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FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 1945.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the Marketing Service 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.

SUMMARY

With the exception of apples and loganberries, the outlook for the fruit crops in Canada has improved during the past month. The apple prospects declined 6 per cent since the end of June to bring the anticipated harvest to 7,716,000 bushels. The crop this year is 57 per cent below that of last season of 17,829,000 bushels and is 43 per cent below the 10-year 1934-43 average of 13,631,000 bushels. There was an increase in the expected crop of pears during the month. Declines in the prospects for the crops in Nova Scotia and Ontario were more than offset by the 8 per cent increase in British Columbia which brings the Canadian total to 588,000 bushels. The current estimate, however, is still 34 per cent below the 1944 level but is only 3 per cent smaller than the 10-year average. Plums and prunes also showed improvement during the month, the result of the increase in the estimate in British Columbia. The production this season is now set at 420,000 bushels or 21 per cent smaller than the 1944 harvest of 534,000 bushels. The current crop, however, is 34 per cent larger than the 10-year average production. Increases in the anticipated harvest of peaches since June in both Ontario and British Columbia bring the total for Canada to 1,478,000 bushels or 13 per cent below the 1944 level. The crop this season is 32 per cent larger than the 10-year 1934-43 average. Apricots which are grown commercially only in British Columbia again exceeded all previous records for the second year in succession. The harvest this season is currently estimated at 152,000 bushels. The cherry production is down sharply from that of a year ago at 183,000 bushels. This represents a decline of 36 per cent and is largely due to the poor set of fruit in Ontario. The 10-year average crop is 236,000 bushels. Strawberry production in all provinces shows a substantial improvement over the 1944 harvest, and the Canadian total now stands at 14,992,000 quarts or 37 per cent above the 10,922,000 quart crop of last season. Raspberries are also a larger crop at 12,270,000 quarts compared with 10,806,000 quarts. The 1945 crop is 34 per cent larger than the 10-year average of 9,151,000 quarts. A 12 per cent increase over the 1944 crop brings the production of grapes to 68,250,000 pounds. Increases are shown in both Ontario and British Columbia and the crop will be the largest since 1942. The sharp decline in the prospects for the loganberry crop in British Columbia since June brings the anticipated harvest to 1,125,000 pounds or 32 per cent below the 1944 level.

The area planted to potatoes this season is now set at 526,000 acres according to the second estimate. This indicates a decline of 2.6 per cent from the area intended for potatoes in May, and is 1.7 per cent below the area harvested in 1944 of 534,900 acres. Other vegetables in all provinces are somewhat later than normal due to the backward spring weather. Acreages are down from a year ago and the size of the crop will depend to a great extent on continued favourable weather and the date of the first fall frost.

FRUIT

Apples

Prospects for the Canadian apple crop have declined approximately 6 per cent during the month to bring the anticipated harvest to 7,761,000 bushels. With the exception of New Brunswick, declines are reported in all provinces. The current estimate is 57 per cent smaller than the 17,829,000 bushel crop harvested in 1944 and is 43 per cent smaller than the 10-year, 1934-43, average of 13,631 000 bushels.

In Nova Scotia the outlook is now for a crop of 975,000 bushels which is 19 per cent below the June estimate of 1,200,000 bushels and 81 per cent below the 1944 crop of 5,262,000 bushels. Apple scab is very serious on both fruit and leaves but the infection varies widely between orchards. The high percentage of the fruit remaining on the trees after the June drop is misshapen as the result of frost injury and the quality is further lowered by both insect and disease damage.

The crop in New Brunswick is somewhat better than was anticipated in June. An improvement of approximately 61 per cent during the month brings the crop to 119,000 bushels. Scab is general throughout the province and although the fruit is developing rapidly, the quality is likely to be below average. Summer and fall varieties are expected to produce the heaviest crops.

In Quebec a further decline in the prospects of 11 per cent brings the anticipated harvest to 80,000 bushels. A heavy storm on July 10 which blew considerable fruit off the trees is the chief factor in lowering the estimate. Some 800 trees in the St. Hilaire district were uprooted during this storm. Apple scab is widespread in this province too and is so severe as to partially defoliate the trees in some cases.

