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THIRD ESTIMATE OF THE COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF FRUITS, 1970(1)

Apples. — Latest estimates place the 1970 apple crop at 443,588 tons, about 9 per cent below the 1969 outturn of 488,993 tons. Indications are that the crop was smaller in all producing provinces, with the exception of British Columbia where this year's crop is about 5.7 thousand tons larger than that of 1969.

Pears. — The 1970 pear crop is estimated at 44,050 tons, a marked increase of some 60 per cent over the relatively poor crop of 1969. The increase in production occurred entirely in British Columbia where growers picked 21,450 tons in 1970 as compared to only 4,575 tons in 1969.

Sweet Cherries. — Sweet cherry growers harvested 9,175 tons this year as compared with 8,325 tons in 1969. Ontario growers had a smaller crop in 1970 but producers in British Columbia picked 6,100 tons in 1970 as compared to the 3,250 tons in 1969.

Sour Cherries. — The 1970 sour cherry crop is estimated to be 8,775 tons as compared to the 10,575 tons picked in 1969. This represents a decrease of about 17 per cent.

Peaches. — The peach crop in 1970 is estimated at 55,200 tons, 30 per cent more than last year's crop of 42,500 tons. In 1969 there was no crop in British Columbia.

Apricots. — Commercial apricot production, which is confined to British Columbia, reached 4,325 tons in 1970, considerably above the poor crop of 225 tons in 1969.

Plums and Prunes. — The 1970 production amounted to 11,200 tons, 2,950 tons more 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 1970 figures are subject to revision. All reports refer to conditions as of the end 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 December 16. 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 1970 picked an estimated 20,882 tons in 1970, an outturn that was 16 per cent more than last year's crop of 17,973 tons. Production in 1970 was higher in Ontario and British Columbia but lower in the Maritimes and Quebec.

Raspberries. — Raspberry production amounted to 6,703 tons as compared to 8,332 tons harvested in 1969. Crops were smaller than those of last year in all producing provinces.

Loganberries. — In British Columbia, the only province in which loganberries are grown commercially, the production in 1970 was 630 tons, slightly more than the 608 tons harvested in 1969.

Grapes. — The 1970 grape crop is estimated at 72,770 tons, about 15 per cent more than the 1969 outturn of 63,172 tons.

Blueberries. — Blueberry growers in 1970 picked 14,310 tons this year, a crop which was almost the same as the 1969 outturn of 14,350 tons.

#### Summary of Growing Conditions and Crop Productions

##### ATLANTIC PROVINCES

During the month of May temperatures were within one degree of normal throughout the Maritime Provinces. However, on May 24 and 25 temperatures dipped below freezing in many areas which caused varying amounts of damage to fruit crops. May precipitation was close to normal in the Maritimes. On the Island of Newfoundland May was warmer and sunnier and less windy than usual.

The month of June was generally sunny with seasonable temperatures. At June 1 it was reported that most strawberry plantations were making good growth although there was some winter kill and the early bloom showed considerable frost damage. Also, frosts in late May caused varying amounts of damage to buds on certain apple varieties. Late apple varieties were in full bloom during the second week of June with the bloom reported to be fair to good. At this time most orchardists had completed the fourth spray.

The last half of July was warm and humid in the Maritime Provinces. The apple and plum crops continued to size well but indications at that time were that the crops would be down from the previous year. The weather was ideal for good blueberry growth but winter kill and late spring frost damage was evident in many fields. By mid-July strawberries in some areas were past their peak and growers in the Maritimes picked an estimated crop of 2,058 tons considerably less than the 1969 production of 3,597 tons. However, quality and prices were good.

August was generally warm and humid but frequent rains resulted in a total precipitation of over twice that of normal in many areas. This abundance of moisture resulted in good apple development. By the latter part of August blueberry harvesting was in full swing. Quality was reported as good but yields were below previous expectations. This was mainly caused by the rainy weather which had had adverse effects on harvesting. Blueberry growers in the Atlantic Provinces harvested 6,675 tons in 1970 as compared to 8,488 tons in 1969.



September was cool and cloudy in the Atlantic Provinces with frequent showers that delayed the harvesting of fruits in many areas. The pear crop in Nova Scotia, estimated at 1,375 tons, was below the good 1969 crop of 1,625 tons. By mid-September the apple crop was reported as sizing well and most varieties were showing varying amounts of colour.

The raspberry crops in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were down from the levels of 1969, while the production of plums and prunes in Nova Scotia increased to 125 tons in 1970, from 75 tons harvested in 1969.

