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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA

AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, July 20, 1936 - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture issues to-day a report showing the condition of fruit and vegetable crops throughout Canada with prospects for the current season.

SUMMARY

Prospects for fruit and vegetable crops have declined appreciably during the past month. Excessive heat and absence of needed rainfall have caused serious damage in Ontario and Manitoba. Quebec has suffered to a lesser extent although some damage has been done. British Columbia has continued to enjoy good weather conditions but the set of all tree fruits is less than last year and cherries have been damaged considerably by splitting induced by heavy rainfall. In the Maritime provinces weather conditions have been favourable with ample rainfall and warm weather following a cool period in late June and early July. Nova Scotia promises a fairly good set of apples although the effects of the May frosts and the spread of scab infection have lowered the earlier estimates. New Brunswick will have few apples as the bloom was light in the commercial orchards and few fruits have set. Vegetable crops have felt the effect of adverse weather condition in central Canada and unless the drought is relieved immediately, all late vegetables are likely to be short crops.

Note: - Where condition figures are quoted in the following reports, the basis is as follows: 1-poor; 2-below average; 3-average; 4-above average; 5-exceptionally good.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Growth conditions have continued very satisfactory with an abundance of moisture. Weather during late June and early July was too cool but has since turned warm. Apples promise a good crop with some increase in production due to young trees coming into bearing. Cherries and plums bloomed heavily but failed to set well and these crops will be light in some sections. Elsewhere the crop is average or better. Orchard pests have caused little trouble so far this season although black knot is in evidence on plum and cherry trees.

Potatoes and turnips are making good growth and other vegetables are satisfactory.

NOVA SCOTIA

Growth conditions have been above average with warm days, cool nights and plenty of moisture. Apples are sizing well in the Annapolis Valley and making a showing in some orchards where little crop was expected. On the other hand, in some districts in spite of heavy bloom, crop prospects are disappointing. This is particularly true where the early spraying was not thoroughly attended to. Aphids are at present reaching serious numbers in many orchards, particularly in the western end of the Valley and there is likely to be considerable wastage as a result. Scab is also present in many orchards but where spraying has been thorough, it is being well controlled. Thinning is being encouraged in orchards where the set is heavy enough to warrant it. Most districts report a light set of Stark and Gravensteins are also light. Spraying has been thorough during June and July although weather conditions have made effective work difficult. Because of the drop, the frost injury and the scab infection, it is difficult to place an estimate on the crop at this time. It is expected however that the tree run crop will exceed last year's by about 25 per cent.

The strawberry crop is well past its peak. Peak production came closer together than usual as between the valley area and the Colchester-Pictou area.



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necessitating heavier exports than in former years in order to prevent serious flooding of local markets.

Raspberries promise some increase over the production of last year, generally estimated at about 15 per cent. Plums and cherries are variable. Good sets are reported from some districts while in others, frost caught the trees in full bloom and there is little fruit in sight. Pears bloomed heavily but failed to set well. Though truck crops are not a major item in production, they appear to be well up to average. Early vegetables are now on the market. Potatoes in many districts are below average, partly as a result of late planting and to some extent on account of growing conditions.

The condition of tree fruit crops as at July 13 is given below:

<u>Varieties of Apples</u>		<u>Other Tree Fruits</u>			
Gravenstein . . . . .	1.9	Stark . . . . .	3.4	Cherries . . . . .	2.7
King . . . . .	3.3	McIntosh . . . . .	2.9	Plums . . . . .	2.7
Ribston . . . . .	3.1	Baldwin . . . . .	3.2	Pears . . . . .	2.5
Spy . . . . .	3.8	Cox Orange . . . . .	3.7		
Ben Davis . . . . .	3.2	Golden Russet . . . . .	3.1		

#### NEW BRUNSWICK

Car lot shipments of strawberries from the main producing districts, Fredonwicon, Grand Lake, Jemseg and Washdemoak, concluded on the 11th of the month with a total shipment of 20 cars. Three cars and some boat shipments went from Saint John to Boston. Exporting points were Boston and Montreal which took the majority, New York, Ottawa, Toronto, Halifax and various towns in Maine. There was a heavy increase in production, variously estimated at from 15 to 100 per cent but official figures for the crop are not available yet. Prices ranged between 8 and 4 cents with the average about 6 cents in the principal commercial districts. Around Chatham, Woodstock and St. Stephen prices were better, growers receiving from 8 to 10 cents per quart. Raspberries promise a good crop with substantial increases over last year in prospect.

