

Published by Authority of the Hon. James I. MacKinnon, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, July 31, 1942.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments 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 July estimates of the principal fruits grown commercially in Canada indicate that the majority will produce heavier crops than in 1941. Apple production is estimated at 3,939,600 barrels compared with 3,578,400 barrels a year ago, or an increase of 10 per cent. The crops in Quebec and British Columbia show a substantial increase. Decreases are in prospect in New Brunswick and Ontario while a minor reduction is expected in Nova Scotia. The pear crop for the country as a whole is 5 per cent larger than that of a year ago and is estimated at 543,000 bushels compared with 517,000 bushels. Increases are recorded in all three producing provinces. The Canadian plum crop on the other hand, is expected to be 27.5 per cent smaller than in 1941 and is estimated at 324,000 bushels compared with 447,100 bushels. While the Nova Scotia crop is somewhat larger this year, production in British Columbia and Ontario shows a decline. A total peach crop of 947,100 bushels is now expected, which is 1.5 per cent larger than that of last year. The minor reduction in Ontario is overcome by a small increase in British Columbia. Apricot production, which is confined to British Columbia, is expected to be 40.7 per cent greater this year at 89,100 bushels. The cherry crop produced commercially only in Ontario and British Columbia, will be 9 per cent larger than in 1941 and is estimated at 304,700 bushels. The strawberry crops in all provinces with the exception of Quebec, show small to substantial decreases this year. Estimated production in Canada is at present set at 17,030,100 quarts, a decline of 19.6 per cent from the 21,189,900 quart crop of a year ago. Raspberry production for the country as a whole, on the other hand, shows a 5.1 per cent increase at 8,301,900 quarts compared with 7,901,800 quarts in 1941. The loganberry crop in British Columbia, the only producing province, is 13.1 per cent smaller this year at 1,750,000 quarts. The yield of grapes in Canada is estimated at 70,226,000 pounds, an increase of 48.9 per cent over the 47,151,300 pounds produced in 1941.

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)

Conditions have been exceptionally dry during this season until July 13 when the weather broke. Since that date there has been considerable rain. The development of the tree fruits is about three weeks ahead of last year and the production will probably be 30 to 50 per cent above that of a year ago. The strawberry crop is below average due to the dry weather and all other small fruits suffered accordingly. Aphids have been quite troublesome this year and apparently no effective means of controlling them has been found. Slugs, cutworms, cabbage maggots and onion maggots were quite numerous this year but were well under control before any serious damage resulted.

NOVA SCOTIA (July 23)

After a dry spring a good rain on July 3 revived all vegetable crops and small fruits that were badly in need of rain at the close of the month of June. Fine weather with high temperatures and drying winds again brought about near drought conditions in mid-July but a good rain on July 20 and 23 has had a beneficial effect on many crops, but was too late to materially affect production of early potatoes and early vegetables. The apple orchards have shown a relatively heavy July "drop", particularly the Golden

NOVA SCOTIA (Concluded)

Russet and King varieties. In spite of the dry weather, however, the remaining fruit has sized well. The crop is still generally reported to be comparable in size to that of 1941 but the quality of the fruit is better. In general, late varieties are reported to be much better than the earlier kinds. Insects have been serious in some localities necessitating special sprays for their control. Aphids are particularly plentiful but damage is not serious except in a few instances. Codling moth damage is more or less serious in and about Waterville, Berwick, etc., some orchards being heavily attacked with stings on 25 to 45 per cent of the apples. The plum and pear crops are growing rapidly and are expected to be about average in size. Continued dry weather during May and June seriously affected strawberry production. In the earlier areas the season was considerably shortened and the yields are reduced. While there was promise of a heavy crop of raspberries in June, lack of rain reduced the size of the berries with resultant lower yields.

Early potatoes, which made up the large percentage of the increase in potato acreage in 1942, suffered materially during mid-July. Plants wilted down and ripened off and harvested areas yielded only about 50 per cent of a crop. Early cabbage also gave reduced yields. Late potatoes, turnips and corn, however, have not been materially affected.