Apple picking was general the first half of October and growers in Nova Scotia harvested an estimated 55,800 tons, about 19 per cent below last year's crop of 68,625 tons. In New Brunswick the apple crop in 1970 was 7,425 tons, 4,500 tons less than the production of the previous year.

#### QUEBEC

Throughout most of Quebec, a cool, wet spring delayed plant growth. In some regions around Montreal a high percentage of strawberry plants were destroyed during the winter due to the protective mulch being blown away by high winds the previous fall. Other regions reported that frost damaged strawberries. Raspberry plants generally over-wintered well.

By May 15, most growers had sprayed their orchards 3 or 4 times in order to control scab which was caused by the wet weather. Apple blossom was before last year but still later than average. Some blossoms had appeared by the end of May in the Montreal District. However, the expected heavy blooming did not materialize due to the cool weather. The blueberry crop was reported to have come through the winter well, due to a heavy covering of snow.

By the end of June the apple crop was still later than normal. Some strawberry picking was reported but the lack of moisture in the Montreal region resulted in a light crop.

By July 24, strawberries were finished and an estimated crop of 4,375 tons was harvested, compared to 5,688 tons in 1969. The apple crop at this time was sizing well.

The raspberry harvest was in full swing by early August but quality and quantity were adversely effected by the severe heat, especially in the Montreal region. The 1970 raspberry crop was reported to be 625 tons, down from last year's outturn of 688 tons. By mid-August the harvest of Yellow Transparents and Early Reds was finished and the later varieties were benefiting from the late rains.

In early September, the blueberry harvest was completed with growers having picked 5,250 tons, compared with 4,000 tons the previous year. The apple crop was of good quality but the production totalled only 100,530 tons down from the 1969 crop of 121,545 tons.

#### ONTARIO

In the fruit growing areas of Ontario, May temperatures were near normal. Apple trees generally overwintered well and very little frost and rodent injury was reported. Some winter damage occurred to tender fruit trees in the Niagara and

Norfolk regions. During late May and early June warm, sunny weather promoted rapid growth and restricted the development of fungus during that period. On June 24, the set was reported to be good on most tree fruits, with the exception of sweet and sour cherries and Bartlett pears. In June some hail and wind damage occurred in isolated areas in the Niagara region. The strawberry crop was reported to be progressing rapidly on June 24, and at this time heavier yields than last year were expected.

The month of July was generally warm and moist in most parts of the province. As a result of these conditions, fruit growth was good. There were some high winds and hail storms during July which caused considerable damage to fruit in isolated areas throughout Western Ontario. Fungus diseases were reported as being generally under control, as rigid spray programs were maintained. Strawberry picking was generally completed during July and yields and quality in most areas were above those of the previous year. Strawberry growers picked an estimated 6,618 tons, 470 tons more than last year.

During August, high temperatures advanced the maturity of most apple varieties. Moisture was plentiful in most areas, and the later apple varieties sized well. The high humidity during August was conducive to fungus diseases but these were generally quite well controlled by spray programs. During August, raspberry producers harvested 643 tons, while growers of sweet and sour cherries harvested 3,075 tons and 8,775 tons, respectively.

In September, fruit crops sized well but in most areas the apple crop was in need of colour. The Niagara region, on September 23, reported that the harvesting of most fruit crops was one week ahead of the previous year.

By the third week of October, the harvest of most fruit crops was completed. Colour was a problem on McIntosh apples, especially on the early pickings. The latest estimates place the 1970 apple crop at 143,460 tons, slightly less than last year's outturn of 156,240 tons.

The 1970 peach crop showed a greater yield than last year as did plums and prunes. These estimates are 44,175 tons and 5,875 tons, respectively. The pear crop is estimated at 21,225 tons, very close to the 1969 figure of 21,325 tons.

Grape growers picked 63,326 tons in 1970 as compared to 61,436 tons in 1969.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Weather during the 1969-70 winter was generally milder than normal. As a result, most fruit stock overwintered well with little winter kill. The months of April and May were generally cool and wet which somewhat slowed growth.

June was generally warm and dry. The strawberry harvest was completed about the middle of July and a crop of 7,831 tons was harvested, substantially more than last year's outturn of 2,540 tons.

Crops generally were doing quite well in July despite a lack of precipitation. Some reduction in fruit size was reported in the raspberry crop, but the crop was mostly harvested by the end of July. The unusually dry temperatures resulted in a production decrease to 5,407 tons compared to 6,908 tons in 1969. The loganberry crop was finished by August 19. Here again the dry weather resulted in

reduced berry size and final outturns totalled 630 tons. During the month of August temperatures were generally warm with little rainfall. This caused earlier maturing and smaller sizes in most fruits including apples.