The Ontario crop also is now estimated below the June outlook. The harvest is expected to amount to 718,000 bushels or 24 per cent smaller than the outlook for a month ago. This brings the crop to 73 per cent below the 1944 harvest of 2,620,000 bushels. In eastern Ontario temperatures during the month have been ideal for growth and moisture supplies have been plentiful. The foliage is good in all well sprayed orchards but at least 50 per cent have been severely injured by scab and will carry no crop. There was a heavy drop and many of the apples are small, misshapen and russeted as the result of the late spring frost and prolonged wet weather during the blooming period. Insects as well as disease are causing considerable injury. The outlook for the early varieties is more promising than for the late kinds. Crop prospects in western Ontario also show a falling off since the beginning of the month. The reduction occurred in all varieties and in most districts although the Peel-York and Essex-Kent-Lambton sections were least affected. The weather has favoured a heavy infestation of scab and control sprays are largely ineffective. While existing fruit is sizing well and is fairly free of insect injury in well sprayed orchards, further losses from scab are anticipated.

The June prospects for the crop in British Columbia remain practically unchanged at 5,824,000 bushels or approximately two-thirds as large as the record harvest in 1944 of 8,750,000 bushels. The fruit is developing rapidly but codling moth and aphids are becoming troublesome.

Pears

The current estimate of the pear crop this season of 588,000 bushels is somewhat larger than the June outlook of 557,000 bushels, but is still 34 per cent below the 1944 harvest of 894,000 bushels. The increase in the prospects is due to the improved outlook in British Columbia. Declines, however, are reported in both Ontario and Nova Scotia.

The crop in Nova Scotia is now set at 40,000 bushels compared with 45,000 bushels a month ago. The crop is still one-third larger than that of 1944. The trees are developing well and little or no insect or disease damage is reported. The slight falling off in the prospects in June brings the Ontario crop to 48,000 bushels. This is the smallest crop on record and is only 13 per cent of the 1944 harvest of 372,000 bushels. In eastern Ontario the set of fruit was light after an unusually heavy drop. The fruit is undersized but fairly free of insect damage. The colour of the foliage is good and the trees are making strong growth. In the heavy producing section of western Ontario the orchards are in excellent condition and show little insect or disease damage. Poor crops of all varieties are expected with Bartlett showing the greatest reduction. The British Columbia crop prospects improved during the month. The current estimate of 500,000 bushels is two per cent larger than the 1944 harvest of 492,000 bushels. If conditions continue favourable the present crop will be the largest the province has ever produced. The fruit is developing satisfactorily and no insect or disease damage is reported but the quality and size of the fruit depends to a great extent on the future moisture supplies.

Plums and Prunes

The July estimate of 420,000 bushels is 12 per cent above the June outlook, the increase being due to the improved prospects in British Columbia. The total Canadian crop is 21 per cent below the harvest last year of 534,000 bushels but is 34 per cent above the 10-year average of 313,000 bushels.

In Nova Scotia the crop is spotty, varying widely between orchards. The present outlook is for a crop of 8,000 bushels compared with the 11,000 bushel crop harvested last season. In Ontario the crop is now expected to amount to 30,000 bushels which is a decline of 1,000 bushels since June. The present estimate is 79 per cent below the 1944 harvest of 144,000 bushels. In the eastern area of the province where comparatively few plums are produced, the crop is patchy with Damson and prunes the most promising. In western Ontario Japanese varieties show a reduction of 75 per cent from last season, European variety 79 per cent and prunes 95 per cent. In British Columbia on the other hand, crop prospects exceed the record harvest in 1944. The crop is currently estimated at 382,000 bushels or 1 per cent above the 1944 harvest of 379,000 bushels. The weather has been favourable for the development of the fruit. On the whole prunes will be a heavier crop than last season, while plums will be somewhat lighter.

Peaches

The outlook for the peach crop in both Ontario and British Columbia is somewhat brighter than it was a month ago. The Canadian crop now stands at 1,478,000 bushels, an increase of 13 per cent since June. This crop, however, is 13 per cent smaller than the 1,698,000 bushels harvested last season.

In Ontario the 14 per cent increase in prospects brings the estimated harvest to 818,000 bushels. The present estimate, however, is still 30 per cent smaller than the 1944 crop of 1,174,000 bushels. The reduction from the

previous crop varies from one district to another ranging from 10 per cent in Norfolk to 95 per cent in Burlington. In the main producing area of Niagara, the decline amounted to 30 per cent. Except for a few trees on low, wet soils, growth has been good and fruit is clean and sizing well. The earliest varieties are now being harvested. In British Columbia the indications are now for a crop of 660,000 bushels. This crop is 26 per cent greater than the record harvest of 524,000 bushels in 1944. Harvesting of earliest varieties will begin in about a week and the fruit is generally of good quality and developing rapidly.

