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Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, July 28, 1941. - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Department of Agriculture, issues today a report showing the condition of fruit and vegetable crops in the main producing areas for the month of July.

SUMMARY

The preliminary estimate of the fruit crops in Canada shows a reduction in the apple, pear and grape crops as compared with the 1940 yield. On the other hand, slight to substantial increases over the previous crop are shown by the stone fruits. While prospective production of apples in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick is above last year's output, the crop in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia is considerably below that of 1940. Canadian production this year is estimated at 3,884,200 barrels as compared with 4,292,300 barrels for the previous crop. Unless conditions improve between now and harvesting the crop will be the smallest since 1930. Although a reduction in the yield of pears in 1941 is reported in Nova Scotia and Ontario, an 11 per cent increase is expected in British Columbia. The Canadian crop is at present estimated at 555,600 bushels, which is a reduction of a per cent from the previous crop. This is the smallest since 1937, but it is well above the 5-year (1932-36) average. In the main producing provinces of Ontario and British Columbia, the plum and prune crop is larger than that of a year ago. While the Nova Scotia crop is 22 per cent smaller than that produced last year, Canadian production is 16 per cent greater and is estimated at 248,900 bushels. Peaches also show an increase over the 1940 output. The Ontario crop is the same as that of a year ago and the British Columbia crop is 14 per cent larger, bringing the total crop for Canada to 813,600 bushels. The commercial production of apricots is confined to British Columbia and this year's crop is estimated at 68,000 bushels which is an increase of 20 per cent over last year's crop. While the Canadian crop of cherries estimated at 186,000 bushels records an advance of 18 per cent over the 1940 production, the increase is due to the large crop in Ontario which is 43 per cent larger than that of last season. In British Columbia, on the other hand, a reduction of 13 por cent is anticipated. The grape crop in Ontario remains practically the same as a year ago, and although a decrease of 5 per cent is expected in British Columbia, the Canadian crop of 52,575,000 pounds shows a reduction of less than 1 per cent from the 1940 yield.

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 (July 23)

The weather has been warm and dry, and frequent showers have fallen since the last report. The combination of heat and rain has promoted good growth of both fruit and vegetable crops. Vegetable crops which had only a fair start are now making excellent growth. Both insect pests and diseases have been troublesome this season. Apple scab has been very serious in unsprayed and partly sprayed apple orchards while brown rot is causing severe losses of plums where spraying is not being done thoroughly. Bud moth, codding moth and tent caterpillar larvae are all causing injury in the apple orchards while strawberry weevils have been active in many districts and doing considerable damage. The apple crop was estimated to be 75 per cent larger than last year but production of both plums and cherries is below average. The strawberry and raspberry crops on the other hand are above average. It is still too early to forecast the probable production of vegetables this year but if present weather conditions continue, heavier-than-average yields are expected.

NOVA SCOTIA (July 21)

Ideal growing conditions have prevailed since the last report. Abundant moisture supplies promoted excellent tree and fruit growth but the frequent rains have interfered with spraying and apple scab is prevalent. If spraying is continued, however, serious loss from this cause can be prevented. Insect damage is confined to injury by bud moth larvae and leaf rollers, but the infestation of the latter is considered to be lighter than usual. No serious outbreak of codling moth has been reported to date. The first estimate of apple production indicates an increase of 41 per cent over the 1940 crop at 1,623,000 barrels. Both plums and pears are expected to be lighter than last year with plums estimated at 6,200 bushels, a reduction of 22 per cent and pears at 19,500 bushels, a reduction of 10 per cent. Although the rain has caused strawberries to size well, it has caused the fruit to be too soft and ripen too fast. The crop, however, is estimated to be 12 per cent larger than that of last year at 1,404,700 quarts. Raspborries, on the other hand, are somewhat lighter than a year ago and a crop of 69,600 quarts is in prospect. Ideal growing conditions for cranberries have prevailed since the last report. The bushes are making excellent growth and runners are developing rapidly. The bloom is heavy on nearly all bogs and the prospects are excellent for a crop. Some insect injury is reported but control measures are being carried out. Although the outlook for potatoes is not as favourable as usual, some sections report excellent prospects. Early cabbage, cauliflower, leaf lettuce, iceburg lettuce and beets have grown well and are now ready to be marketed, while early turnips and potatoes will be ready in about two weeks. Although the potato acreage is smaller than last year the area planted to vegetable crops generally is about average.

