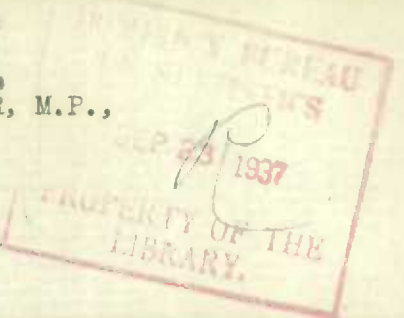


22-003

DOES NOT CIRCULATE

Published by Authority of the HON. W. D. EULER, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

NE PAS PRÊTER
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
Chief, Agricultural Branch:	T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.
In Charge, Horticultural Statistics:	J. S. McGiffin, B.S.A.

Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, September 22, 1937 - 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. Preliminary estimates of production are given along with the revised estimates of the 1936 fruit crops.

SUMMARY

Prospects for fruit crops in Canada continue bright. With the exception of pears and cherries, all commercially grown fruits in Canada have produced larger crops this season than last year. Substantial increases were made in the production of apples, peaches, strawberries, raspberries and grapes. Plums made a moderate gain while the falling off in Ontario's pear production was not wholly offset by the increase in British Columbia. As a result of the hot dry weather which prevailed in the Maritime Provinces and to a lesser extent in Ontario, crops matured earlier than usual and the export season for apples commenced about two weeks ahead of last year. No major epidemic of disease or insect pests affected the quality of the crops and on the whole, fruit was of distinctly better quality than a year ago. Generally speaking, weather conditions throughout the season favoured the normal development of the crops although boisterous gales which swept Nova Scotian orchards in the fore part of September, shook a lot of fruit from the trees and resulted in considerable loss. Present conditions in all provinces are favourable for the harvesting of fruit crops and for the development of high colour and good size in late varieties of apples. Vegetable crop growth has been normal in most areas of production. The canning tomato crop in Ontario has not come up to earlier expectations but is nevertheless substantially above that of last year with the factories still operating. Late crops of all root vegetables promise well with heavy yields of potatoes in prospect.

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

Under the influence of the hot dry weather which has continued since early July, fruits have failed to size and colour normally. Some trees are commencing to show the effects of the long dry spell. Plums and early apples began to appear on the local markets around the first of the month but yield and quality are below normal. In the better cared for orchards the effects of the extreme weather are less noticeable but many farm orchards will have little or no crop. Vegetables have suffered even more severely than the fruit crops as a result of the hot dry conditions. Yield prospects for late potatoes have fallen sharply since the early part of August while the crop of marketable turnips will be considerably reduced, some estimates running about 50 per cent of last year's crop.

NOVA SCOTIA

Dry weather which characterized the previous month continued through late August and early September. Temperatures remained unseasonably high until the end of the first week of September when cooler weather helped to develop the colour on apples which up till that time had been rather poor. The hot dry conditions failed to affect sizing adversely but hastened the maturity of the fruit which in general is ripening at least a week earlier than usual. Insect and fungus injury has been light during



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

1911

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

recent weeks although there is a fair amount of scab showing up where spraying was not sufficiently thorough. Gravenstein and Stark are the varieties mostly affected.

While the crop has continued to bear out earlier estimates as to its size, serious damage was done by heavy winds which swept the orchards on September 12 and 14. Where orchards were heavily loaded, losses were confined mainly to the border trees some of which lost nearly half their crop. In orchards bearing only moderate crops and with a high percentage of such varieties as Blenheim, Greening, Fallawater and Stark, the losses ran much higher since these trees were shaken more severely than those heavily laden. The total losses resulting from these wind storms is estimated at 600,000 barrels or about 25 per cent of the crop. About half this quantity had already been picked before the storm struck. Rains which accompanied the wind storms should aid the development of the remaining fruit.

Previous to the storm, all important varieties with the exception of Spy showed promise of yielding considerably larger crops than last season with the total yield more than 25 per cent above that of 1936. While the windfalls will not be a total loss, the amount of fruit available for export will be considerably reduced with a consequent heavy diversion to processing plants and domestic markets.