Prospects for the apple crop are not bright. The bloom was light in most orchards and while weather conditions have been favorable and trees are vigorous and healthy, there are few apples in sight. It is estimated that in the main commercial districts, the crop will be the lightest in many years. In some outlying sections where apples are grown in small quantities, conditions are better and fairly good sets are reported. There has been an abundance of soil moisture and young trees set out this year have done particularly well. Scab is fairly widespread except in well sprayed orchards. Some damage has been done by tent caterpillars and leaf rollers.

The following table shows the condition of apples as at July 13. These figures include the whole province but for the main commercial apple districts they are higher than actual conditions warrant and should be discounted somewhat.

Crimson Beauty .....	2.2	Fameuse .....	2.0	Bishop Pippin ....	2.4
Yellow Transparent .....	2.0	Wolf River .....	2.4	Golden Russet ....	2.2
Melba .....	2.6	Alexander .....	2.1	Bethel .....	1.8
Wealthy .....	2.3	McIntosh .....	2.2	Ben Davis .....	1.8
Dudley .....	2.0	Cortland.....	2.4	Spy .....	1.5

#### QUEBEC

Weather conditions during recent weeks have been generally favorable with fairly high temperatures and occasional showers although more rain would have been welcome. Some hail damage was caused to apple orchards south of Montreal and to market gardens near Quebec.





Strawberries are over in the Montreal district but Quebec and Lower St. Lawrence areas are shipping good quality berries. The total crop will be reduced somewhat by the dry weather. Raspberry crops are promising and early pickings are now being marketed. Recent rains have improved the prospects in the Montreal district and the fruit is of good size and quality.

A heavy drop has further reduced the apple prospects on Montreal Island and the adjacent districts. Some of the early varieties show a fairly full crop but McIntosh and Fameuse are light throughout the main commercial areas. Some hail damage occurred in the Hemmingford Section. Below Quebec where the blossoms escaped the late frosts there is a better set of all varieties. Fire blight is fairly prevalent in the Lower St. Lawrence district and some scab is in evidence. Curculio injury to apples has been fairly general.

Market garden crops are generally later than usual but on the whole, the condition is good, particularly in the case of crops intended for processing. In the Richelieu Valley, May frosts were followed by a period of hot dry weather and growth was slow. In the Quebec district all garden crops look well but will need rain shortly. Some damage was caused by the hailstorm of July 11. Fine quality celery from the Montreal district is now appearing on the market. Other crops in that locality are generally good although a little late. Aphids and flea beetles have been abundant and have caused some damage to vegetable crops but cut worms have been less troublesome than usual.

The condition of vegetables for the province as a whole at June 30 is as follows:

Beans .....	4.2	Celery .....	3.8	Potatoes .....	3.8
Cauliflower .....	4.1	Corn .....	4.0	Peas .....	4.1
Early Cabbage .....	4.1	Lettuce .....	3.4	Tomatoes .....	3.9
Carrots .....	3.6	Onions .....	4.2	Others .....	4.1

#### ONTARIO

Prolonged drought conditions in the greater part of Ontario have caused considerable injury to fruits and vegetables and have prevented the seeding and planting of the late vegetable crop, which usually goes into the ground during the first two weeks of July. If, however, moisture conditions permit and the growing season should be favourable from now on, a fair crop of winter vegetables could still be harvested. Eastern Ontario is the exception since there ample rainfall has been received, and crops are progressing favourably. Extremely high temperatures have been recorded in Western, Southern and Central Ontario. Sun-scald is quite prevalent, particularly in some orchards, and the dry weather has caused the drying up of leaves and the killing of a large number of trees, especially those planted this year and old trees suffering from winter injury. Sizing of all tree fruits has been retarded. Currants, gooseberries and raspberries have been disastrously affected, with the total yield reduced by more than 50 percent and the quality considerably below average. Beets, late cabbage, late cauliflower, corn, lettuce, early potatoes, early tomatoes, spinach and garden peas have all suffered heavily.

