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Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, October 26, 1940.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, issues today the last seasonal report of the condition of fruit and vegetable crops in the main producing areas throughout Canada.

SUMMARY

The October estimate of the Canadian apple crop is 3.6 per cent higher than that of a month ago. It was at first expected that the losses in the Maritime Provinces, due to the gale in mid-September, would be heavier than has since proved to be the case, and as a result the estimates for both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are higher than in September. The prospects for the Quebec and British Columbia crops remain unchanged since the last report while a slightly smaller crop in Ontario is now expected. Canadian production is estimated at 3,857,400 barrels compared with the estimate of 3,722,400 barrels in September and 5,791,900 barrels in 1939. The Canadian pear crop shows an increase from the estimate of last month due to improved conditions in Ontario. The 1940 crop is now estimated at 561,500 bushels compared with the September estimate of 547,500 bushels and the 577,100 bushels produced in 1939. The October estimate of plums and prunes in Canada of 224,700 bushels is slightly above the September estimate of 222,700 bushels but is 16 per cent below the crop of 268,100 bushels produced last year. Increases in the estimated production of peaches during the month in both Ontario and British Columbia have raised the Canadian crop from 716,800 bushels to 761,800 bushels. The October estimate of grape production in Canada of 38,079,500 pounds is slightly higher than the September estimate of 37,400,000 pounds but is 32 per cent below the 1939 crop of 55,595,900 pounds.

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.

NOVA SCOTIA

(October 19)

The weather has been generally satisfactory during the past month for the continued development and colouring of the apple crop. Heavy frosts on the nights of October 16 and 20, however, caused some damage to fruit still unharvested, the varieties most affected being Wagener, Baldwin and Spy. Insect and disease damage is slight except in a few instances where codling moth larvae are reported to be troublesome. Prior to the storm in mid-September the commercial crop was estimated at 1,426,000 barrels but at that time 513,000 barrels were blown from the trees or otherwise damaged to the extent that they would not come within the marketable grades for fresh fruit. The commercial crop is now provisionally estimated at 913,000 barrels, but if a market for some of the windfall or damaged fruit is found this figure will be increased. With the normal loss in packing, the "packout" is expected to be 758,000 barrels. Some fruit is already moving to the processors under the government agreement to purchase up to 1,147,000 barrels and to date approximately 57,000 barrels have been moved.

NEW BRUNSWICK

(October 19)

There has been considerable wet, cool weather during the past month but the apples have been harvested without interruption by unfavourable weather conditions. The fruit has sized well and colouring has been satisfactory with insect and disease damage at a minimum. The crop is estimated at 45,000 barrels or 60 per cent of the 1939 harvest. It was at first reported that about one-third of the crop would be lost as a result of the gale on September 16 and 17 but the damage has since proved to be slight and the windfalls are being marketed locally. The remainder of the crop was

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all harvested by October 15 and packing of the McIntosh, Alexander and Wolf River varieties is under way.

QUEBEC

(October 18)

The harvesting of apples is about completed in most areas and the packing of fall varieties is well advanced. The quality of the fruit is good and the movement to various provincial markets has been heavy. There is no change, since last month, in the crop estimate of 230,000 barrels. This is 32 per cent below the record crop of 337,000 barrels in 1939, but is 15 per cent above the 5-year (1932-36) average of 199,700 barrels.

Good crops of carrots, beets and parsnips are reported in the Montreal area although digging of carrots and parsnips was delayed by the dry weather during the first half of the month. Rains since October 15 have materially improved the condition of the soil and the harvest is now well under way. Cabbage and cauliflower of good quality are abundant on all markets and the cutting of cabbages for winter storage has commenced.

ONTARIO

Eastern Ontario (October 22) - The weather during the first half of October was ideal for picking and packing of apples and early winter varieties including McIntosh and Snow were all harvested by October 15. Frosts ranging as low as 20°F. on the nights of October 18 to 21 caused severe damage to the fruit remaining on the trees in Durham, Ontario, Northumberland and Hastings counties, but orchards in Prince Edward county were less seriously affected. It is reported that 20 to 25 per cent of the apple crop in eastern Ontario was still on the trees at the time and such varieties at Salome, Ben Davis, Gano and La Salle were a total loss in about 85 per cent of the orchards. Northern Spies and Golden Russet were also affected and only fruit of good colour and large size will be marketable. Apples are finding a ready market at prices averaging 50 cents to \$1.00 per barrel above those of last season. The yield of Damson plums was the largest for some seasons but prices were very low.