Pears and plums have developed normally and are generally of good quality. Total yield of both these fruits will show a reduction from last year.

All markets have been well supplied with local vegetables. The tomato crop was heavy and of good quality, bringing satisfactory returns to growers. Potatoes have been turning out well although the later crops are showing the effects of the long dry period. Turnips also have suffered considerably and are badly in need of rain to keep them growing.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Unusually warm weather with scanty rainfall extended throughout August and into early September. While these conditions have not interfered with the sizing of fruits, crops are maturing ahead of their normal season while colour development has not been good and much of the fruit will be dull. Cooler weather toward the middle of the month which was accompanied by showers should result in some improvement in colour. Quality of the apple crop is variable according to the district. In the Burton-Fredericton section, the quality is very good. The fruit is clean and of good size and colour. In the Gagetown area however, scab infestation has made considerable headway and this, coupled with fairly severe hail injury, will reduce the quality of the fruit. Despite this set-back, the total crop for the province should be well ahead of last year. The yield is now estimated at 45,000 barrels with some possibility that it may run ten per cent above this figure.

Prospects for the potato crop are being well maintained. While some reduction resulted from the prolonged hot dry spell, yields are keeping well up to average and quality is good. Blight has not proved as serious as was anticipated some weeks ago. Frosts during the early part of September cut down the foliage in some sections.

QUEBEC

Hot humid weather which prevailed during late August and early September has been succeeded by unsettled cool conditions which have favoured the growth of all late crops and stimulated colour development on apples. Some wind damage to the latter occurred early in the month, losses being estimated at from 10 to 15 per cent of the crop. Harvesting of McIntosh apples is now in full swing and should be fairly well completed by the end of the month. The total crop promises an increase of 60-65 per cent above that of last season.

Vegetable crops have made good progress in recent weeks. The tomato season has lasted well and sweet corn is much superior to last year when worm damage was extensive. Some losses to cabbage resulting from hot weather earlier in the season have been reported. Potatoes will be a heavy crop although the prevalence of disease will lower the quality somewhat.

ONTARIO

Following the extremely hot weather of late August and early September, temperatures recently have been much cooler with a fair amount of rain. Those conditions have materially improved the colouring of fruits and in all sections of the Province size and colour are superior to last season.

In western Ontario, the apple crop has developed well with noticeable improvement in colour since the advent of cooler weather. There has been some side worm injury, varying in severity according to district, but apart from this all pests have been kept well under control. High winds during the first quarter of the month caused some damage in localized areas, notably Georgian Bay district and Middlesex county, but on the aggregate the loss was comparatively light.

The plum crop sized well but the hot humid weather of three weeks ago was responsible for considerable spread of brown rot with consequent loss of fruit. Late varieties coming on the market now are free of any disease. Peaches were similarly affected by the adverse weather and the promised increase in crop due to the excellent sizing was partially offset by brown rot losses. The Elberta crop now being harvested shows little or no sign of rot. Conditions have been favourable for the development of the pear crop and the present estimate shows some increase over last month. All varieties have shared in the improvement, although Bartletts in many orchards have been rather seriously affected by late worm injury.

The grape crop is sizing and colouring well with generally compact bunches. The crop promises a substantial increase over the very small yield of last season, but will still be below average. Apart from the usual leaf hopper damage in neglected or poorly sprayed vineyards, pests are well under control.

In eastern Ontario apples are sizing much better than last season. During the extreme heat of early September colour development was slow but recently there has been marked improvement. The hot weather caused apples to drop freely and the high winds on September 11 shook off some fruit. Picking of McIntosh is now under way in many orchards. Buyers are selecting the cleanest and best sprayed orchards and are paying as high as \$3.00 per barrel for apples on the trees, \$2.50 for Snows and \$2.00 for other varieties. So far the truck movement has been light but a heavier demand is anticipated soon. Early varieties have been selling slowly, largely on account of the plentiful supply of peaches. The infestation of apple maggot is much lighter than usual and Corky core, which was serious a year ago, is almost entirely absent this season. Scab and codling moth are showing up in a number of orchards.