A heavy general rainfall at the present time would prevent any great amount of loss to this year's tree fruit crops. A continuation of the heat and drought will, however, seriously reduce the present outlook. The further period of drought which fruit crops can withstand varies with the orchard and with temperature conditions. A number of orchards have already reached the border-line. A good rainfall would improve the present critical tree fruit situation to a marked degree. Apples are sizing well to date, and insect pests are fairly well under control.

The anticipated production of later varieties of cherries, both sweets and sour, has been considerably reduced in many areas due to heat. Pears sized well until the arrival of the intense heat period, which retarded growth and caused some sun scalding in exposed locations. Development of the peach crop has been good and only light sun scald is in evidence as yet. Norfolk and Essex report good crop prospects and fair tree condition, but in Niagara Peninsula, wood and tree mortality



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continues. Heat damage, together with tree and wood mortality, has further reduced the previously anticipated light production of plums. The grape crop has also deteriorated during the past month and the yield will be considerably below average. Early frost damage, previous winter injury, the present drought, dead arm injury and some chlorosis have all tended to lessen the size of this year's grape crop.

The condition of fruit and vegetable crops and the estimated production of fruits are set out below:

### Condition of Fruits

The condition of fruit crops in Ontario on July 15 is as follows:

	<u>Southern Ontario</u>	<u>Western Ontario</u>	<u>Central Ontario</u>	<u>Eastern Ontario</u>	<u>Average Province</u>
<b>Apples</b>					
Early Varieties ....	2.5	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.2
Wealthy .....	2.3	2.4	3.0	2.9	2.5
Snow .....	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.6
McIntosh .....	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.6
Baldwin .....	2.5	1.7	1.6	--	2.2
Greening .....	2.7	2.7	2.2	--	2.6
Spy .....	2.6	3.1	3.1	--	2.9
Stark .....	2.6	2.6	2.6	--	2.6
Other Varieties ....	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.6
<b>Cherries</b>					
Sweet .....	2.0	2.4	--	--	2.1
Sour .....	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.1
<b>Pears</b>					
Bartlett .....	2.4	1.5	2.3	2.0	2.1
Kieffer .....	2.8	2.8	2.0	--	2.6
Other Varieties ....	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.0	2.5
<b>Peaches</b> .....	2.2	--	--	--	2.2
<b>Plums</b>					
Japanese .....	2.4	1.8	--	--	2.2
European .....	2.1	1.8	2.0	1.3	2.0
<b>Grapes</b> .....	2.1	2.0	--	--	2.1

### CONDITION OF VEGETABLES

	<u>Southern Ontario</u>	<u>Western Ontario</u>	<u>Central Ontario</u>	<u>Eastern Ontario</u>	<u>Average Province</u>
Beans (green) .....	0.5	1.0	1.6	2.8	0.8
Beets .....	1.0	1.5	2.1	2.9	1.5
Cabbage (early) .....	3.0	2.8	2.3	3.3	2.9
(late) .....	1.4	1.3	1.3	3.0	1.6
Cauliflower (early) .....	3.0	2.8	1.9	2.7	2.9
(late) ....	1.4	1.3	1.2	2.9	1.4
Carrots .....	2.8	2.7	1.8	3.0	2.4
Celery (early) .....	2.6	3.0	2.0	3.5	2.9
(late) .....	2.0	2.7	2.0	3.0	2.5
Corn .....	1.2	1.4	1.8	3.0	1.4
Lettuce .....	1.0	2.0	1.5	2.5	1.6
Onions .....	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.5	2.8
Potatoes (early) .....	2.2	1.5	1.5	3.0	1.7
Peas (garden) .....	.5	.7	.5	3.0	.7
Spinach .....	1.5	1.5	1.2	3.0	1.5
Tomatoes (early) .....	1.5	2.0	1.8	2.4	1.7
(main field) ..	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.6







Estimated Production of Fruit Crops in Ontario, 1936,  
Expressed as a Percentage of the 1935 Crop

