

22-003

D.B.S. MEMORANDUM

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada

DOES NOT CIRCULATE

MAY 26 1951

F. V. R. No. 3 - 1951

NE PAS PRETER

Price \$1.00 per year.

CONDITION OF FRUIT CROPS IN MAY AND CONTRACTED ACREAGES OF VEGETABLE CROPS, 1951

The orchards in Eastern Canada came through the winter in excellent condition. Judged by the bloom the prospects for all tree fruits are good. Frost in Nova Scotia and dry weather in Quebec have had an adverse effect on the strawberry crop in those provinces, while in Eastern Ontario poor plant development has reduced the outlook. In British Columbia apple, pear and plum prospects are good and while the peach, apricot and cherry orchards are still showing the effects of the winter of 1949-50, these crops are expected to be heavier than in 1950. The strawberry prospects are fair to good while the raspberry crop should be heavier than that of a year ago.

According to information compiled from reports just received from the vegetable processing firms, the contracted acreage of beans, corn, peas and tomatoes combined is 39 per cent greater than in 1950. On the other hand, the total acreage of these crops this year is only one per cent greater than the five-year 1946-50 average.

NOVA SCOTIA.- The bloom in the apple orchards is heavy. There was some frost damage but if conditions remain favourable a good crop is in prospect. While there is evidence of poor spraying in small orchards, larger growers are giving the trees the usual attention. Pear and plum trees are blooming well and average crops are indicated. Frosts about mid-May reduced the prospects for the strawberry crop in the Annapolis Valley about 40 per cent while elsewhere the damage was only slight. It is probable that the provincial total will be 15 per cent less than that of last year.

QUEBEC.- Apple trees came through the winter in good condition and growth so far this season has been excellent. Spraying is being well done and there is no evidence of insect or disease damage. At present the crop prospects are good. The McIntosh, which make up the bulk of the trees, will bloom heavily but the outlook for early varieties is somewhat uncertain. There are no reports of winter damage to strawberry plantations. In the Montreal district the prospects are for a heavy bloom in the strawberry beds. In Bellechase county and on the Island of Orleans, however, the prolonged dry weather may have a serious effect. In the Sherbrooke district plantations suffered some frost damage. Current prospects, however, are good. Raspberry plantations throughout the province are in good condition but for most sections it is still too early to estimate the crop prospects.

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division, in co-operation with the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture.

EASTERN ONTARIO.- The tree and small fruits in general came through the winter in satisfactory condition although some sod mulch orchards suffered damage from rodents. The apple orchards, for the most part, are carrying full loads of bloom. All varieties came into bloom about May 20 when the weather was favourable for pollination. Disease and insect damage is well under control except in Northumberland county where the red-banded leaf roller may prove troublesome. The pear orchards are also blooming heavily during very favourable weather. Plum trees are now in full bloom and, except for the Lombard variety, are carrying heavy loads of blossoms. Many cherry orchards, on the other hand, are showing a patchy bloom in the main producing areas except in Durham county where the bloom is medium to heavy. The strawberry prospects are only fair. Development has been slow and the rows, particularly in the young patches, are thin. Raspberry plantations came through the winter in good condition. The canes appear vigorous and both red and purple varieties promise heavy crops.

WESTERN ONTARIO.- There is very little evidence of winter injury of any kind in the orchards and small fruit plantations of Western Ontario. Frequent rains in April and early May interfered with spraying but cool weather during this period retarded the development of diseases and insects. Apple trees will blossom heavily with the exception of Spies and other late types. Pears, plums, peaches and cherries carried heavy loads of bloom in most areas and sweet cherries have already set an excellent crop of fruit. Strawberry beds have well developed rows except in Norfolk where white grub injury is expected to reduce yields. The bloom has commenced to open in all but the northern areas where night frosts did some damage on May 12. Grapes wintered satisfactorily but growth is not far enough advanced to indicate crop prospects.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.- In the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia the extent of the damage caused by the severe winter of 1949-50 is becoming more apparent. Some trees that survived last year have failed to respond this spring. In general, however, the prospects for the apple, pear and plum crops are better than was first anticipated. While late spring frost caused some fruit bud damage on apple trees, especially of the Delicious variety, a good crop is looked for again this season. Pear prospects are excellent. In some sections the bloom was the heaviest in many years. While peaches, apricots and cherries are still showing the effect of the winter injury sustained in 1949-50, these crops are expected to be heavier than those of last season. In the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island areas the strawberry crop, although backward, is reported to be fair to good. The first pickings are expected during the first week of June, with picking general about June 10. Raspberry plantations are showing to advantage and the crop should be slightly heavier than that of a year ago. Loganberry canes, on the other hand, are damaged considerably both on Vancouver Island and in the Fraser Valley. The crop, however, should equal that of last season.

PROCESSORS' CONTRACTED ACREAGES OF ASPARAGUS, BEANS, CORN, PEAS AND TOMATOES, 1950
AND 1951, WITH FIVE-YEAR AVERAGES OF BEANS, CORN, PEAS AND TOMATOES, 1946-50

		5-yr. average 1946-1950 acres	1950 acres	1951 acres
MARITIMES -	Beans	400	530	490
	Peas	1,940	1,920	1,900
QUEBEC -	Asparagus		60	
	Beans	4,950	3,860	4,480
	Corn	10,110	9,050	12,150
	Peas	9,510	8,730	10,760
	Tomatoes	6,120	3,100	5,280
ONTARIO -	Asparagus		700	1,200
	Beans	860	620	630
	Corn	27,850	14,060	27,460
	Peas	22,080	17,880	22,670
	Tomatoes	37,260	23,650	34,300
PRAIRIE PROVINCES -	Asparagus		1/	
	Beans	390	500	550
	Corn	5,260	5,100	6,250
	Peas	4,230	4,610	5,570
BRITISH COLUMBIA -	Asparagus		170	140 2/
	Beans	800	740	1,100
	Corn	1,620	1,880	1,900
	Peas	4,180	4,120	4,640
	Tomatoes	3,210	2,430	2,580
CANADA -	Asparagus		930	1,340
	Beans	7,400	6,250	7,250
	Corn	44,840	30,090	47,760
	Peas	41,940	37,260	45,540
	Tomatoes	46,590	29,180	42,160

1/ One firm reporting.

2/ Includes Quebec.

Note: - Some contracts were signed on a tonnage basis and the quantity involved was converted to an acreage basis using the following standard yields per acre: asparagus, 1 ton; beans, 2 tons; corn, 3 tons; peas, 1 ton; tomatoes, 5 1/2 tons.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010740865