Plums have been a better crop than was expected, but on account of the prevailing low prices, much of the fruit has not been picked. Pears are a light crop and are being marketed locally.

Despite the hot dry weather of late August and early September, there has been sufficient moisture for favourable development of most vegetable crops. Pests have been kept fairly well under control by intensive spraying and dusting, although earlier conditions adversely affected such crops as onions, tomatoes, cauliflower and celery in some districts. In eastern Ontario, while the packing of tomatoes started two weeks earlier than usual and many canners expected to be finished by the twentieth of September, operations are still in full swing. Most of the large operators have been running overtime. The yield per acre so far has been about 50 per cent above last season and if frost holds off many more will be packed. Present prospects are for an abnormally large yield and pack, while much larger export shipments have been made than is usual for this time of year.

The corn crop was above normal and more than half the crop has been delivered to the canneries. Late crops of cabbage, cauliflower, carrots and celery are all making good progress with prospects for average or better yields. Onions are practically all harvested with the yield much above last season. Late potatoes will not yield as well as earlier varieties owing to the shortage of moisture a month ago.

In northern Ontario, weather conditions have been favourable for the development of all crops. Some frost damage to potatoes was reported in the Sudbury-North Bay area early in September. Practically all vegetables show some increase in acreage over last season, with substantially larger plantings of potatoes in the Sudbury district.

With disease and insect pests generally well under control, potatoes promise

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

heavy yield in the Sudbury area with slightly above average in Head of Lakes district, and other vegetables an average crop. Potato harvesting is now general in the Sudbury area.

Table I. Condition of Vegetable Crops in Ontario - September 15, 1937

With Comparative Figures for August 15,
Together with Prospective Yield Per Acre

	<u>Toronto West</u>			<u>Toronto East</u>		
	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Yield Per Acre	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Yield Per Acre
Cabbage - late	4.0	4.1	12 tons	3.2	3.2	10 tons
Cauliflower - late	3.8	3.0	4 tons	2.8	3.0	4 tons
Carrots - late	3.5	4.0	12½ tons	3.5	3.2	8 tons
Celery - late	3.2	3.0	450 crates	3.0	3.0	400 crates
Corn - sweet	3.4	3.6	4 tons	3.5	3.7	3 tons
Lettuce - late	3.0	3.2	500 crates	2.8	2.8	-
Onions	2.7	2.5	125 crates	3.0	3.0	200 crates
Spinach	3.5	3.6	9 tons	3.0	2.8	7 tons
Tomatoes - canning	2.7	2.7	175 bushels	3.4	4.0	300 bushels
Table turnips	3.4	3.4	-	3.5	3.3	-
Potatoes - late	3.2	3.0	-	3.5	2.7	-

