 1968 production. Quality was generally good with exceptionally large fruit, although there were below average yields. The cranberry crop totalled 1,363 tons, slightly less than last year's crop. Irregular fruit development was apparent throughout the bogs and in some areas the fruit was small.

In September weather conditions continued varied but from October 2 to October 18 fine, warm weather persisted over most of British Columbia.

In 1969, 130,568 tons of apples were harvested, considerably more than the 1968 estimate of 116,348 tons. The color and quality of about all varieties was good and the fruit size and yield were generally good. The large crop was mainly due to the good set of fruit which followed a heavy bloom on most varieties.

Crops of pears, apricots, cherries, and grapes were all substantially smaller than those of 1968, due mainly to injury received during the winter. The productions, with last year's figures in brackets, are as follows: pears 5,475 tons (22,475 tons), apricots 225 tons (3,625 tons), and grapes 1,800 tons (6,194 tons). The 1969 outturn of plums and prunes at 3,525 tons, remained close to last year's level of 3,450 tons.

TABLE 1. Third Estimate of the Commercial Production of All Fruits 1969 with Latest Estimates for 1968

Kind of fruit		Estimated production			
		Volumetric units or pounds		Tons	
		1968	1969	1968	1969
		'000			
Canada					
Apples	bu.	20,080	21,682	451,801	487,845
Pears	"	1,694	1,163	42,350	29,075
Plums and prunes	"	384	334	9,600	8,350
Peaches	"	1,947	1,750	48,675	43,750
Apricots	"	145	9	3,625	225
Cherries, sweet(1)	"	334	328	8,350	8,200
Cherries, sour	"	322	409	8,050	10,225
Strawberries	qt.	33,088	29,287	22,030	18,754
Raspberries	"	10,423	11,890	7,567	8,583
Loganberries	lb.	1,600	1,215	800	608
Grapes	"	121,789	124,955	60,894	62,478
Blueberries	"	15,782	27,755	7,890	13,877
Cranberries	"	3,070	2,726	1,535	1,363
Newfoundland					
Blueberries	lb.	569	850	284	425
Prince Edward Island					
Strawberries	qt.	1,050	1,650	656	1,031
Blueberries	lb.	450	1,400	225	700
Nova Scotia					
Apples	bu.	2,790	3,300	62,775	74,250
Pears	"	53	70	1,325	1,750
Plums	"	5	3	125	75
Strawberries	qt.	2,500	2,400	1,562	1,500
Raspberries	"	41	50	26	31
Blueberries	lb.	2,100	9,280	1,050	4,640

(1) Includes Sour Cherries for British Columbia.

TABLE 1. Third Estimate of the Commercial Production of All Fruits 1969 with Latest Estimates for 1968 — Concluded

Kind of fruit		Estimated production			
		Volumetric units or pounds		Tons	
		1968	1969	1968	1969
		'000			
New Brunswick					
Apples	bu.	435	500	9,788	11,250
Strawberries	qt.	2,290	1,400	1,431	875
Raspberries	"	45	50	28	31
Blueberries	lb.	1,500	5,500	750	2,750
Quebec					
Apples	bu.	5,604	5,402	126,090	121,545
Strawberries	qt.	7,600	9,100	4,750	5,688
Raspberries	"	800	1,100	500	688
Blueberries	lb.	6,010	8,000	3,005	4,000
Ontario					
Apples	bu.	6,080	6,677	136,800	150,232
Pears	"	742	874	18,550	21,850
Plums and prunes	"	241	190	6,025	4,750
Peaches	"	1,589	1,750	39,725	43,750
Cherries, sweet	"	164	208	4,100	5,200
Cherries, sour	"	322	409	8,050	10,245
Strawberries	qt.	8,841	11,142	5,526	6,964
Raspberries	"	1,114	1,481	696	926
Grapes	lb.	109,400	121,355	54,700	60,678
British Columbia					
Apples	bu.	5,171	5,803	116,348	130,568
Pears	"	899	219	22,475	5,475
Plums and prunes	"	138	141	3,450	3,525
Peaches	"	358	—	8,950	—
Apricots	"	145	9	3,625	225
Cherries, sweet(1)	"	170	120	4,250	3,000
Strawberries	qt.	10,807	3,595	8,105	2,696
Raspberries	"	8,423	9,209	6,317	6,907
Loganberries	lb.	1,600	1,215	800	608
Grapes	"	12,389	3,600	6,194	1,800
Blueberries	"	5,153	2,725	2,576	1,362
Cranberries	"	3,070	2,726	1,535	1,363