During September, the temperatures were below normal and a severe killing frost was reported in most areas on September 12. However, these cooler night temperatures enabled the apple crop to colour.

Apples, grapes, blueberries and cranberries were all harvested in October and the 1970 production with last year's figures in brackets, are as follows: apples 136,373 tons (130,658 tons) grapes 9,444 tons (1,736 tons) blueberries 2,385 tons (1,862 tons) and cranberries 2,891 tons (1,363 tons).



TABLE 1. Third Estimate of the Commercial Production of All Fruits 1970 with Latest Estimates for 1969

Kind of fruit	Estimated production				
	Volumetric units or pounds		Tons		
	1969	1970	1969	1970	
	'000				
<u>Canada</u>					
Apples, by varieties, totals .....	bu.	21,733	19,715	488,993	443,588
Cortland .....	"	..	616	..	13,860
Delicious .....	"	..	3,462	..	77,895
McIntosh .....	"	..	8,625	..	194,062
Spy .....	"	..	2,188	..	49,230
Other .....	"	..	4,824	..	108,541
Pears .....	"	1,101	1,762	27,525	44,050
Plums and prunes .....	"	330	448	8,250	11,200
Peaches .....	"	1,700	2,208	42,500	55,200
Apricots .....	"	9	173	225	4,325
Cherries, sweet .....	"	333	367	8,325	9,175
Cherries, sour .....	"	423	351	10,575	8,775
Strawberries .....	qt.	28,078	31,321	17,973	20,882
Raspberries .....	"	11,489	9,283	8,332	6,703
Loganberries .....	lb.	1,216	1,259	608	630
Grapes .....	"	126,346	145,541	63,172	72,770
Blueberries .....	"	28,700	28,620	14,350	14,310
<u>Newfoundland</u>					
Blueberries .....	lb.	795	3,250	398	1,625
<u>Prince Edward Island</u>					
Strawberries .....	qt.	1,650	992	1,031	620
Blueberries .....	lb.	1,400	550	700	275
<u>Nova Scotia</u>					
Apples, totals .....	bu.	3,050	2,480	68,625	55,800
Cortland .....	"	260	210	5,850	4,725
Delicious .....	"	350	200	7,875	4,500
McIntosh .....	"	680	550	15,300	12,375
Spy .....	"	270	305	6,075	6,862
Other .....	"	1,490	1,215	33,525	27,338
Pears .....	"	65	55	1,625	1,375
Plums and Prunes .....	"	3	5	75	125
Strawberries .....	qt.	2,400	1,500	1,500	938
Raspberries .....	"	50	25	31	16
Blueberries .....	lb.	9,280	8,300	4,640	4,150
<u>New Brunswick</u>					
Apples, totals .....	bu.	530	330	11,925	7,425
Cortland .....	"	100	66	2,250	1,485
McIntosh .....	"	300	198	6,750	4,455
Other .....	"	130	66	2,925	1,485
Strawberries .....	qt.	1,705	800	1,066	500
Raspberries .....	"	50	20	31	12
Blueberries .....	lb.	5,500	1,250	2,750	625

TABLE 1. Third Estimate of the Commercial Production of All Fruits 1970 with Latest Estimates for 1969 — Concluded

Kind of fruit	Estimated production				
	Volumetric units or pounds		Tons		
	1969	1970	1969	1970	
	'000				
<u>Quebec</u>					
Apples, totals .....	bu.	5,402	4,468	121,545	100,530
Cortland .....	"	318	340	7,155	7,650
McIntosh .....	"	4,114	3,216	92,565	72,360
Other .....	"	970	912	21,825	20,520
Strawberries .....	qt.	9,100	7,000	5,688	4,375
Raspberries .....	"	1,100	1,000	688	625
Blueberries .....	lb.	8,000	10,500	4,000	5,250
<u>Ontario</u>					
Apples, totals .....	bu.	6,944	6,376	156,240	143,460
Delicious .....	"	627	608	14,108	13,680
McIntosh .....	"	3,223	2,701	72,518	60,772
Spy .....	"	1,786	1,883	40,185	42,368
Other .....	"	1,308	1,184	29,430	26,640
Pears .....	"	853	849	21,325	21,225
Plums and prunes .....	"	192	235	4,800	5,875
Peaches .....	"	1,700	1,767	42,500	44,175
Cherries, sweet .....	"	203	123	5,075	3,075
Cherries, sour .....	"	423	351	10,575	8,775
Strawberries .....	qt.	9,837	10,588	6,148	6,618
Raspberries .....	"	1,079	1,029	674	643
Grapes .....	lb.	122,873	126,653	61,436	63,326
<u>British Columbia</u>					
Apples, totals .....	bu.	5,807	6,061	130,658	136,373
Delicious .....	"	..	2,654	..	59,715
McIntosh .....	"	..	1,960	..	44,100
Other .....	"	..	1,447	..	32,558
Pears .....	"	183	858	4,575	21,450
Plums and prunes .....	"	135	208	3,375	5,200
Peaches .....	"	—	441	—	11,025
Apricots .....	"	9	173	225	4,325
Cherries, sweet .....	"	130	244	3,250	6,100
Strawberries .....	qt.	3,386	10,441	2,540	7,831
Raspberries .....	"	9,210	7,209	6,908	5,407
Loganberries .....	lb.	1,216	1,259	608	630
Grapes .....	"	3,473	18,888	1,736	9,444
Blueberries .....	"	3,725	4,770	1,862	2,385
Cranberries .....	"	2,726	5,782	1,363	2,891