MANITOBA

While some damage was done to market gardens by hot dry conditions which prevailed during late July and early August, normal weather was experienced during the first half of September. Little or no frost damage was reported up to the middle of the month and for the most part moisture supplies were ample. Except for cabbage and cauliflower which have been badly affected with worms and are only fair to poor, practically all crops show above average condition at this time. Celery might be another exception to the general rule of good crops as considerable blight is showing. Corn was a particularly good crop but prices were low. Root vegetables, cucurbits and tomatoes have all produced well while potatoes are a fairly good crop.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Following a period of unsettled weather around the end of August, warm bright days facilitated the maturing and harvesting of fruit crops in the coast region of the province. Apples are colouring well and harvesting of the fall varieties is going ahead rapidly. Prunes are a good crop and are meeting with brisk demand. In the Okanagan district, good weather has aided the harvest of apples, pears and plums. First pickings of McIntosh apples were made during the first week of the month at southern Okanagan points while in the northern sections, picking was in progress by the 15th. McIntosh apples will be released to the domestic markets on September 23. At present about 35 cars of McIntosh have rolled for export destinations. Wealthy has been moving fairly well but a slight slowing up is now evident in anticipation of the release of McIntosh. Prunes are moving and with the clearing up of American supplies on the Prairies, demand should strengthen. Bartlett pears are finished but there is a strong demand for Flemish Beauty. Size and colour of the late varieties of apples are good while the fruit is very clean. Little or no brown core has been observed this season. Late varieties of peaches reached the peak of supply about the middle of the month while the cantaloupe crop was practically cleaned up by that date. In the Kootenay and boundary districts, heavy rains early in the month interrupted harvest operations but aided the development of colour on apples. Since then the weather has been hot and dry providing ideal harvest conditions. Little damage from codling moth has been reported this year. Canneries and jam factories have been working full time to handle tomatoes and fruit offerings. All green vegetables are available in full supply with the second crop of hothouse tomatoes on Vancouver Island maturing rapidly and promising a heavy crop.

UNITED STATES

In most of the important areas weather conditions during August continued favourable for the development of fruits and the September 1 indications point to slightly larger crops of apples, grapes, late peaches, plums, and prunes than reported on August 1. In some of the north central states, however, heat and drought were detrimental to late fruit crops. The combined production of apples, peaches, pears, grapes,

cherries, plums, prunes, apricots, and cranberries, as indicated on September 1, is 43 per cent larger than production of these crops in 1936 and 17 per cent above the 5-year (1928-32) average. With the exception of plums in California and Michigan, the indicated production of all the above crops is larger than the 5-year (1928-32) average.

Total production of apples is now indicated at 204,319,000 bushels compared with 117,506,000 bushels produced in 1936 and with the 5-year (1928-32) average of 164,355,000 bushels. Growing conditions continued favourable during August in most of the important apple producing areas. In some of the states in the north central group, however, heat and drought have retarded growth and probably will cause smaller sizes in some areas. Reports indicate that scab infestation is causing considerable injury to the fruit in farm orchards and in poorly sprayed commercial orchards of the east and middle west. In the Pacific northwest, the fruit is unusually clean. Sizes, however, are not up to average for this date, largely as a result of the late season. A heavy flight of the late brood of codling moth in this area may result in considerable worm damage if not properly controlled.

Total peach production for the United States is indicated to be 59,396,000 bushels compared with 47,650,000 bushels produced in 1936 and with the 5-year (1928-32) average of 57,298,000 bushels. In the 10 southern states, where harvest is completed, production was somewhat larger than indicated earlier in the season. The crop in these states is 10 per cent below the 1936 production and 16 per cent less than the 5-year average. In California harvesting of the freestone crop is practically completed with production the same as indicated on August 1. The California clingstone crop, however, shows some improvement over the prospects of a month ago. In Washington and Oregon prospects declined slightly during August. The fruit is unusually clean in these states but sizes are smaller than average. The crop was reduced in some of the eastern states because of rainy weather which delayed harvest and resulted in considerable brown rot in many orchards. In some areas of the middle west drought and heat have prevented the proper sizing of peaches.

The indicated pear production as of September 1 is slightly smaller than reported on August 1 but remains the largest crop of record. Prospective production now amounts to 30,311,000 bushels compared with the 1936 production of 26,956,000 bushels and with the 5-year (1928-32) average of 24,334,000 bushels. In the Pacific northwest prospects are practically unchanged from those of a month ago. Prospects in the eastern states declined during August as a result of blight. In the middle west, heat and drought have retarded sizing of the fruit.

The total production of grapes indicated on September 1 is 2,574,170 tons, which is 34 per cent larger than the 1936 production of 1,916,460 tons and 16 per cent above the 5-year average of 2,214,482 tons. The 1937 crop promises to be the largest since 1928.