Apricots

Apricots are produced in commercial quantities only in British Columbia where the crop is now estimated at 152,000 bushels. This is a 7 per cent increase over the June outlook of 142,000 bushels, and is 4 per cent above the 1944 harvest of 146,000 bushels. Marketing of the crop is under way and large quantities are now being shipped.

Cherries

Improvement in the outlook in both Ontario and British Columbia raised the June estimate approximately 6 per cent to bring the anticipated harvest to 183,000 bushels. The crop in both provinces is smaller than that of 1944 with the greatest reduction shown in Ontario.

The Ontario crop is now set at 41,000 bushels which is a reduction of 71 per cent from the 1944 crop of 140,000 bushels. In eastern Ontario where the crop consists of sour varieties, yields were light in all districts. Although the trees have grown well the set of fruit is very uneven. Considerable yellow leaf is now appearing in most orchards. In the heavy producing area of western Ontario, Montmorencys are of good size and now being harvested. The sour varieties show little splitting as a result of the heavy rains on July 14 and 15. Sweet varieties developed exceedingly well and a heavier crop was harvested than was first indicated. Much of the fruit still unharvested was badly split following the rains at the middle of the month and was unmarketable except for a portion which went to processors. Aphids and shot hole fungus are troublesome in some orchards. In British Columbia the improvement in the outlook since June brings the anticipated harvest to 142,000 bushels compared with the earlier estimate of 137,000 bushels and the 1944 harvest of 145,000 bushels. Harvesting of the crop is now in full swing and the quality is said to be excellent.

Strawberries

An improvement in the crop prospects in Ontario brings the Canadian total to 14,992,000 quarts, an increase of 7 per cent over the June estimate. The crop is now 37 per cent larger than the 1944 harvest of 10,922,000 quarts.

In Nova Scotia where the outlook is for a crop of 790,000 quarts, harvesting is completed and yields were very satisfactory. The quality of the berries was good. In New Brunswick the crop is much larger than the very small harvest of 1944. The current estimate is 950,000 quarts whereas the crop last season amounted to only 412,000 quarts. Harvesting in the Grand Lake and other early sections is now completed and the crop is somewhat disappointing as the result of poor weather during the picking season. In Quebec crop prospects in June were maintained at 3,500,000 quarts. The quality was much better than that of a year ago when production amounted to 2,044,000 quarts. The outlook in Ontario improved 24 per cent during the month to bring the current estimate to

6,024,000 quarts. This represents an improvement of approximately 29 per cent over the 4,678,000 quarts harvested last season. In eastern Ontario the yields were unexpectedly good after the early blossom injury. New plantings are making strong growth. In western Ontario the prospects have improved progressively with the prolonged favourable harvesting weather. There was some loss from decay in the Niagara-Burlington areas which was more than offset by increased size and generally good quality of the fruit. In British Columbia the June estimate remains unchanged at 3,728,000 quarts, or 14 per cent larger than the 3,261,000 quarts harvested last year. Picking is now over in most sections. The crop came on rapidly and was somewhat disappointing in some areas where sufficient moisture was lacking.

Raspberries

The present estimate of the crop is 12,270,000 quarts. The outlook improved about 8 per cent since June and places the crop approximately 14 per cent above the 1944 harvest of 10,806,000 quarts.

There is no change in the anticipated harvest of 70,000 quarts in Nova Scotia. In New Brunswick there was a slight change in the prospects since June and the crop is now estimated at 50,000 quarts. The crop this season is the same as that harvested in 1944. In Quebec prospects declined 3 per cent during the month and the crop is now set at 700,000 quarts or 19 per cent smaller than the previous harvest of 866,000 quarts. The crop is disappointing as the canes were poor and the hot weather prevented the proper setting of the fruit. In Ontario the weather was ideal for the development of the fruit. The July estimate of 5,676,000 quarts shows an increase of 21 per cent over that of last month, and is 26 per cent greater than the 1944 crop of 4,522,000 quarts. Plantations throughout the province are in excellent condition although some Cuthberts in Norfolk County are showing curled leaves. Harvesting is in full swing and the fruit is of good size but somewhat soft and inclined to mold. In British Columbia prospects remain unchanged since June at 5,774,000 quarts or approximately 9 per cent greater than the 1944 harvest of 5,316,000 quarts. The crop is now moving to market in volume and the quality is generally good.