NEW BRUNSWICK (July 23)

The weather was unsettled with much rain until July 15 but since then it has been mostly fine and warm. The season has been favourable for good growth and the apples are sizing well. The usual amount of spraying has been carried out and insect and scab damage has been kept at a minimum. The apple "drop" is still taking place and the set of fruit is below that indicated by the bloom. The crop is expected to be 25 per cent heavier than the 1940 production and is estimated at 67,000 barrels. Harvesting of the strawberry crop is not yet completed. The berries in the late areas are of good quality and the crop is expected to be larger than average. Picking of raspberries has begun and the prospect is for an average or slightly below average crop. Cramberry bogs have developed favourably but an exceptionally heavy rain on July 12 and 13 may have affected the bloom and set of the fruit. The bushes were in full bloom on July 12 to 15, but the blossom was not as heavy as anticipated in the eastern section of the province. However, with good worm control the crop should be 30 to 40 per cent larger than that of last season. The weather has been satisfactory for the growth of vegetable crops since the last report. The principal vegetables now being marketed are cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, bunched beets, onions and early potatoes. There is some decrease in the table corn and carrot crops due to unfavourable weather at planting time.

QUEBEC (July 23)

Recent rains have kept soil moisture supplies sufficient to maintain good growth of foliage and fruit in the apple orchards. Although it has been warm, there have been no serious storms. The fruit generally is growing well and is expected to be as large as usual. Codling moth is prevalent in a good many orchards but other insects are not numerous. Fireblight is very serious everywhere and it will cause some decrease in production in addition to injuring the trees. The scab infection is the lightest in many years. While the prospects for the early varieties have improved during the month, there has been a decided decline in the late varieties, especially Fameuse. The first estimate of the crop indicates a reduction of 50 per cent from that of last year with prospective production set at 161,700 barrels. The picking of raspberries reached the peak on July 22. The heavy winds on July 19 and 20 caused much ripe fruit to drop, considerably reducing market supplies.

Very hot, dry weather during the month of June seriously reduced supplies of all early and mid-season vegetables, but heavy showers on July 7, 9, 17 and 19 have greatly improved conditions. Telephone peas are now being marketed in Brome County and the yield promises to be a hundred bushels to the acre. The market prospect for Brome County peas is the best in six years as the Gaspe supplies will not be ready to pick for at least four weeks. Supplies in the Montreal area are smaller than expected with the telephone variety being practically a failure. Mid-season or summer cabbage will be limited due to the smaller acreage and adverse weather conditions. The heads are small and very hard. The fall crop acreage is 20 per cent larger than that harvested in

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QUEBEC (Concluded)

Hoad lettuce, spinach and cauliflower supplies will be limited until September. The fall crop is making good growth and promises to be better than last year if soil moisture continues to be satisfactory. Beets and parsnips are developing normally with crop prospects rains that fell in mid-July. Onion maggets have reduced the prospective enion crop 10 to 15 per cent. This coupled with a 20 per cent decrease in acreage will reduce the 1941 growers intend to sell large quantities of bunched enions to meet the present strong dewill tend to reduce the crop some. The main varieties John Baer, Chalks Jewel, Asgrow now being marketed and many retailers are refusing to purchase or handle corn for this reason. The table turnip acreage is practically the same as last year in the Laprairie area.