The prospective production of cranberries in 1937, as indicated by growing conditions on September 1, totals 648,100 barrels compared with 504,300 barrels in 1936 and with the 5-year (1928-32) average of 593,023 barrels. The indicated average yield per acre is somewhat higher than in 1936 due to more favourable growing conditions in each of the 5 commercial states. In Massachusetts the bloom was heavy and the set of fruit good. Worm damage to date has been light. In Wisconsin prospects are unusually favourable at the present time, but a shortage of water in some of the northern bogs may prove detrimental later in the season. In the Pacific northwest prospective production is well above average.

The total supply of fresh vegetables for fall market promises to be nearly one-fourth above average, due to rather general increases in acreage and above-average yields. In comparison with last year, the cabbage, celery, and tomato crops show substantial increases but the late or storage onion crop appears to be considerably below the record crop of 1936. Most vegetable crops for canning, quick freezing, or other manufacture, are in ample supply with record or near-record packs indicated for snap beans, sweet corn, and green peas. Potatoes were not planted on an unusually large acreage but a record high yield is expected and a crop of over 403,000,000 bushels is now indicated, about eight per cent above the 1928-32 average in total production but, on a per capita basis, only about three per cent above the average of those years. Sweet potatoes are expected to show about the first good yield per acre secured in eight years, but the acreage is moderate and the production indicated, while above the 1928-32 average, is not expected to exceed average production during the last four years.

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

...the ... of the ... in the ... of the ...

Estimate of Fruit Production in Canada, 1937, with Revised Figures
for 1936

<u>APPLES</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1937</u>
Nova Scotia	1,750,000 brl.	2,400,000 brl.
New Brunswick	29,000 "	45,000 "
Quebec	91,000 "	150,000 "
Ontario	703,500 "	759,800 "
British Columbia	4,625,100 boxes	5,220,300 boxes
CANADA	4,115,200 brl.	5,094,900 brl.
<u>PEARS</u>		
Nova Scotia	10,000 bu.	6,500 bu.
Ontario	196,800 "	153,500 "
British Columbia	267,300 boxes	277,100 boxes
CANADA	421,100 bu.	392,800 bu.
<u>PEACHES</u>		
Ontario	402,300 bu.	503,000 bu.
British Columbia	82,900 crates	355,500 crates
CANADA	430,200 bu.	621,500 bu.
<u>PLUMS AND PRUNES</u>		
Nova Scotia	15,000 bu.	11,500 bu.
Ontario	41,200 "	52,700 "
British Columbia	307,400 crates	393,000 crates
CANADA	158,700 bu.	195,200 bu.
<u>CHERRIES</u>		
Ontario	124,800 bu.	89,000 bu.
British Columbia	186,000 crates	169,700 crates
CANADA	186,800 bu.	145,600 bu.
<u>STRAWBERRIES</u>		
Nova Scotia	1,100,000 qts.	1,400,000 qts.
New Brunswick	1,700,000 "	1,190,000 "
Quebec	7,671,000 "	7,211,000 "
Ontario	6,168,000 "	8,634,000 "
British Columbia	328,300 crates	449,600 crates
CANADA	20,578,300 qts.	23,830,200 qts.
<u>RASPBERRIES</u>		
Nova Scotia	72,000 qts.	86,000 qts.
New Brunswick	50,000 "	40,000 "
Quebec	2,304,000 "	2,000,000 "
Ontario	1,800,000 "	2,642,000 "
British Columbia	118,800 crates	157,100 crates
CANADA	5,652,000 qts.	6,653,200 qts.
<u>GRAPES</u>		
Ontario	21,640,000 lb.	31,378,000 lb.
British Columbia	1,275,000 "	1,300,000 "
CANADA	22,915,000 "	32,678,000 "

Estimates for British Columbia have been converted on the following basis: Apples, three boxes to the barrel; pears, box 42 lbs. bushel 50 lbs.; plums and prunes, peaches apricots and cherries, three crates to the bushel; strawberries and raspberries, 12 quarts to the crate.



1010501651