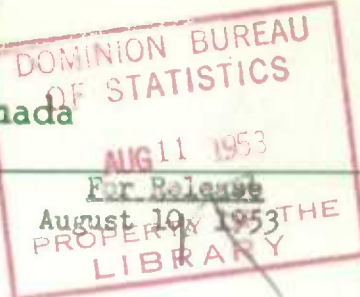


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22-003  
no. 4  
1953  
Aug.  
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Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada



F.V.R. No. 5, 1953

Price: \$1.00 for 1953 series.

FIRST FORECAST OF PRODUCTION OF ALL FRUITS, 1953

SUMMARY - ALL CANADA

Apples The first forecast of production for 1953 places this year's apple crop at 12.0 million bushels, practically unchanged from 1952. Quite moderate declines are anticipated in all provinces producing apples except Quebec and Nova Scotia. In Quebec an increase of about three per cent will more than offset the reductions elsewhere.

Pears The 1953 pear crop is forecast at 1.4 million bushels, an increase of about 12 per cent from that of last year. Increases of four per cent and 29 per cent respectively are anticipated for Ontario and British Columbia.

Plums and Prunes The 1953 crop of plums and prunes is estimated at 917,000 bushels, an increase of about three per cent from 1952. A moderate reduction in Ontario is more than offset by an increase in British Columbia.

Peaches The first forecast of production for 1953 suggests a peach crop of some 3.0 million bushels, an increase of about three per cent from that of 1952. This is due almost entirely to increases in the British Columbia crop.

Apricots Present estimates place this year's crop of apricots at 255,000 bushels, two per cent greater than last year. This fruit is grown entirely in British Columbia and the 1953 crop will be the largest on record.

Cherries Latest reports place the 1953 cherry crop at 468,000 bushels, an 11 per cent reduction from last year. Declines from 1952 of about the same proportion occurred in both Ontario and British Columbia.

Strawberries The 1953 strawberry crop is estimated at 26,150,000 quarts, 13 per cent less than in 1952. There were decreases in all producing provinces except Prince Edward Island. The reduced crop this year is attributed to unfavourable weather experienced during the harvest.

Raspberries The 1953 raspberry crop is presently estimated at 13.0 million quarts, which is 1.0 million quarts greater than in 1952. Most of this increase occurred in British Columbia where heavy yields were realized in the Fraser Valley.

Loganberries The 1953 loganberry crop is placed at 1,782,000 pounds, an increase of 23 per cent from last year.

Grapes Present indications are that the 1953 grape crop will be about 87.5 million pounds, exceeding that of last year by about one per cent. Although by far the greater proportion of the grapes grown in Canada are produced in Ontario, about one-half of this year's increase is attributable to the vineyards of British Columbia.

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The strawberry crop in 1953 in Prince Edward Island is estimated at 707,000 quarts which is about five per cent greater than last year and is one of the largest crops in recent years. The harvest season in Prince Edward Island is about two weeks later than in Nova Scotia and ample moisture was received in time to mature the berries and raise the yields.

#### NOVA SCOTIA

The Nova Scotia apple crop is forecast at 1,626,000 bushels, the same as last year. The July drop has been heavy and McIntosh and early varieties have a light set. The pear crop is placed at 42,000 bushels, down about 25 per cent from 1952. It is anticipated that the crop of plums and prunes will be about 10,000 bushels this year, also down from 1952.

The strawberry crop in Nova Scotia is estimated at 715,000 quarts, a reduction of 33 per cent from 1952. This is attributed to dry weather experienced during the picking season. The raspberry crop of 35,000 quarts exceeded that of last year by 60 per cent.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK

The New Brunswick apple crop is placed at 260,000 bushels, a decline of 13 per cent from last year. The set is reported to have been poor and the drop is continuing.

The strawberry crop was 672,000 quarts, down by 42 per cent from 1952 due to dry weather conditions. The raspberry crop was estimated at 38,000 quarts, up 13,000 from last year.

#### QUEBEC

The apple crop in Quebec is expected to be about 1,740,000 bushels this year. Although this is 340,000 bushels greater than last year it is not extremely large for Quebec where the crop exceeded three million bushels in 1951. As usual the most important single variety is McIntosh and this year it is anticipated that the second most important will be Fameuse. Scab control has presented a problem but the situation is believed to have been brought under control by thorough spraying.

Present forecasts suggest a grape crop of 84.5 million pounds, not greatly changed from that of 1952. Growth and development of vines and foliage have been good.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Present indications are that the 1953 apple crop will be 6.2 million bushels, about 100,000 less than in 1952 but 1.1 million more than in 1951. However, the 1953 crop is still substantially below the production in any year from 1946 to 1950. Apple scab infestation was still reported in the Okanagan Valley by the latter part of July.

The production of pears in British Columbia is estimated at 597,000 bushels, an increase of 134,000 from 1952. Plums and prunes are placed at 400,000 bushels, 45,000 higher than last year.

The 1953 peach crop is estimated at 620,000 bushels, almost 20 per cent above 1952. Production of this fruit has increased each year since 1950 indicating continuing recovery from the severe winter damage experienced in 1949-50. The apricot crop this year is estimated at 255,000 bushels, the largest production on record. The 1953 cherry crop, placed at 133,000 bushels, is down from 1952 by about 10 per cent.