ONTARIO (July 21)

Western Ontario: - Despite the dry weather, the sizing of the fruit and development of the troos in the apple orchards in this district has been good. Most of the main winter varieties indicate a slight to heavy decrease in production compared with the 1940 crop. Although Wealthy and other early varieties show a substantial increase, the preliminary estimate of all varieties is placed at 20 per cent below the 1940 crop. The spray program was generally well carried out under favourable conditions and fungous pests have been fairly well controlled. Bud moth appears to be the most serious insect pest. Slight localized hail damage is reported from Niagara, Middlesex, Huron, Elgin and Essex counties. All varieties of pears show a decrease as compared with last year's production. The size, however, is excellent and the fruit is clean. Hail has damaged the fruit in a few areas in the Niagara district. The plum crop is expected to show an increase of approximately 17 per cent over that of last year. Pests are well controlled and development of the fruit is excellent, particularly where thinning has been practised. Although the peach crop in the Niagara district is slightly below that of last year, the crop in Norfolk county will be approximately 60 per cent larger. Total production in wostern Ontario, however, will be probably about the same as in 1940. Spraying has been well done and the fruit is clean and developing well. The only damage reported was caused by localized hail storms in Niagara and by peach moth in some districts. The sweet cherry crop was harvested under ideal conditions, the only damage being caused by splitting in the late varieties. There is a substantial increase in the size of the crop this year as compared with that of last season. Sour cherries also show an increase in production. A light crop of strawberries resulted from the excessive heat and dry weather prior to and during harvesting. A considerable reduction in new plantings is roported. In spite of the spring killing-back of canes, raspberry bushes have developed well and with a heavy bloom largor crops than expected were harvested in Niagara, Burlington, Peol and tho southwestern counties, although a poor crop is reported in Norfolk, Middlesex and Brant. Damage to the grape crops, apart from a few localized areaswhere some slight hail injury is reported, has boon slight. With the fruit developing exceptionally well and an average two-bunch set, the preliminary estimate indicates a crop equal in size to that of 1940. The present weather and moisture conditions are favourable to the development of all crops, some of which were slightly retarded by the dry weather during part of June and early July. Harvesting is generally about one week ahead of last year. Hail damage is restricted to a few small areas in eastern Niagara where tomatoes were

Eastern Ontario: The drought was broken with heavy general rains on July 11. The following week was warm, but occasional rains maintained the moisture supply. Some damage was caused by hail in small sections of Prince Edward and Northumberland counties. In spite of the prolonged dry weather, the apples have been sizing well. Foliage and fruit are free of scab where regular sprays were applied. The fruit in some orchards, ing is necessary this year as the "drop" has been quite heavy. Very little thinntion of the early varieties, is below that of 1940. Pears are sizing well and are quite crop is below average but is somewhat heavier than that of last season. Plums are delighter than that of 1940, is about average size.

Vegetables.

Durham and Ontario counties.

Vegetables. Durham and Ontario counties, as well as the Saint Lawrence River dispriot did not suffer from the dry season quite as much as the remainder of eastern Ontario. The crops in all districts are much improved by the rains that fell since July 11. Corn And of an investment of the property of the pr

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Eastern Ontario (Concluded)

and early potatocs suffored most from the lack of moisture and in sections where these crops have been harvested the yield is poor. In general, the development of all crops is ten days to two weeks ahead of last year.

The Preliminary Estimates of Fruit Crops in Ontario and the Final Estimates for 1940 are as follows:-

			1941 Crop		
Doscription		Unit	1940	as percent of 1940	1941
			1940	01 1340	1941
Apples	Eastern Ontario	bbl.	297,000	60	178,200
	Western "	11	486,200	80	389,000
	TOTAL		783,200	72	567,200
Poars	Eastern Ontario	bu.	3,700	122	4,500
	Western "	34	260,600	80	208,500
	TOTAL		264,300	81	213,000
Plums & Prunes	Eastern Ontario	bu.	2,100	80	1,700
	Western	11	70,400	117	82,400
	TOTAL		72,500	116	84,100
Peaches	Western Ontario	bu.	595,000	100	595,000
	TOTAL		595,000	100	595,000
Cherries	Eastorn Ontario	bu.	10,400	75	7,800
	Wostern	44	77,300	152	117,500
	TOTAL		87,700	143	125,300
Strawberries	Eastern Ontario	qt.	1,735,400	40	694,200
	Western "	18	8,262,600	60	4,957,600
	TOTAL		9,998,000	57	5,651,800
Raspberries	Eastern Ontario	qt.	2,856,000	65	1,856,400
CHILDREN TO	Western "	11	2,750,700	70	1,925,500
	TOTAL		5,606,700	67	3,781,900
Grapes	Western Ontario	1b.	49,900,000	100	49,900,000
	TOTAL		49,900,000	100	49,900,000