July Estimate of the 1942 Fruit Crops Compared
with the Final Estimates for 1941

<u>Kind</u>		<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
Apples	bbl.	1,148,000	1,090,600
Pears	bu.	17,400	19,000
Plums	bu.	5,500	8,000
Strawberries	qt.	1,404,700	983,300
Raspberries	qt.	66,600	60,000

NEW BRUNSWICK
(July 28)

Precipitation during the month has been below normal in most sections of the province. Unsettled weather during the early part of the month was followed by warm, clear days. The apples have been sizing well and freedom from scab depends on how thoroughly spraying has been done to date. A heavy "drop" is reported in all districts and the crop is at present estimated to be 30 per cent below that of 1941. Strawberry production is also below the 1941 harvest with a reduction of 25 per cent. The raspberry crop, however, is considerably larger than a year ago and is set at 50,000 quarts. Many growers report that this crop is the heaviest in years. Vegetable plantings are about normal throughout the province with no shortages in sight to date. Abundant supplies of early cabbage and early potatoes are sufficient to meet local requirements. Vine crops are benefiting by the higher temperatures and prospects are for higher yields than normal.

July Estimate of the 1942 Fruit Crops Compared
with the Final Estimates for 1941

<u>Kind</u>		<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
Apples	bbl.	67,000	46,900
Strawberries	qt.	1,657,500	1,243,100
Raspberries	qt.	37,800	50,000

QUEBEC
(July 24)

Fruit.- With few exceptions the temperatures during the month have been very favourable for the development of all fruit crops, however, rain is needed generally. The condition of the apple crop is generally good with the size of the fruit very large for this date. The quality in most cases is excellent but in many orchards there is considerable scab due to poor spraying. Insects also are causing a certain amount of loss. In the Hemmingford district hail damage was quite serious in scattered areas. In general, the prospects for the crop are excellent. The unfavourable weather conditions in the Montreal area during the development of the strawberry crop reduced the harvest in this area from 10 to 15 per cent below that of last year. On the other hand production in the Quebec City district was much heavier with the result that, for the province as a whole, the yield is equal to that of 1941. While the raspberry crop is not yet completely

QUEBEC (Concluded)

harvested yields have been much better than those of 1941.

Vegetables.- The early cabbage crop is the heaviest in some years as a result of the very favourable weather to date. The fall crop is also making good growth and is, at present, estimated to be 60 per cent larger than that of 1941. Part of this increase is due to the heavier plantings on land which is normally devoted to carrots and onions. This change was due to the shortage of farm help necessary for the weeding of these latter crops. The cucumber crop is about the same as that of 1941 but the weather conditions have not been favourable for the development of this vegetable, and the yields are lighter than those of a year ago. Early sweet corn appeared on the market approximately a week earlier than in 1941. Tomatoes in some districts north of Montreal, are suffering from the drought while in the district south of the St. Lawrence too much rain has been received. Crop prospects due to the increase in acreage are equal to those of last year. The yield of potatoes is heavier than was indicated in the June report. Reports from many onion growers indicate that the crop is better than that of a year ago as a result of the favourable growing weather. Considerable damage, however, has been caused by onion maggots. The early carrot crop is sizing well and yields will be about the same as those of a year ago. The acreage devoted to the late crop is about the same as in 1941. While the prospects for the snap bean crop is at present excellent, continued dry weather will reduce the yields. Peppers are beginning to arrive on the market and the prospects for the crop are good.

July Estimate of the 1942 Fruit Crops Compared
with the Final Estimate for 1941

<u>Kind</u>		<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
Apples	bbl.	255,600	331,000
Strawberries	qt.	2,727,000	2,727,000
Raspberries	qt.	1,385,600	1,732,000

EASTERN ONTARIO
(July 27)

Fruit.- Present moisture and temperature conditions are very favourable for fruit development and apples are above average in size and colour for this season of the year. Insects, however, are causing damage to the fruit and with a heavy scab infestation in many orchards, the percentage of No. 1 apples will be reduced. Some further damage was caused by hail in a few small orchards in the Oshawa district. Pears are also making good growth with very little insect damage being reported, however, scab is very serious on the Flemish Beauty variety. The plum crop is very light but the size of the fruit is about average. There is some curculio injury on the fruit, especially on the damson variety. The cherry harvest was completed during the past week. The size of the fruit is average except where it was picked before maturity. Some loss of foliage due to leaf spot is reported. The raspberry crop was not as heavy as was indicated earlier in the season as a result of the dry weather while the berries were developing. A heavy rain on July 17, however, improved many patches on the lighter soils.

Vegetables.- Most parts of eastern Ontario need rain after the extreme heat of last week. The yield of canning peas, the harvesting of which is just finished, was well above average. There is a very noticeable difference in growth between fields of corn and tomatoes due mostly to the wet condition of the soil at the time of planting. Generally the vegetable crops are maturing at about the same time as last season. On the whole the anticipated large decrease in the acreage of hoed crops did not take place. However, with the scarcity of labour, many fields are being somewhat neglected.