The yield of potatoes is disappointing as already reported in the September report. Blight rot is much more serious than at first expected. The freezing temperatures at the end of the third week of the month are reported to have caused some damage in fields not yet dug. Celery blight is much more serious than last year and the yields are consequently reduced. The quality and yield of the onion crop are above average. The yield of processing tomatoes was considerably higher than expected a month ago as a result of the favourable weather during the last of September and the first half of October. Harvesting ended with the frost on October 15. Processors have canned from 70 to 75 per cent of a normal pack.

Western Ontario (October 22)- Although there were heavy frosts on the nights of October 15 to 21 conditions, during the month, have been generally favourable for the sizing and colouring of apples. Some frost damage was sustained but it is still too early to appraise its extent. The quality of the crop has been greatly reduced by scab and codling moth injury as well as hail in some localities. Plums have been practically free of insect damage, but brown rot has reduced the size of the crop somewhat. Early varieties of peaches matured unevenly and considerable dropping of the fruit resulted. Although brown rot caused some loss a slight increase over previous estimates is now indicated. Pears have been unusually clean and all varieties are now harvested with the exception of a portion of the Kieffer crop. Improved sizing of the fruit has resulted in an increase in the estimate of the crop. While early varieties of grapes matured slowly late varieties have developed more normally, however, the bunches were not as compact as usual. Some damage was caused by frosts during the month but the affected fruit is still marketable for wine making. Unfavourable weather conditions during the season have resulted in greatly reduced yields of tomatoes. Late blight and ground rot of potatoes have caused serious losses and in some areas many acres will not be harvested.

Fruit Estimates in 1940 as Compared with 1939

Kind		1939	1940
		barrels	
Apples -	Eastern Ontario	360,500	227,100
	Western Ontario	650,000	409,500
	Total	1,010,500	636,600
		bushels	
Pears -	Eastern Ontario	7,500	3,700
	Western Ontario	248,900	248,900
	Total	256,400	252,600
Plums and Prunes -	Eastern Ontario	700	2,800
	Western Ontario	53,600	57,400
	Total	54,300	60,200
Peaches -	Eastern Ontario	-	-
	Western Ontario	758,000	568,500
	Total	758,000	568,500
Cherries -	Eastern Ontario	3,500	10,500
	Western Ontario	131,800	73,800
	Total	135,300	84,300
		quarts	
Strawberries -	Eastern Ontario	2,479,200	1,735,400
	Western Ontario	6,772,400	8,262,300
	Total	9,251,600	9,997,700
Raspberries -	Eastern Ontario	3,173,300	2,856,000
	Western Ontario	2,500,000	2,750,000
	Total	5,673,300	5,606,000
		pounds	
Grapes -	Eastern Ontario	-	-
	Western Ontario	54,000,000	35,640,000
	Total	54,000,000	35,640,000

Acreage Changes and Condition of Vegetable Crops in Ontario

Commodity	Eastern Ontario		Western Ontario	
	Acreage	Condition	Acreage	Condition
	Change from Last Year		Change from Last Year	
	p.c.		p.c.	
Beets, late	+ 6	3.0	+ 6	3.2
Cabbage, late	+ 5	3.1	+ 4	3.0
Cauliflower, late	+ 9	2.9	+ 3	3.0
Carrots, late	+ 5	3.3	+ 2	3.2
Celery, late	- 2	2.7	- 3	3.1
Onions, late	+ 8	3.3	- 12	3.1
Parsnips	+ 5	3.2	0	3.0
Tomatoes, processing	+ 100	2.8	+ 6.5	2.4
Turnips	+ 2	3.0	- 2	3.1
Potatoes	+ 6	2.8	+ 7	2.4

Date		Description		Amount	
1912	Jan 1	Balance		100.00	
1912	Jan 15	Received from John Doe		50.00	
1912	Feb 1	Received from Jane Smith		25.00	
1912	Mar 1	Received from Mr. Brown		75.00	
1912	Apr 1	Received from Mrs. White		30.00	
1912	May 1	Received from Mr. Green		40.00	
1912	Jun 1	Received from Mr. Black		60.00	
1912	Jul 1	Received from Mr. Grey		20.00	
1912	Aug 1	Received from Mr. Blue		80.00	
1912	Sep 1	Received from Mr. Yellow		15.00	
1912	Oct 1	Received from Mr. Purple		90.00	
1912	Nov 1	Received from Mr. Pink		35.00	
1912	Dec 1	Received from Mr. Brown		55.00	
1912	Dec 31	Total		700.00	