The Condition of the Vegetable Crops in Ontario during the third week of July and the Porcentage Change in Acreage from last year are as follows:

Description	Percentag	Condition		
	Western Ontario	Eastern Ontario	Western Ontario	Eastern Ontario
Boans, snap	0	- 17	3.0	3.0
Beets, bunching	0	0	3.0	2.9
Cabbage, early	+ 2	+ 2	3.0	3.2
Cauliflower, early	+ 3	0	2.9	3,0
Carrots, bunching	0	0	3.0	3.1
Celery, early	+ 5	+ 1	3.1	2.9
Celery, late	- 3	0	3.0	3.2
Corn, sweet	+ 2	- 1	2.9	2.8
Corn, processing	+ 5	0	3.0	2.4
Cucumbers	≈ 2	0	3.0	3.0
Lottuce	+15	+ 2	3.0	3.1
Onions	-14	+ 6	3.0	2.9
Poas, garden	0	+ 5	2.9	1.9
Peas, canning	+ 6	+ 5	2.9	1.7
Potatoes, early	+ 2	+ 1	2.9	2.3
Spinach	+ 4	+ 1	2.9	3.0
Tomatoes, fresh consumption	+ 6	+ 1	3,0	3.0
Tomatoes, canning	÷ 6	- 5	3.0	2.9

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MANITOBA (July 22)

Climatic conditions have been generally favourable since the last report. Rainfall has been adequate throughout the commercial area around Winnipeg and in the southern part of the province. Slight damage occurred to some crops around the city, particularly to strawborries, because of the scarcity of moisture during the last of Juno. This condition was only temporary as rain fell on June 30, and continued showers since have supplied the necessary moisture. The northwestern part of the province and the Swan River Valley are dry. Gardens in these sections are reasonably good, but are beginning to suffer from lack of rain. Temperatures have been high since the last report except for a few days early in July. The last week of June was unusually het but no serious damage was reported. Slight frost occurred in northern sections about July 8 or 9. The very tips of corn and melon leaves were touched in low spots.

Peas, beans, cabbage, bunched beets, bunched carrots and green onions are on the market in large quantities. Cauliflower, cooking enions, and celery are available in limited amounts, a few early lots of those crops have been appearing for ever a week. Now petatoes are also available. The quality of these crops in all cases is excellent.

An excellent crop of strawberries has been harvested in most cases. The season for this particular fruit is somewhat too dry in the northern areas and consequently the yield has been rather low. Raspberries are only fair, due to some winter-killing and lack of moisture in the northern sections. An excellent crop has been harvested in the south. The set of fruit of apples and plums is somewhat below normal because of early spring frests at blossoming time.

Insect damage has been kept well in hand by the growers through persistent spraying and dusting. Colorado potato bootles have been very much in evidence and required several sprayings to keep them in check. Beet web-worms were present again, although they are not as plentiful as last year. Generally, insects are well under control.

SASKATCHEWAN (July 22)

With some exceptions gardons on the whole are in fair to good condition. After a semewhat slow start due to the cool weather early in the season, good rains at the end of June followed by generally light showers during the early part of July together with warmer weather stimulated growth. Since the tenth of July, however, the weather has been mostly dry with extremely high temperatures during the past few days accompanied by strong het winds and in most districts good rains are now needed to bring along the later crops particularly potatoes. Some damage has resulted from potate beetles and the beet webworms and frequent spraying has been necessary. Grasshoppers have done a limited amount of damage in scattered districts. In areas where the frest of June 6 was most severe small fruits will be a very light crop. Early garden stuff such as radishor, lettuce, enions, peas, beets, etc., have been available for some time and carrots, beans, turnips, and tematees will be ready shortly in many districts. Reports indicate that considerable quantities of vegetables are being preserved for future use in areas where supplies are abundant.