Note: 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

	1968	1969
	cents per qt.	
Strawberries(1)	20.5	21.5
Purple raspberries (No. 1 grade) (1)	41.0	42.0
Red raspberries (No. 1 grade) (1)	open market	open market
	dollars per ton	
White sweet cherries(2)	320.50	320.50
White sweet cherries for brining purposes(2)	320.50	300.50
Black sweet cherries(2)	360.50	360.50
Black sweet cherries for brining purposes(2)	270.50	260.50
Sour cherries	360.50	210.50
Bartlett pears(2)		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter	150.50	140.50
Less than 2 inches in diameter	110.50	100.50
Kieffer pears(2)		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter	72.00	72.00
Less than 2 inches in diameter	40.00	40.00
All varieties other than Bartlett or Kieffer		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter	135.50	125.50
Less than 2 inches in diameter	110.50	100.50
Peaches(2)		
All varieties	135.50	135.50
Plums and prunes(2)		
Italian, Felenburg, German and Stanley prunes	145.50	150.50
Damson plums	160.50	165.50
Other varieties	115.50	120.50
Grapes(3)		
Classification depending on variety Class 1	105.00	123.00
2	112.00	120.00
3	120.00	126.00
4	136.00	150.00
5	141.00	156.00
6	176.00	195.00
7	191.00	210.00
8	196.00	215.00
9	250.00	250.00

(1) Ontario Berry Growers' Marketing Board.
(2) Ontario Tender Fruit Growers' Marketing Board.
(3) Ontario Grape Growers' Marketing Board.

TABLE 3. Estimate of Commercial Production of Apples, Pears, Peaches, Cherries, Sweet and Sour, Strawberries and Grapes in United States 1968 and 1969

Kind of fruit	Estimated production			
	Volumetric Units or pounds		Tons	
	1968	1969	1968	1969
	'000			
United States(1)				
Apples ..... bu.	129,321	158,143	2,716,000	3,321,000
Pears ..... "	25,229	29,140	616,000	714,000
Peaches ..... "	74,805	78,750	1,795,000	1,890,000
Cherries, sweet .... "	3,246	4,107	91,000	115,000
Cherries, sour ..... "	4,907	5,750	137,000	161,000
Strawberries ..... qt.	348,600	322,667	261,000	242,000
Grapes ..... lb.	7,098,080	7,678,000	3,549,000	3,839,000

(1) United States Department of Agriculture — Fruit Situation, Oct. 69 release.

Note: The United States Department of Agriculture published the original estimates of apples, pears and peaches in bushels; 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 = 42 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 cherries in bushels were: 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 - 1969 with Latest 1968 Figures(1)

	1968	1969	1968	1969
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Dessert apples	10,055	13,291	226	299
Cooking apples	5,924	6,172	133	139
Total	15,979	19,463	359	438

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.

TABLE 5. Estimated Apple Production in France, 1969 with Comparable 1968 Figures(1)

	1968	1969	1968	1969
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Table apples	73,585	73,683	1,656	1,658

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.

TABLE 6. Estimated Apple Production in Western Germany, 1969 with Latest 1968 Figures(1)

	1968	1969	1968	1969
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Apples	76,916	108,466	1,731	2,440

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.

TABLE 7. Estimate of Apple Production in Italy, 1969 with Comparable 1968 Figures(1)

	1968	1969	1968	1969
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Apples	94,210	90,634	2,120	2,039

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.