Grapes

The Canadian grape crop showed a slight improvement during the month and is now estimated at 68,250,000 pounds. The current estimate is 12 per cent greater than the 1944 harvest of 60,826,000 pounds.

In Ontario the crop is now estimated at 64,636,000 pounds or 13 per cent above the final estimate of 57,340,000 pounds in 1944. In Niagara, the chief producing area, vineyards are in good condition. While the number of bunches is about average they vary widely in size. The June estimate of the British Columbia crop remains practically unchanged at 3,614,000 pounds and represents an increase of 4 per cent over the previous crop.

Loganberries

Loganberries are produced commercially only in British Columbia where a decline during the month now brings the estimate to 1,125,000 pounds. Production this season is 32 per cent below the 1944 level of 1,660,000 pounds. The fruit is now ripening fast and it is in fair condition.

VEGETABLES

Potatoes

The area planted to potatoes this season, which, according to the second estimate amounts to 526,000 acres, is 1.7 per cent smaller than that of a year ago, but is 1.2 per cent above the 5-year 1938-42 average of 519,600 acres. Increases are shown in the acreage planted in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, while the British Columbia acreage remains unchanged; all other provinces show a decline.

In Prince Edward Island potato fields are maturing rapidly but late blight is in evidence in some areas. This disease has made its appearance earlier than last season. Growers are being advised to pay strict attention to spraying and two applications have been made already in some cases. In Nova Scotia planting was held up and some fields did not go in until the first week in July. Late fields originally intended for potatoes were finally planted to cabbage. In New Brunswick the fields are growing rapidly but blight is beginning to appear. Early potatoes in the Grand Lake area are now being dug. In Quebec the mid-season crop will not be as heavy as usual as plant growth was less vigorous and the stands are irregular due, no doubt, to excessive moisture. The earliest varieties are yielding half the usual quantity and are reported to be producing 50 to 70 bags per acre. In eastern Ontario the earliest fields are yielding light crops. In western Ontario the early crop is late but yields are better than anticipated. Heavy rains in Manitoba delayed harvesting of the early crop and promoted excessive weed growth. Digging is expected to begin at the end of the month. In Saskatchewan the fields are showing good growth and the earliest varieties are now beginning to develop tubers. Alberta potato fields are also growing well but flea beetles are causing some damage. No local supply of new potatoes are as yet available. The British Columbia crop is moving to market in increasing quantities. As a result of labour shortage and extremely hot dry weather during the month it is expected that yields of the late crop will be light.

Other Vegetables

In Prince Edward Island vegetable seeding was generally late because of the wet, adverse weather during the early part of the season. Vegetables planted early have been slow in reaching maturity and such crops as spinach have been badly checked in growth. Late seeded vegetables, however, are now doing well. In Nova Scotia the acreage planted to cabbage shows a substantial increase over that of last season. This is the result of the cool, wet spring when many fields intended for potatoes were planted to cabbage. The canning pea crop has been poor. Cool, wet weather and aphids have tended to reduce the yields. In Quebec root crops have grown quickly with the abundance of moisture and heat. There are ample supplies of beets, carrots, bunch onions and turnips to meet the local demand. The mid-season cabbage will be plentiful as the plants are larger than usual. Tomatoes are three weeks later than last season. The plants have grown quickly and supplies are now expected during the week of August 6. The acreage is smaller than last season. The size of the crop depends on the date of the first frost. Cucumbers will be light during the next two weeks as the frame crop has been considerably reduced by the rapid spread of disease and the effects of cucumber beetle damage. The field crop will be ready for market in two weeks. Sweet corn is three weeks late and the acreage will be smaller than last year. Cauliflower promises a better fall crop. Lettuce has been good but the crop is 25 per cent reduced as the acreage on the muck lands were flooded twice during the spring. August supplies will depend upon the weather.