ALBERTA (July 23)

The general condition of the vegetable crops in the Calgary district has been favourable up to the present as general rains have arrived in time to save the crops. North of the city, however, losses from drought are reported. Normal crops of potatoes and other vegetables are expected in the Lethbridge district. With favourable rains and plenty of irrigation water, most crops are expected to be average or betterthan-average. Light crops of cabbage and carrets will be harvested, however, as plantings were much smaller than in past years. In the Medicine Hat district, the enion crop which last year amounted to approximately 1,000 tens will be reduced by 25 per cent on account of worm damage. Cabbage also will be light as a result of worm injury. Other crops including potatoes promise fair yields. In the Taber district such canning crops as peas, beans, corn and pumpkins record an increase in production as moisture supplies have been plentiful. Other vegetable crops are very promising.

MARCHAN STATE

BRITISH COLUMBIA (July 22)

The recent week of high temperatures has been followed by cooler weather and rain in practically all districts. In the berry sections, harvesting of strawberries is finished while leganberries and raspberries will be completed this week. Early apples are now appearing in quantity. Apricot picking has passed the peak in southern Okanagan and will be finished in all sections about the first of August. Peaches and tomatees will be shipped in volume by the end of the month. Some Okanagan sections have suffered considerable hail damage necessitating lower grades for shipments of stone fruits. Later fruits also have been affected. The latest estimate of the apple crop shows a reduction of 26 per cent from the 1940 yield, the crop being set at 4,395,800 boxes. Pears, plums and prunes, peaches and apricots all show substantial increases over the previous crop and are estimated as follows: Pears 384,700 boxes; Plums and prunes 475,700 crates; Peaches 656,000 crates, and apricots 203,900 crates while cherries show a reduction of 13 per cent from the 1940 crop at 182,100 crates. The grape crop of 2,675,000 pounds is only 5 per cent below last year's yield.

The preliminary estimates of fruit production in British Columbia for 1941 and the final estimates for 1940 are as follows:

Description	Unit	1940	1941
Apples	box	5,942,900	4,395,800
Pears	11	345,600	384,700
Plums & prunes	crates	401,700	475,700
Peaches	II .	575,900	656,000
Apricots	H .	169,200	203,900
Cherries	11	209,200	182,100
Grapes	lb.	2,827,200	2,675,000

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Preliminary Estimates of Canadian Fruit Production in 1941 with Revised Estimates for 1940

	1940	1942
Apples	bar	rels
Apples -		
Nova Scotia	1,151,000	1,623,000
New Brunswick	53,600	67,000
Quebec	323,500	161,700
Ontario	783,200	567,200
British Columbia	1,981,000	1,465,300
Canada	4,292,300	3,884,200
Pears -		hels
Nova Scotia		
Ontario	21,700	19,500
British Columbia	264,300	213,000
	290,300	323,100
Canada	576,300	555,600
Plums and Prunes -		
Nova Scotia	7,900	
Ontario		6,200
British Columbia	72,500	84,100
Canada	133,900	158,600
	214,300	248,900
Peaches -		
Ontario	595,000	595,000
British Columbia	192,000	218,600
Canada	787,000	813,600
Apricots -		
British Columbia	50.400	
	56,400	68,000
Canada	56,400	68,000
Cherries -		
Ontario	87,700	125,300
British Columbia	69,700	60,700
Canada	157,400	186,000
Strawberries -		arts
		12.00
Nova Scotia	1,254,200	1,404,700
New Brunswick	1,275,000	-
Quebec Ontario	3,636,000	- 10
	9,998,000	5,651,800
British Columbia	8,167,600	
Canada	24,330,800	
Raspberries		
Nova Scotia	74 000	
New Brunswick	74,000	69,600
Quebec	40,000	-
Ontario	2,771,200	
British Columbia	5,606,700	3,781,900
	2,943,300	
Canada	11,435,200	-
oganberries -	pq	ounds
British Columbia		
	2,383,500	
Canada	2,383,500	-
Frapes -		
Ontario British Columbia	49,900,000	49,900,000
DITUISH COLUMDIS	2,827,200	2,675,000
Canada	52,727,200	52,575,000

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.

(-) Not available.