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

	1969	1970
	cents per qt.	
Strawberries(1) .....	21.5	21.5
Purple raspberries (No. 1 grade)(1) .....	45.0	45.0
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) .....	300.50	260.50
Black sweet cherries(2) .....	360.50	360.50
Black sweet cherries for brining purposes(2) .....	260.50	220.50
Sour cherries .....	210.50	200.50
<u>Bartlett pears(2)</u>		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter .....	140.90	153.00
Less than 2 inches in diameter .....	100.50	110.50
<u>Kieffer pears(2)</u>		
Not less than 2 1/16 inches in diameter .....	72.00	75.00
Less than 2 inches in diameter .....	40.00	40.00
<u>All varieties other than Bartlett or Kieffer</u>		
Not less than 2 inches in diameter .....	125.50	135.90
Less than 2 inches in diameter .....	100.50	110.50
<u>Peaches(2)</u>		
Freestone .....	135.50	135.50
Clingstone .....	135.50	128.00
<u>Plums and prunes(2)</u>		
Italian, Felenburg, German and Stanley prunes ....	150.50	150.50
Damson plums .....	165.50	165.50
Other varieties .....	120.50	120.50
<u>Grapes(2)</u>		
Classification depending on variety		
Class 1 .....	123.00	138.00
2 .....	126.00	135.00
3 .....	126.00	140.00
4 .....	150.00	160.00
4a .....	150.00	170.00
5 .....	150.00	185.00
6 .....	195.00	220.00
7 .....	210.00	235.00
8 .....	215.00	240.00
9 .....	250.00	300.00

(1) Ontario Berry Growers' Marketing Board

(2) Ontario Tender Fruit Growers' Marketing Board.



TABLE 3. Estimate of Commercial Production of Apples, Pears, Peaches, Cherries, Sweet and Sour, Strawberries and Grapes in United States, 1969 and 1970

Kind of fruit	Estimated production			
	Volumetric units or pounds		Tons	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
	'000			
<u>United States</u>				
Apples(1) ..... bu.	160,043	149,895	3,360,903	3,147,795
Pears(1) ..... "	29,051	22,235	711,650	545,250
Peaches(1) ..... "	76,362	63,344	1,832,688	1,520,256
Cherries, sweet(1) ..... "	4,536	3,929	127,008	110,012
Cherries, sour(1) ..... "	5,429	4,536	152,012	127,008
Strawberries(2) ..... qt.	323,800	316,267	242,850	237,200
Grapes(1) ..... lb.	7,805,020	6,192,640	3,902,510	3,096,320

(1) United States Department of Agriculture — Crop Production, November 10, release.

(2) United States Department of Agriculture — Fruit Situation, September release.

Note: The United States Department of Agriculture published the original estimates of apples in bushels; sweet and sour cherries, grapes and pears in tons; strawberries and peaches 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, 1970 with Latest 1969 Figures(1)

	1969	1970	1969	1970
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Dessert apples .....	14,286	15,381	321	346
Cooking apples .....	6,172	8,860	139	199
Total .....	20,458	24,241	460	545

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.

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

	1969	1970	1969	1970
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Table apples .....	87,449	86,713	1,968	1,951

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.

TABLE 6. Estimated Apple Production in Western Germany, 1970 with Latest 1969 Figures(1)

	1969	1970	1969	1970
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Apples .....	125,907	83,328	2,833	1,875

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.

TABLE 7. Estimate of Apple Production in Italy, 1970 with Comparable 1969 Figures(1)

	1969	1970	1969	1970
	'000 bushels		'000 tons	
Apples .....	98,472	95,524	2,216	2,149

(1) Commonwealth Secretariat, Commodities Division.





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