

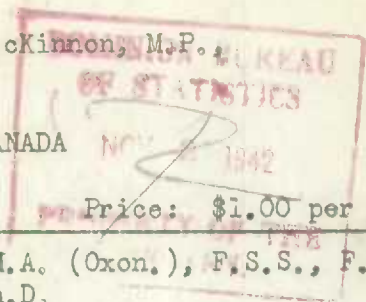
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Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report

Ottawa, October 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 the last report of this season showing the condition of fruit and vegetable crops in the main producing areas for the month of October.

SUMMARY

The favourable outlook for the fruit crops in Canada of a month ago remain unchanged or somewhat improved. Better prospects for the apple crop in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario more than offset a minor revision in Quebec, and with the estimate of the British Columbia crop remaining unchanged the Canadian crop is now set at 4,210,000 barrels. This is an increase of 18 per cent above the 1941 crop of 3,578,400 barrels but is 13 per cent below the 5-year (1936-40) average of 4,813,800 barrels. There is no change in the estimate of the pear crop since September when Canadian production was set at 573,100 bushels. The present crop is 11 per cent larger than that of 1941. A minor upward revision in the Ontario estimate of the plum and prune crop brings the total for Canada to 329,100 bushels. This year's crop is considerably below the 1941 harvest of 447,100 bushels but is well above the 5-year (1936-40) average of 215,700 bushels. The September estimate of the peach crop of 997,500 bushels remains unchanged. This year's crop is 7 per cent larger than the 1941 harvest of 932,900 bushels and is 42 per cent greater than the 5-year average of 703,300 bushels. The largest grape crop on record has been successfully harvested and marketed. A further upward revision in the estimate for Ontario brings the Canadian total to 74,834,000 pounds which is 59 per cent above the 1941 crop of 47,151,300 pounds and 69 per cent above the 5-year (1936-40) average of 44,319,300 pounds.

APPLES: An upward revision in the estimate of the Canadian apple crop since September brings the crop to 4,210,000 barrels. This latest estimate is approximately 160,000 barrels above the September prospects and is about 632,000 barrels or 18 per cent above the 1941 crop of 3,578,400 barrels. The 5-year (1936-40) average for Canada is 4,813,800 barrels.

Weather conditions across Canada have been satisfactory for the harvesting of the crop. In Nova Scotia yields were heavier than anticipated in September and this, coupled with an increase in the size of the fruit, raised the estimate from 1,126,400 barrels at the end of September to 1,250,000 barrels. The fruit is clean and the colour on the late varieties has improved materially. No wind or severe frost damage has been reported. Harvesting is nearing completion but much of the crop remains in the orchards awaiting delivery to the warehouses. In New Brunswick very favourable growing weather resulted in an exceptional increase in the size of the fruit. The September estimate of 50,200 barrels has been revised upwards to 65,000 barrels which is only 2,000 barrels below the 1941 estimate. Harvesting of the clean, highly coloured crop is now completed and it is moving rapidly to market. In Quebec a slight downward revision from the September prospects of 366,600 barrels brings the crop to 356,700 barrels. Harvesting of the crop was completed about October 10. The fruit is larger in size than in recent years and is of higher colour than average. In Ontario the crop is now estimated at 551,000 barrels compared with the September estimate of 520,200 barrels and the 1941 estimate of 614,900 barrels. Harvesting is now practically completed. Weather conditions have been generally satisfactory during the month and permitted continued sizing of the fruit and development of good colour. Spies in eastern Ontario are exceptionally large while Baldwins in the western section of the province did not develop as well as other

varieties. Bitter pit is prevalent in the fruit in eastern districts especially in the Spy and Stark varieties. Insect and disease damage has lowered the grade of a considerable volume of fruit in western Ontario. Wind losses were generally light throughout the province with the exception of Halton, Peel and Norfolk counties. The British Columbia crop remains unchanged from a month ago at 1,987,300 barrels. The crop is almost 1/2 million barrels greater than that of 1941 and is about 79,000 barrels greater than the 5-year (1936-40) average. Harvesting is practically completed and the movement of fruit to market has been very satisfactory. Dry weather prevailed during the month and much moisture is needed in all fruit areas in order that the trees may go into the winter in satisfactory condition..

PEARS: The estimated yields of pears in Canada remains unchanged since the end of September at 573,100 bushels. The current crop is 11 per cent larger than that of 1941 of 517,000 bushels and 6 per cent larger than the 5-year (1936-40) average of 539,200 bushels.

Reports of further development of the crop are only available for Ontario where harvesting conditions are excellent. The fruit of all varieties is of exceptional size and is generally free from insect and disease damage. While the bulk of the Kieffer variety moved to the processors the fresh fruit markets absorbed a larger quantity than usual.

PLUMS AND PRUNES: A slight upward revision in the Ontario estimate for plums and prunes during the month brings the Canadian total to 329,100 bushels as compared with 326,300 bushels in September. The 1941 estimate amounted to 447,100 bushels while the 5-year (1936-40) average is 215,700 bushels.