	Southern Ontario	Western Ontario	Central Ontario	Eastern Ontario	Average Province
	% of 1935	% of 1935	% of 1935	% of 1935	% of 1935
Strawberries .....	55%	55%	60%	60%	56%
Raspberries .....	40%	40%	30%	90%	40%
Other Small Fruits ...	40%	40%	50%	80%	48%
Sweet Cherries .....	90%	--	--	--	90%
Sour Cherries .....	85%	70%	400%	--	88%
Plums .....	40%	40%	120%	--	43%
Peaches .....	65%	--	--	--	65%
Pears .....	70%	65%	115%	--	70%
<u>Apples</u>					
Early Varieties .....	85%	92%	70%	80%	87%
Wealthy .....	75%	85%	130%	110%	92%
Baldwin .....	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
Spy .....	125%	85%	130%	--	115%
Greening .....	80%	120%	115%	--	102%
Stark .....	80%	75%	130%	--	105%
Snow .....	80%	75%	50%	70%	75%
McIntosh .....	60%	60%	70%	70%	65%
Other Varieties .....	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
Total Apples .....	75%	78%	130%	80%	80%

MANITOBA

Manitoba has experienced the most prolonged period of excessive heat and dry weather on record. All crops have suffered as a result and unless conditions are relieved soon, vegetables will be scarce. Cabbage and cauliflower have suffered further damage from flea beetle attacks and the latter are being forced into seed by the hot weather. Potatoes have been badly burned by hot winds and are deteriorating rapidly. Onions are ripening prematurely and the yields will be light. Corn and tomatoes have stood the conditions better than most crops and these are fairly promising provided rain comes soon. Celery on irrigated land has done very well. Cut worms were fairly active in June but the damage caused was not extensive. Potato beetles were numerous in some districts but the dry weather added control and damage was slight.

The condition of the principal vegetable crops at July 11 as reported by correspondents is as follows:

Snap beans .....	2.0	Cauliflower .....	2.3	Onions .....	2.7
Beets .....	2.7	Celery .....	3.0	Parsnips .....	2.3
Cabbage .....	2.2	Corn .....	3.0	Peas .....	2.6
Carrots .....	2.2	Cucumbers .....	2.8	Tomatoes .....	3.4
		Other Vegetable crops	2.5		

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Fine warm weather with occasional showers has prevailed throughout most of British Columbia during recent weeks. All sections of the province have been well supplied with moisture. Some damage has been caused to cherries in the Kootenay and Okanagan districts and on the Lower Mainland as a result of excessive rains. Brown rot and scab have also spread during the wet weather. On the whole however, conditions have been very satisfactory for horticultural crops.

Orchard and garden pests have not given much trouble this season. Considering the amount of rain, there is surprisingly little apple scab and other fungous pests are not reported as serious. Codling moth has not been abundant. Fire blight is variable. Some districts report little infection while in others, blight is more prevalent than it has been for a number of years. Hail damage to apples occurred

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in small areas in the Okanagan and Grand Forks districts but in neither case was the damage extensive.

Strawberries are over with the exception of the everbearing varieties which promise a heavy crop in the Lower Mainland area. The main crop proved to be lighter throughout the province than early estimates indicated. Raspberries on Vancouver Island are turning out a light crop but on the Lower Mainland, promise better than at first anticipated. The movement from Okanagan points is now on but a very light crop is in sight. In the Kootenay district, prospects have improved during recent weeks. New canes have made splendid growth. Creston reports a prospective yield of about ten per cent of last year, mostly Latham and King with Cuthbert a failure. Loganberries are moving to the wineries and canneries with crop prospects considerably better than at first indicated. Gooseberries are done and currants are now past the peak. The latter crop has been one of the best in recent years, good yields being reported from all districts.

Early varieties of cherries are over and late sorts are now moving freely. Heavy rains in the Kootenay and Okanagan districts have resulted in splitting which will materially lessen the crop. Latest estimates indicate a reduction of about 15 per cent in the Okanagan and 35 to 50 per cent in the Kootenay district.

Thinning of apples has been completed where necessary and the fruit is sizing well. Early shipments of Duchess and Yellow Transparents are now moving to market. For the province as a whole, apple production is estimated at about 78 per cent of last year with practically all the important varieties except Yellow Newtown showing a reduction. Plums and prunes are making good growth but the total crop will be only about 65 per cent of last year. Peaches and pears are also estimated at lower production than last season, while the commercial crop of apricots is practically a failure.

The estimated crop of the various fruits is shown below together with the production figures for the 1935 crop, in brackets.

