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DOMINION

22-003
no. 9
1955
c. 1

Published by Authority

F.V.R. No. 9

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November 28, 1955.

FOURTH ESTIMATE OF COMMERCIAL FRUIT PRODUCTION 1955

The information on estimates of production of fruits as set out in this release is based on reports made as of the middle of October for Ontario, during the latter part of October for the Maritime Provinces and the beginning of November for Quebec. In the case of British Columbia estimates were prepared as of November 15th. Accordingly all estimates apply to the situation as it existed at the time when the reports concerned were made.

Apples

Latest estimates place the 1955 apple crop at 19.5 million bushels, 34 per cent above last year's 14.6 million bushel crop and the largest production since collection of apple statistics was begun on a regular basis in 1926. The increase over last year's production was due to heavier yields in all provinces in which apples are grown commercially. However, most of the increase occurred in Eastern Canada, particularly Quebec and Nova Scotia. These two provinces accounted for over two-thirds of the total increase. Market reports indicate that, as a result, Nova Scotia and Quebec apples have been distributed rather more widely than has been the case in recent years. In spite of some adverse factors this year such as drought during the summer in eastern Canada and a late season in British Columbia, growing conditions were, on balance, very favourable and a bumper crop resulted. The quality of the fruit is high.

Pears

The total production of pears in Canada in 1955 is estimated at 1.5 million bushels, 16 per cent above the 1.3 million bushel crop in 1954. The 1955 crop is the largest on record. Crops were larger than in 1954 in Ontario and British Columbia, the two principal producing provinces, with the greater increase occurring in Ontario.

Plums and Prunes

Latest estimates indicate that the 1955 plum and prune crop reached 780,000 bushels, 9 per cent above 1954. There were increases in all provinces in which this crop is grown commercially.

Peaches

A total of 2.9 million bushels of peaches were harvested in Canada in 1955, 31 per cent above last year's output. This year's crop was the largest ever harvested in Canada. Production was greater than in 1954 in both Ontario and British Columbia. The latest 1955 estimate for Ontario is somewhat higher than the previous month's estimate, the change having been brought about by better sizing in the late varieties.

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Early peaches in Ontario had been somewhat smaller than usual due to drought. The British Columbia crop of 588,000 bushels was more than double that of 1954, the extremely large increase being due to the unusually low production last year when spring frost damage reduced the crop severely.

Apricots

The 1955 apricot crop is now placed at 218,000 bushels, 85 per cent above last year's 118,000 bushels. As in the case of peaches the 1954 crop of apricots was reduced due to spring frost damage.

Cherries

Latest estimates place the 1955 cherry crop at 544,000 bushels, 9 per cent greater than in 1954 and as in the case of apples, pears and peaches the largest on record. The large 1955 crop is attributed to a 58 per cent increase in British Columbia where production stood at 142,000 bushels this year. Production in Ontario, at 402,000 bushels, was down 2 per cent from last year.

Strawberries

The 1955 strawberry crop is now estimated at 22.7 million quarts, 19 per cent below last year as a result of smaller crops in 1955 in British Columbia and Quebec. Drought in Quebec during the picking season and unfavourable, cool, wet weather in British Columbia were the factors causing the reduction in yields. Production was up in all other provinces for which statistics are prepared.

Raspberries

The 1955 raspberry crop is placed at 11.0 million quarts, 15 per cent lower than last year's 12.8 million. Production this year was lower in all producing provinces except Nova Scotia, with the largest decrease having occurred in British Columbia which grows about 75 per cent of the Canadian raspberry crop.

Loganberries

Latest estimates place the 1955 loganberry crop at 1.5 million pounds, 45 per cent above that of last year. Loganberries are produced commercially in British Columbia only.

Grapes

The 1955 grape crop is estimated at 86.5 million pounds, down by 7 per cent from 1954. The drop this year was due to a 7 per cent decrease in production in Ontario vineyards. Production in British Columbia was down 5 per cent this year.

This report was prepared for the Agriculture Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from information received from the various Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Quebec Provincial Bureau of Statistics and the Canada Department of Agriculture. The material for Ontario was submitted by the Ontario Committee on Fruit and Vegetable Statistics.

Erratum F.V.R. No. 8, October 11, 1955

On page 6, footnote 2 (appearing under the table entitled Preliminary Estimates of Planted Commercial Acreages of Certain Vegetables 1955) should not apply to Manitoba. The footnote applicable to acreages of beans in Manitoba is footnote 3.

Fourth Estimate of Fruit Production, 1955, with Comparable Figures for 1954

Kind of Fruit	Production in Volumetric Units			Production in Tons <u>1/</u>	
	Unit	1954 '000	1955 '000	1954 tons	1955 tons
Canada -					
Apples	bu.	14,550 <u>2/</u>	19,452		
Pears	bu.	1,261	1,458	31,525	36,450
Plums and prunes	bu.	716	780	17,900	19,500
Peaches	bu.	2,425	2,935	60,625	73,375
Apricots	bu.	118	218	2,950	5,450
Cherries	bu.	500	544	12,500	13,600
Strawberries	qt.	27,971	22,659	18,633	14,982
Raspberries	qt.	12,839	10,957	9,178	7,882
Loganberries	lb.	1,056	1,530	528	765
Grapes	lb.	92,774	86,470	46,387	43,235
Prince Edward Island -					
Strawberries	qt.	780	790	488	494



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Fourth Estimate of Fruit Production, 1955, with Comparable Figures
for 1954

Kind of Fruit	Production in Volumetric Units			Production in Tons ^{1/}	
	Unit	1954 '000	1955 '000	1954 tons	1955 tons
Nova Scotia -					
Apples	bu.	2,157	4,000		
Pears	bu.	40	45	1,000	1,125
Plums and prunes	bu.	20	30	500	750
Strawberries	qt.	715	825	447	516
Raspberries	qt.	37	40	23	25
New Brunswick -					
Apples	bu.	250	425		
Strawberries	qt.	775	850	484	531
Raspberries	qt.	50	45	31	28
Quebec -					
Apples	bu.	2,500	4,000		
Strawberries	qt.	8,500	5,000	5,312	3,125
Raspberries	qt.	350	300	219	133
Ontario -					
Apples	bu.	3,121	3,390		
Pears	bu.	664	816	16,600	20,400
Plums and prunes	bu.	436	523	12,150	13,075
Peaches	bu.	2,154	2,347	53,850	58,675
Cherries	bu.	410	402	10,250	10,050
Strawberries	qt.	7,992	8,638	4,995	5,399
Raspberries	qt.	3,170	2,306	1,981	1,441
Grapes	lb.	91,000	84,730	45,500	42,390
British Columbia -					
Apples	bu.	6,522	7,137		
Pears	bu.	557	597	13,925	14,925
Plums and prunes	bu.	210	227	5,250	5,675
Peaches	bu.	271	588	6,775	14,700
Apricots	bu.	118	218	2,950	5,450
Cherries	bu.	90	142	2,250	3,550
Strawberries	qt.	9,209	6,556	6,907	4,917
Raspberries	qt.	9,232	8,266	6,924	6,200
Loganberries	lb.	1,056	1,530	528	765
Grapes	lb.	1,774	1,690	887	845

^{1/} The original estimates secured by the Bureau were stated in measures of volume (except loganberries and grapes). These were converted to tons at the following rates: 1 quart of strawberries or raspberries = 1.25 pounds (except in British Columbia where the rate of 1 quart = 1.50 pounds was used) and one bushel of all other fruits = 50 pounds (net weight).

^{2/} Revised.