WESTERN ONTARIO
(July 27)

Temperature and moisture conditions have been generally satisfactory for the development and sizing of the apple crop, although heavy storms in the middle of the month caused some damage to fruit and trees in the Niagara-Burlington-Bronte area. Serious hail injury was restricted to one section in Middlesex and some orchards in Brant. While scab is general, many well sprayed orchards in some districts are still fairly clean. Insect damage, so far, is not serious except in a few orchards in Elgin-Oxford, Middlesex-Huron and Essex-Kent. Astrachan, Transparent and Duchess are now being harvested, the latter two in car-lot quantities. The present estimate of the pear crop is 15 per cent greater than that of 1941 with Kieffers showing the largest increase. It **will** be recalled, however, that there was a heavy pre-harvest loss in 1941 due to gales. The plum crop is

WESTERN ONTARIO (Concluded)

smaller than last year's harvest with prunes very light, Japanese varieties irregular and below average. The fruit is sizing well and is exceptionally free from insect or other injury. Some loss of fruit of the early varieties resulted from the wind on July 17. The 1942 estimate of the peach crop is about the same as that of last year. A considerable increase is indicated in the Niagara-Burlington area with practically no commercial crop in Norfolk this year due to winter freezing injury. Due to labour shortage, thinning operations are still in progress in many orchards. Fruit generally is sizing well and harvesting of early yellow-flesh varieties is now underway. The sweet cherry crop which was of good size and quality is all harvested with very little loss. The sour varieties are now practically all finished and the quality has been very good except for some damage resulting from sun scald and wind whipping after July 18, at which time 80 per cent of the crop was harvested. Picking of strawberries is now completed and the yield was much better than earlier estimates indicated. Good weather prevailed and the berries were of good quality. Increased new plantings in some areas are reported with growth and development good. The raspberry crop is passed the peak in most districts. Weather and temperature conditions have generally been favourable for cane growth and the harvesting of clean, well sized berries. A heavy grape crop is anticipated, possibly the largest in several years. All varieties look well with conditions favourable for good sizing. Insect and fungous damage is reported to be negligible to date in the main producing areas.

Vegetables.- With the exception of localized damage caused by excessive rainfall in the middle of the month, weather conditions during July have been favourable for the growth and development of all vegetable crops. Late tomatoes and corn, however, are somewhat retarded due largely to late planting. A heavy yield of canning peas from an increased acreage is reported in practically all districts.

The July Estimate of the 1942 Fruit Crops Compared
with the Final Estimate for 1941

Kind	Unit		1941	1942
Apples	bbl.	Eastern Ontario	237,200	185,000
		Western "	377,700	283,300
		TOTAL	614,900	468,300
Pears	bu.	Eastern Ontario	4,600	3,900
		Western "	162,600	187,000
		TOTAL	167,200	190,900
Plums	bu.	Eastern Ontario	1,500	700
		Western "	142,000	89,500
		TOTAL	143,500	90,200
Peaches	bu.	WESTERN ONTARIO	700,000	686,000
Cherries	bu.	Eastern Ontario	7,800	8,200
		Western "	188,500	216,800
		TOTAL	196,300	225,000
Strawberries	qt.	Eastern Ontario	1,081,400	1,459,900
		Western "	5,036,500	4,230,700
		TOTAL	6,117,900	5,690,600
Raspberries	qt.	Eastern Ontario	2,024,100	1,781,200
		Western "	2,033,600	2,196,300
		TOTAL	4,057,700	3,977,500
Grapes	lb.	Eastern Ontario	-	-
		Western "	45,000,000	67,500,000
		TOTAL	45,000,000	67,500,000

Percentage Change in Acreage and Condition of the Vegetable Crops

Kind	Percentage change in acreage from 1941		Condition	
	Eastern Ontario	Western Ontario	Eastern Ontario	Western Ontario
Beans, snap	0	0	3.0	2.8
Beets, bunching	- 1.2	0	2.9	3.0
Cabbage, early	- 1.9	+ 2	3.2	3.0
Cauliflower, early	- 5.3	+10	2.9	2.8
Carrots, bunching	+ 4.0	+ 5	3.0	3.0
Celery, early	-	+15	-	3.0
Celery, late	-	-10	-	2.9
Corn, sweet	- 2.6	0	3.0	2.5
Corn, processing	-	+14	-	2.5
Cucumbers	0	0	3.1	2.9
Lettuce	- 6.5	- 5	3.2	2.9
Onions	- 8.1	+28	3.0	2.8
Peas, garden	0	0	3.5	3.0
Peas, canning	+23	+ 8	3.5	3.0
Potatoes, early	- 1.0	0	3.3	2.9
Tomatoes, fresh consumption	+ 3.8	+ 2	3.2	2.9
Tomatoes, canning	+ 4	0	2.9	2.8