Strawberries	229,000 crates	(620,650)	Cherries	148,450 crates	(161,800)
Raspberries	101,640 "	(154,370)	Plums and prunes	288,150 "	(436,400)
Apples	4,041,200 boxes	(5,156,440)	Apricots	8,000 "	(99,595)
Pears	224,215 "	(269,635)	Peaches	114,600 "	(133,678)

Greenhouse tomatoes and cucumbers are moving freely and there is a good supply of all garden vegetables on Vancouver Island. Early potatoes have yielded heavily on the Lower Mainland and late plantings are making good growth. Acreage has been increased somewhat since the high water of June. A steady supply of lettuce is in prospect in the Lower Mainland district from now till October. All ground crops in the Okanagan district are doing well although more warm bright weather would help the tomatoes. Armstrong district is now shipping good quality celery. Semi-ripe tomatoes are being shipped freely and there is a fair movement of all vegetables. On the whole, prices are low. Cantaloupes in the Oliver district have improved considerably since the weather turned warm and tomatoes and cucumbers have also benefited and are now being shipped. Mixed vegetables are going out from the Kootenay district and all local markets are well supplied.

Following are the estimated acreages of various vegetables planted this season with comparative figures for 1935, in brackets.

Early potatoes	1,757 (1,906)	Lettuce	386 (315)	Peppers	33 (48)
Late potatoes	5,752 (4,961)	Celery	198 (227)	Pumpkins	
Onions	1,091 (1,397)	Carrots	515 (549)	and squash	66 (98)
Tomatoes	2,707 (2,890)	Turnips	238 (255)	Cantaloupes	258 (263)
Cucumbers	206 (186)	Beets	248 (252)	Asparagus	105 (105)
Cabbage	381 (357)	Parsnips	58 (62)	Cauliflower	125 (125)
Corn	565 (498)	Beans	520 (810)	Péas	2,875 (3,300)

#### UNITED STATES

A report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, issued July 10, states that fruit prospects as at July 1 are about the poorest since 1921, due chiefly to winter injury and late frosts. Apple production is expected to fall about one-third below average with all States sharing in the decrease. The peach crop is expected to be the smallest since 1921 and the grape crop one of the smallest since that year. Plums,



IN THE COURT OF THE COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN ASSEMBLED

At the Bar of the said Court, the following Petition of the said [Name] was presented and read: That the said [Name] doth hereby shew, that he is a poor and distressed man, and that he is unable to pay the sum of [Amount] which he owes to the said [Name], and that he prays that the said sum may be paid for him, and that he may be discharged from the said debt.

And the said [Name] doth further shew, that he is a poor and distressed man, and that he is unable to pay the sum of [Amount] which he owes to the said [Name], and that he prays that the said sum may be paid for him, and that he may be discharged from the said debt.

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THE PETITION

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prunes, apricots, and cherries are all light to very light crops although pear production will be about average. In most of the Eastern States the June drop of apples was heavier than usual. The dry weather, however, was favourable for scab control and the crop is unusually clean. In the Pacific Northwest codling moth damage is below average, but weather conditions of recent weeks have been favourable for a heavy flight from the second brood.

The July 1 condition of the potato crop is 73.5 per cent of normal, which is the second lowest July 1 condition reported during the past 70 years. The acreage of fresh vegetable crops for harvest for commercial distribution, excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes, shows an increase over last year of 6 per cent and is 14 per cent above the average. Giving due consideration to the yields of vegetable crops harvested to date and the present condition of growing vegetables would indicate that production as a whole will fall slightly below that of 1935. Lack of rainfall at critical periods in the Southeastern States lowered the yields of green vegetables from this area. The important vegetable areas in the Eastern and Northeastern parts of the country bid fair to produce crops only slightly below normal. In the North Central States the important ~~cabbage~~ and onion production areas have met with adverse weather conditions, principally drought, with resulting possibilities of short crops. Vegetable production in the Pacific Coast States promises to be slightly above average, as the growing conditions have been extremely favourable. While the acreage of vegetable crops for commercial canning or manufacture is slightly greater this season than in 1935, the yield prospects are considerably below average, especially for sweet corn and tomatoes.

According to an announcement by the U. S. Bureau of Customs, the total imports of seed potatoes from Canada during the period January 1 - June 27 was 20,667,405 lbs. This represents 45.9% of the quota under the provisions of the trade agreement.

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