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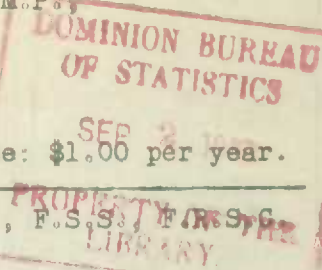
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FRUIT CROP REPORT

Ottawa, September 1, 1943.- 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 crops in the main producing areas.

SUMMARY

The prospects of the Canadian fruit crops remain practically unchanged since July according to a report issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A slight upward revision in the estimates of the apple crops in New Brunswick, Ontario and British Columbia was somewhat offset by a reduction in Nova Scotia and the indications are now for a crop of 3,994,400 barrels. Apple scab is very common throughout eastern Canada and the quality of the fruit will be reduced accordingly. The outlook for pears also shows a slight improvement and the crop is now estimated at 506,000 bushels. This indicates a considerable reduction from the 1942 harvest of 752,900 bushels. The plum crop, including prunes, shows a further drop since July, to bring the estimate to 331,500 bushels. The peach prospect also declined somewhat during the month and a crop of 571,100 bushels is now indicated. This represents a decline of 70 per cent from the 1942 harvest. Although the grape crop, estimated at 58,201,600 pounds, is 22 per cent below the exceptionally large crop of 74,912,600 pounds produced last year, it is still well above the five-year 1936-1940 average of 44,319,000 pounds.

Apples

Prospects for the apple crop in Canada improved slightly during the past month. A downward revision in the estimate of the Nova Scotia crop since the July report was not sufficient to overcome the increase in prospects in New Brunswick, Ontario and British Columbia, and the indications are now for a yield of 3,994,400 barrels. This is a reduction of 8 per cent from the 1942 harvest of 4,330,900 barrels.

The 2 per cent reduction in the prospects in Nova Scotia during the month can be attributed to the delay in the maturity of the fruit, resulting from the unusual cool, wet weather. The quality of the fruit will not be equal to that of the 1942 season as frequent rains have interfered with spraying operations and apple scab is abundant in most orchards. In New Brunswick the prospects are for an exceptionally large crop, which is estimated currently at 90,000 barrels. This is an increase of approximately 10 per cent over the 1942 crop. The fruit is above average in size, but due to unfavourable weather during the entire season considerable scab and spraying injury are in evidence and the quality will be much lower than normal. The Quebec crop remains unchanged since a month ago, although the fruit is sizing very well. As is the case in the Maritime Provinces, scab is very serious and the grade of the fruit will be lower than usual. Present indications are that Melba will pack out 40 per cent No. 1 and 60 per cent domestic, while McIntosh, which makes up the bulk of the crop, will grade 60 per cent No. 1 and 40 per cent domestic. There is a strong demand for the lower grades this season both from consumers and processors and prices are very satisfactory. In Ontario the improved outlook in the south-western section of the province has raised the estimate approximately 6 per cent during the month to bring it to 625,200 barrels or slightly above the 1942 crop of 616,900 barrels. In eastern Ontario the fruit is developing irregularly and the size is below normal in many orchards. Scab is a serious factor on most farms and green aphids have caused considerable damage. In the western district of the province the weather has been favourable for both tree and fruit growth and increased prospects during the month have resulted. Spy and McIntosh show the most improvement and, with the exception of Baldwin, all varieties are expected to produce larger crops than in 1942. Scab injury is fairly general, although the Georgian Bay, Middlesex and Huron districts are the least

Apples - concluded

affected. The British Columbia crop prospects also improved slightly during the month and a harvest of 1,399,100 barrels is now anticipated. Although some areas reported a checking of growth, due to the prolonged dry weather, this is not general. The earliest varieties are practically all harvested and Gravenstein and Wealthy are now moving to market in volume. McIntosh are maturing rapidly and all varieties are sizing well and taking on a fine colour.

Pears

A 4 per cent increase in the prospects of the Canadian pear crop since the last report is the result of the somewhat brighter outlook in Ontario and British Columbia. Production this year is now estimated at 506,000 bushels as compared with 475,200 bushels in July and 752,900 bushels in 1942.

The outlook in Nova Scotia remains unchanged since a month ago and the fruit is developing normally and is reported to be of average quality. Production this year is expected to amount to 17,400 bushels, which is a drop of 20 per cent from the 1942 harvest of 21,700 bushels. In Ontario a 5 per cent increase in crop prospects brings the anticipated yield to 282,800 bushels. This year's harvest will, however, be much below the previous crop of 412,100 bushels. In eastern Ontario the size of the fruit is below normal and a very light crop is in view. In the western area of the province, where the bulk of the crop is grown, an improvement in the Bartlett and Keiffer crops are reported. The fruit is clean and of good size. The British Columbia crop is also somewhat better than was indicated last month and is now estimated at 205,800 bushels compared with 195,900 bushels in July and 319,100 bushels last season. Bartletts are beginning to move to market in small quantities and the quality of the fruit is generally above normal. Dr. Jules and Clapps Favourite are the main varieties being shipped at present.