The crop in Ontario was of good size and quality although brown rot caused some loss during September. The crop is 20 per cent below that of last year due chiefly to the lighter crops of prunes and Japanese varieties. Despite the reduced yields, 10,000 bushels of damson plums were marketed in the United States.

PEACHES: The estimated peach production in Canada remains unchanged from a month ago at 997,500 bushels. The current crop is 7 per cent larger than the 1941 crop of 932,900 bushels and is 42 per cent greater than the 5-year (1936-40) average of 703,300 bushels.

GRAPES: A further upward revision of 4.5 million pounds in the Ontario estimate during the past month brings the Canadian crop to 74,834,000 pounds. The current estimate is 59 per cent above the 1941 harvest of 47,151,300 pounds and is 69 per cent above the 1936-40 average of 44,319,300 pounds.

The largest grape crop on record is now practically all harvested in Ontario. An increase of 10 per cent during the month brought the crop to 72,000,000 pounds. The blue varieties showed the heaviest increase. The growing and harvesting conditions were generally good although there was some delay due to wet weather and a shortage of containers. Frost damage was slight and a crop of good quality was harvested. In addition to the heavy movement of fruit to domestic fresh fruit markets and processors a considerable volume was shipped to United States chiefly for juice manufacture.

VEGETABLES

Liberal supplies of most vegetables are still available on all markets in the Maritime Provinces. In Quebec the weather has been ideal for the harvesting of the root crops and in spite of the labour shortage, growers expect to successfully store all crops. Harvesting of the beet crop is completed while 60 per cent of the carrots are topped and piled in the field. Supplies of these vegetables are heavier than last year with beets showing an increase of 15 per cent and carrots an increase of 35 per cent. Parsnips are smaller than in 1941 as the growers dug the crop earlier than usual because of the lack of help. Leeks are larger in size and production will be 25 per cent greater than a year ago. The quality of the cauliflower is better than in 1941 but there is no increase in production as some growers were forced to plough down their fields due to the lack of sufficient help. The harvesting of the tomato crop is rapidly coming to a close. Larger quantities than usual were left unpicked in the field. Turnips continue to grow rapidly and supplies will be about the same as last year. Production of onions is greater than in 1941 as a result of the increased size of the transplanted and yellow bulbs. Red onions, however, are only medium in size. The lettuce crop is practically finished for this season. Although supplies of spinach continue to be heavy the demand is only moderate.

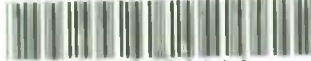
In eastern Ontario the weather was more satisfactory than average for the harvesting of all vegetables with the exception of corn and tomatoes which were severely damaged by a heavy frost on September 29. Dry weather during October has made the harvesting of the root crops much easier than usual. The late blight that developed on the potatoes early in September has been more serious than anticipated. Fields that were dug during the dry weather in October were stored in better condition than those that were harvested earlier. Very few fields were free from rot and some were hardly worth digging. In western Ontario good conditions for growth and harvesting of practically all late vegetables prevailed throughout the month. This district was free from any serious frost damage from September 29 to October 26 when some areas had heavy frost. In a few sections frequent rains caused spoilage and delayed harvesting. Leaf hopper damage and blight has reduced the yield of late potatoes in all districts including northern Ontario and the Head of the Lakes. Celery blight has been reported in some of the main producing areas. Although a considerable quantity of unharvested tomatoes were affected by frost at the end of September, deliveries to the processors continued for some weeks and limited supplies appeared on the fresh fruit markets until October 27.

The season in Manitoba ended abruptly during the last week in September when four or five nights of severe frosts stopped all growth. Many potato fields were touched sufficiently to affect the condition of tubers in storage. Onions and onion sets have been well dried, but larger onions which were not bagged or piled prior to the frost have been damaged and are not expected to store well. Some celery was also affected and has become rather pulpy and woody, however, a considerable volume of good quality celery has been marketed. All root crops were gathered in very good condition. Most of these crops have gone into storage for winter sale as the market at the present time is slow and prices are unattractive to the growers.

In British Columbia the harvesting of vegetables is practically completed and the movement to market has been very satisfactory up to the present. Dehydrators are now operating on the export onion contracts.

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

		1941	1942
		barrels	
Apples -			
Nova Scotia	1,148,000	1,250,000	
New Brunswick	67,000	65,000	
Quebec	255,600	356,700	
Ontario	614,900	551,000	
British Columbia	1,492,900	1,987,300	
Total	3,578,400	4,210,000	
Pears -		bushels	
Nova Scotia	17,400	21,700	
Ontario	167,200	215,800	
British Columbia	332,400	335,600	
Total	517,000	573,100	
Plums and Prunes -			
Nova Scotia	5,500	8,000	
Ontario	143,500	114,500	
British Columbia	298,100	206,600	
Total	447,100	329,100	
Peaches -			
Ontario	700,000	728,000	
British Columbia	232,900	269,500	
Total	932,900	997,500	
Grapes -		pounds	
Ontario	45,000,000	72,000,000	
British Columbia	2,151,300	2,834,000	
Total	47,151,300	74,834,000	



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