Latest estimates place the 1953 strawberry crop at 10,063,000 quarts, about two per cent less than last year. All of the decline took place in the Lower Fraser Valley, the most important producing area, and was attributed to unfavourable weather during the harvesting season. The raspberry crop, estimated at 9.3 million quarts, was over 10 per cent above that of 1952. Increases in all areas except the Okanagan were reported, the largest being in the Fraser Valley where most of the crop is grown, with the exception of grapes on Vancouver Island. Production of both loganberries and grapes is expected to be greater this year than in 1952 in all areas of the province.

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This report was prepared in the Agriculture Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from information received from the various Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the Canada Department of Agriculture. The material for Ontario was submitted by the Ontario Committee on Fruit and Vegetable Statistics. Reports from Ontario were prepared as of the middle of July. Material dealing with the other provinces was prepared during the second half of the month of July.



The strawberry crop is estimated at 4,500,000 quarts this year, 2,750,000 quarts less than last year. The severe reduction is attributed to unfavourably dry, hot weather which prevailed immediately before and during the picking season.

The raspberry crop is placed at 300,000 quarts, about 10 per cent higher than in 1952. The weather in most producing areas proved favourable to raspberries this year with moisture at the right time to permit the full development and ripening of the fruit.

### ONTARIO

The first forecast of production places the 1953 apple crop in Ontario at 2.2 million bushels, about 100,000 bushels greater than last year. Declines from 1952 are anticipated in both Eastern and Western Ontario but crop prospects are quite variable in different districts throughout the province. It appears that the McIntosh variety will make up a smaller proportion of the total crop than last year. Apple scab infection has been heavy this year, rains having hampered spraying. Insect damage is not serious.

Present indications suggest a pear crop of 70,000 bushels, about four per cent above that of 1952. However, it is not anticipated that the Kieffer variety will be up from last year, the increase being entirely in the other varieties. Reports indicate that the fruit is sizing very well and insect and disease injury is not serious. Some hail damage was reported in sections of the Niagara Peninsula.

The 1953 production of plums and prunes is expected to be about 517,000 bushels, a decrease of 15,000 bushels from last year. Foliage is in a healthy condition and the fruit is sizing rapidly. Except for some plum curculio damage, insects and diseases are well under control. Some local hail injury is reported.

The 1953 peach crop is placed at 2.4 million bushels, practically unchanged from that of last year. In some areas there has been a heavy drop of Jubilees and Elbertas but the fruit is sizing well. Except for local hail damage in the Niagara Peninsula the peach crop appears to be of good quality. Harvesting of the earliest varieties started about July 18 in Essex and Kent counties.

The sweet cherry crop estimated at 75,300 bushels is well below last year's 114,400 bushels. This reduction is attributed to the poor set of fruit following a heavy but short bloom. The crop has sized well and splitting is not serious. Sour cherry production is slightly higher this year than last, being placed at 260,000 bushels; last year's crop was 258,000 bushels. The crop was generally poor in Western Ontario except in the Georgian Bay area.

Weather conditions did not generally favour strawberry production in Ontario this year, the crop being estimated at 9.0 million quarts, 100,000 quarts less than in 1952. The raspberry crop is now placed at 3.3 million quarts, about 170,000 quarts higher than in 1952, with all the increases having taken place in Eastern Ontario where less than half of the total is produced. Hot, dry weather in Western Ontario reduced the crop appreciably while in most of Eastern Ontario there was sufficient moisture and the set of fruit was good.

Forecast of Fruit Production, 1953, with Comparable Estimates for 1952

	Unit	1952	1953
<b>Canada -</b>			
Apples .....	'000 bu.	12,049	12,086
Pears .....	"	1,257	1,409
Plums and Prunes .....	"	901	927
Peaches .....	"	2,898	3,003
Apricots .....	"	250	255
Cherries .....	"	521	468
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	30,022	26,150
Raspberries .....	"	11,963	13,007
Loganberries .....	'000 lb.	1,449	1,782
Grapes .....	"	86,481	87,503
<b>Prince Edward Island -</b>			
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	671	707
<b>Nova Scotia -</b>			
Apples .....	'000 bu.	1,626	1,626
Pears .....	"	56	42
Plums and prunes .....	"	14	10
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	1,084	715
Raspberries .....	"	22	35
<b>New Brunswick -</b>			
Apples .....	'000 bu.	300	260
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	1,159	672
Raspberries .....	'000 qt.	25	38
<b>Quebec -</b>			
Apples .....	'000 bu.	1,400	1,740
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	7,250	4,500
Raspberries .....	'000 qt.	275	300



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## Forecast of Fruit Production, 1953, with Comparable Estimates for 1952

	Unit	1952	1953
<b>Ontario</b>			
Apples .....	'000 bu.	2,388	2,203
Pears .....	"	738	770
Plums and Prunes .....	"	532	517
Peaches .....	"	2,373	2,383
Cherries .....	"	372	335
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	9,590	9,493
Raspberries .....	"	3,248	3,318
Grapes .....	'000 lb.	83,894	84,474

<b>British Columbia</b>			
Apples .....	'000 bu.	6,335	6,257
Pears .....	"	463	597
Plums and Prunes .....	"	355	400
Peaches .....	"	525	620
Apricots .....	"	250	255
Cherries .....	"	149	133
Strawberries .....	'000 qt.	10,268	10,063
Raspberries .....	"	8,393	9,316
Loganberries .....	'000 lb.	1,449	1,782
Grapes .....	"	2,587	3,029