MANITOBA
(July 28)

Since the last report the weather has been quite favourable for the growth of most vegetable crops although it has been somewhat cooler during this July than in the past few summers. Temperatures have been sufficiently high to favour all crops with the exception of corn and vine crops. However, with slightly warmer weather during the past two weeks these crops are now making good progress. Most locally grown vegetables are now appearing on the market in liberal quantities. The cultivated fruit crops are excellent this year. Strawberry yields were very good and prices were higher as a result of the shortage of berries from British Columbia. Raspberries are now coming on the market in large quantities. The set of tree fruits such as plums, crab apples and apples is unusually heavy and with continued favourable conditions these crops will be large. Disease damage, however, has been very serious.

SASKATCHEWAN
(July 27)

The weather during July, on the whole, has been comparatively cool to moderately warm with some hot days. Precipitation has varied from light showers to extremely heavy rains accompanied in some sections by hail with consequent damage to gardens in local areas. Generally, insects have caused little damage to the gardens although cutworms, potato beetles and cabbage worms are reported at a few scattered points. Growth has been accelerated during the past few weeks but most vegetables are reported to be somewhat later than normal but the condition of the crops is good. Beets, carrots, turnips, peas and onions are now on the market in quantity with new potatoes just coming forward.

BRITISH COLUMBIA
(July 29)

The weather during the past month has been variable. Harvesting of the strawberry crop is now over with the picking of raspberries and loganberries well past the peak. The cherry harvest is also completed. Apricots are now moving in volume and are meeting with excellent demand: "Cooker" apples are at present being shipped in large quantities and the market is taking all that can be shipped at satisfactory prices. The Okanagan apple crop is heavier than that of a year ago while production in the Kootenay area is lighter. Outdoor tomatoes are moving in quantity and prices for both the outdoor and greenhouse tomatoes are being well maintained. A shortage of labour is reported in all fruit and vegetable districts.

July Estimate of the 1942 Fruit Crops Compared
with the Final Estimate for 1941.

<u>Kind</u>		<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
Apples	bbl.	1,492,900	2,002,800
Pears	bu.	332,400	333,100
Plums & prunos	bu.	298,100	225,800
Peaches	bu.	232,900	261,100
Apricots	bu.	63,300	89,100
Cherries	bu.	83,200	79,700
Strawberries	qt.	9,282,800	6,386,100
Raspberries	qt.	2,354,100	2,482,400
Loganberries	lb.	2,013,500	1,750,000
Grapes	lb.	2,151,300	2,726,000

July Estimates of the 1942 Fruit Crops in Canada,
by Provinces, Compared with the Final Estimate
for 1941

	<u>1941</u>		<u>1942</u>
<u>Apples -</u>		barrels	
Nova Scotia	1,148,000		1,090,600
New Brunswick	67,000		46,900
Quebec	255,600		331,000
Ontario	614,900		468,300
British Columbia	1,492,900		2,002,800
Total	3,578,400		3,939,600
<u>Pears -</u>		bushels	
Nova Scotia	17,400		19,000
Ontario	167,200		190,900
British Columbia	332,400		333,100
Total	517,000		543,000
<u>Plums & Prunes -</u>			
Nova Scotia	5,500		8,000
Ontario	143,500		90,200
British Columbia	298,100		225,800
Total	447,100		324,000
<u>Peaches -</u>			
Ontario	700,000		686,000
British Columbia	232,900		261,100
Total	932,900		947,100
<u>Apricots -</u>			
British Columbia	63,300		89,100
Total	63,300		89,100
<u>Cherries -</u>			
Ontario	196,300		225,000
British Columbia	83,200		79,700
Total	279,500		304,700
<u>Strawberries -</u>		quarts	
Nova Scotia	1,404,700		983,300
New Brunswick	1,657,500		1,243,100
Quebec	2,727,000		2,727,000
Ontario	6,117,900		5,690,600
British Columbia	9,282,800		6,386,100
Total	21,189,900		17,030,100
<u>Raspberries -</u>			
Nova Scotia	66,600		60,000
New Brunswick	37,800		50,000
Quebec	1,385,600		1,732,000
Ontario	4,057,700		3,977,500
British Columbia	2,354,100		2,482,400
Total	7,901,800		8,301,900
<u>Loganberries -</u>		pounds	
British Columbia	2,013,500		1,750,000
<u>Grapes -</u>			
Ontario	45,000,000		67,500,000
British Columbia	2,151,300		2,726,000
Total	47,151,300		70,226,000



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