Plums and Prunes

A reduction in the outlook in both Ontario and British Columbia since July has brought the estimate to 331,500 bushels, a decrease of 4 per cent. The current estimate is 7 per cent smaller than the 1942 crop of 365,500 bushels.

In Nova Scotia, where a relatively small part of the crop is produced, the 1943 harvest is expected to show a 25 per cent increase over that of a year ago and is estimated at 10,000 bushels. The Ontario crop shows a slight decline of 2 per cent since July, due to a falling-off of condition of Japanese and European varieties. In the eastern section of the province, where only a small fraction of the crop is grown, the fruit is of good size and shows little insect injury. In western Ontario curculio sting injury is apparent throughout the main producing areas and a considerable drop among the prune and European varieties has occurred. Trees continue to die in some orchards in the area, but healthy trees are growing well and the fruit is developing and colouring satisfactory. In British Columbia the crop, which is now estimated at 213,300 bushels, is 28 per cent larger than the 1942 harvest. This increase is due to a very heavy crop of prunes, which are now colouring well and will be ready for market in volume during the first week in September.

Peaches

A decline in the estimate of the expected peach harvest, which occurred during the past month in Ontario was not offset by the slight improvement shown in the prospects for the British Columbia crop. Canadian production is now estimated at 571,100 bushels, a reduction of 4 per cent from the July estimate of 647,900 bushels. If present prospects continue until the end of the season the harvest will be approximately 70 per cent smaller than that of 1942.

Peaches - concluded

The Ontario crop is now estimated at 437,400 bushels compared with 518,400 bushels in July and 1,620,000 bushels last year. A considerable mortality among the trees, a result of the severe winter weather, continues throughout the heavy-producing Niagara area and a further loss of fruit has been caused by insects and disease. In British Columbia a very slight improvement in the prospects has brought the estimate to 133,700 bushels, as compared with 129,500 bushels in July. The present estimate is only 42 per cent of the 1942 harvest of 319,200 bushels.

Grapes

The estimate of the Canadian grape crop remains practically unchanged from a month ago at 58,201,600 pounds. The current estimate represents a 22 per cent reduction from the exceptionally large crop of 74,912,600 pounds harvested in 1942. The bulk of the crop is grown in western Ontario, where the harvest is expected to amount to 56,160,000 pounds. The vineyards in the area are in generally good condition and both the fruit and vines are developing satisfactorily. In British Columbia the downward revision in the July estimate brings the August outlook to 2,041,600 pounds.



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Second Estimate of Fruit Production in Canada in 1943 and
the Final Estimates for 1942

Description		1 9 4 2	1 9 4 3
APPLES		bb1.	bb1.
	Nova Scotia	1,305,900	1,580,100
	New Brunswick	82,000	90,000
	Quebec	390,000	300,000
	Ontario	616,900	625,200
	British Columbia	1,936,100	1,399,100
	CANADA	4,330,900	3,994,400
PEARS		bu.	bu.
	Nova Scotia	21,700	17,400
	Ontario	412,100	282,800
	British Columbia	319,100	205,800
	CANADA	752,900	506,000
PLUMS AND PRUNES	Nova Scotia	8,000	10,000
	Ontario	190,500	108,200
	British Columbia	167,000	213,300
	CANADA	365,500	331,500
PEACHES	Ontario	1,620,000	437,400
	British Columbia	319,200	133,700
	CANADA	1,939,200	571,100
APRICOTS	British Columbia	81,300	17,600
	CANADA	81,300	17,600
CHERRIES	Ontario	272,200	107,700
	British Columbia	76,300	76,500
	CANADA	348,500	184,200
STRAWBERRIES		qts.	qts.
	Nova Scotia	983,300	1,130,800
	New Brunswick	1,258,100	1,258,000
	Quebec	2,727,000	3,408,700
	Ontario	5,447,300	5,177,800
	British Columbia	5,649,300	2,952,600
	CANADA	16,065,000	13,927,900
RASPBERRIES	Nova Scotia	60,000	105,000
	New Brunswick	50,000	50,000
	Quebec	1,732,000	366,000
	Ontario	4,375,000	4,156,500
	British Columbia	3,114,500	3,245,700
	CANADA	9,331,500	8,423,200
LONGANBERRIES		lb.	lb.
	British Columbia	1,949,100	1,702,600
	CANADA	1,949,100	1,702,600
GRAPES	Ontario	72,000,000	56,160,000
	British Columbia	2,912,600	2,041,600
	CANADA	74,912,600	58,201,600