Date		Description		Amount	
1912	Jan 1	Balance		100.00	
1912	Jan 15	Received from John Doe		50.00	
1912	Feb 1	Received from Jane Smith		25.00	
1912	Mar 1	Received from Mr. Brown		75.00	
1912	Apr 1	Received from Mrs. White		30.00	
1912	May 1	Received from Mr. Green		40.00	
1912	Jun 1	Received from Mr. Black		60.00	
1912	Jul 1	Received from Mr. Grey		20.00	
1912	Aug 1	Received from Mr. Blue		80.00	
1912	Sep 1	Received from Mr. Yellow		15.00	
1912	Oct 1	Received from Mr. Purple		90.00	
1912	Nov 1	Received from Mr. Pink		35.00	
1912	Dec 1	Received from Mr. Brown		55.00	
1912	Dec 31	Total		700.00	

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

(October 22)

Mild weather with heavy rains but no frost prevailed in nearly all sections during the past month. Conditions have been excellent for harvesting and trees and vines are going into the winter in satisfactory condition. The apple crop is practically all harvested and shipments to domestic and export markets outside Great Britain have been good. The canning of the tomato crop is completed and the factories are now processing apples and other fall fruits.

Preliminary Estimate of Commercial Fruit Production in British
Columbia in 1940 with Revised Estimates for 1939

Kind	1939	1940
boxes		
Apples	6,208,300	6,098,400
Pears	355,500	341,600
crates		
Plums and prunes	619,300	466,900
Peaches	531,000	579,900
Apricots	177,100	192,100
Cherries	263,100	183,400
Strawberries	814,500	845,000
Raspberries	257,100	274,500
pounds		
Loganberries	2,061,100	2,311,500
Grapes	1,595,900	2,439,500

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Preliminary Estimates of Canadian Fruit Production in 1940 with
Revised Estimates for 1939

	1939	1940
Apples - barrels		
Nova Scotia	2,300,000 ^{1/}	913,000
New Brunswick	75,000	45,000
Quebec	337,000	230,000
Ontario	1,010,500	636,600
British Columbia	2,069,400	2,032,800
Canada	5,791,900	3,857,400
Pears - bushels		
Nova Scotia	22,100	22,000
Ontario	256,400	252,600
British Columbia	298,600	286,900
Canada	577,100	561,500
Plums and Prunes -		
Nova Scotia	7,400	8,900
Ontario	54,300	60,200
British Columbia	206,400	155,600
Canada	268,100	224,700
Peaches -		
Ontario	758,000	568,500
British Columbia	177,000	193,300
Canada	935,000	761,800
Apricots -		
British Columbia	59,000	64,000
Canada	59,000	64,000
Cherries -		
Ontario	135,300	84,300
British Columbia	87,700	61,100
Canada	223,000	145,400
Strawberries - quarts		
Nova Scotia	943,000	1,254,200
New Brunswick	1,050,000	1,275,000
Quebec	7,272,000	3,636,000
Ontario	9,251,600	9,997,700
British Columbia	9,773,800	10,140,000
Canada	28,290,400	26,302,900
Raspberries -		
Nova Scotia	74,100	74,000
New Brunswick	45,000	40,000
Quebec	2,217,000	2,771,200
Ontario	5,673,300	5,606,000
British Columbia	3,084,800	3,294,000
Canada	11,094,200	11,785,200
Loganberries - pounds		
British Columbia	2,061,100	2,311,500
Canada	2,061,100	2,311,500
Grapes -		
Ontario	54,000,000	35,640,000
British Columbia	1,595,900	2,439,500
Canada	55,595,900	38,079,500

^{1/} Including 315,600 barrels dumped or fed to live stock.

Note: British Columbia estimates are converted on the following basis: Apples, three boxes to the barrel; Pears, boxes 42 lbs., bushels 50 lbs; Plums and prunes, peaches, apricots and cherries, 3 crates to the bushel; Strawberries and raspberries 12 quarts to the crate; Loganberries 18 lbs. to the crate.

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