In eastern Ontario most vegetables are in need of more sunshine. The wet weather has slowed the development of all crops. Many growers have been unable to cultivate their fields satisfactorily because of the shortage of help and continued rains. Most crops are two to three weeks later than last season. Among the canning crops the pack of peas will be a little larger than was expected a month ago, but will be considerably smaller than that of last season. The quality, however, is expected to be much better. In western Ontario there is a general over-all improvement in the condition of practically all crops since the last report. Cool, wet weather retarded the development of most commodities, but a marked improvement is already noticed since the advent of warmer and more favourable conditions. Excessive rains caused some flooding and made cultivation and weed control difficult. Most varieties of vegetables are one to three weeks later than usual. The total asparagus crop is estimated at about 75 per cent of the 1944 yield. The primary set of early tomatoes was light in many areas and harvesting is two to three weeks later than last year but conditions are now improving rapidly. Other vine crops have been adversely affected by the weather. Among the canning crops the first estimate of the bean acreage indicates an increase of about 11 per cent over that of 1944. The condition of the crop is fair except in some sections where blight is now apparent. The corn acreage is reduced about 14 per cent from last year. The general condition of the crop has greatly improved during the last two weeks. The acreage of canning peas is slightly increased since last season and the quality of the crop is reported to be good. The preliminary estimate of the tomato acreage is somewhat less than that of 1944 and while considerable late planting was done prospects are now more favourable for an average yield. Much depends on the future weather and on the date of the first frost. The Manitoba vegetable crops have improved considerably since the last report due to recent rains. Locally grown beets, peas, corn and cauliflower are now on the market. The crops generally are fair to good but do not approach those of last season.

In British Columbia vegetables are moving in normal quantities and are in good demand. Tomatoes are beginning to be shipped from southern Okanagan districts. Prices of vegetables have been satisfactory.

SECOND ESTIMATE OF FRUIT PRODUCTION IN CANADA IN 1945, AND THE FINAL ESTIMATE FOR 1944

Kind and Province		1944	1945
		bushels	
Apples	- Nova Scotia	5,262,000	975,000
	New Brunswick	297,000	119,000
	Quebec	900,000	80,000
	Ontario	2,620,000	718,000
	British Columbia	8,750,000	5,824,000
Total		17,829,000	7,716,000
Pears	- Nova Scotia	30,000	40,000
	Ontario	372,000	48,000
	British Columbia	492,000	500,000
Total		894,000	588,000

Kind and Province		1 9 4 4	1 9 4 5
		bushels	
Plums and Prunes	- Nova Scotia	11,000	8,000
	Ontario	144,000	30,000
	British Columbia	379,000	382,000
T o t a l		534,000	420,000
Peaches	- Ontario	1,174,000	818,000
	British Columbia	524,000	660,000
T o t a l		1,698,000	1,478,000
Apricots	- British Columbia	146,000	152,000
		quarts	
Cherries	- Ontario	140,000	41,000
	British Columbia	145,000	142,000
T o t a l		285,000	183,000
Strawberries	- Nova Scotia	527,000	790,000
	New Brunswick	412,000	950,000
	Quebec	2,044,000	3,500,000
	Ontario	4,678,000	6,024,000
	British Columbia	3,261,000	3,728,000
T o t a l		10,922,000	14,992,000
Raspberries	- Nova Scotia	52,000	70,000
	New Brunswick	50,000	50,000
	Quebec	866,000	700,000
	Ontario	4,522,000	5,676,000
	British Columbia	5,316,000	5,774,000
T o t a l		10,806,000	12,270,000
		pounds	
Grapes	- Ontario	57,340,000	64,636,000
	British Columbia	3,486,000	3,614,000
T o t a l		60,826,000	68,250,000
Loganberries	British Columbia	1,660,000	1,125,000

SECOND ESTIMATE OF THE ACREAGE OF POTATOES IN CANADA IN 1945 AND THE
FINAL ESTIMATE FOR 1944

Province	1 9 4 4	1 9 4 5
	acres	
Prince Edward Island	39,000	43,000
Nova Scotia	25,000	23,000
New Brunswick	66,900	74,000
Quebec	168,900	159,000
Ontario	120,000	116,000
Manitoba	27,800	26,000
Saskatchewan	41,600	40,000
Alberta	28,700	28,000
British Columbia	17,000	17,000
CANADA	534,900	526,000



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE
FOR THE YEAR 1904

1904	1905	Total
107,174	108,121	215,295
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242
107,121	108,121	215,242