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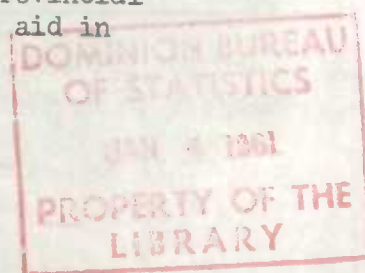
FIRST ESTIMATE OF HONEY PRODUCTION 1961\*

Preliminary estimates indicate a honey crop in 1961 of 34.5 million pounds, 7.0 per cent above the 1960 crop of 32.2 million pounds and 12.1 per cent above the average output for the years 1950-1959 of 28.5 million. The increased output this year was brought about by slightly higher yields per colony and a moderate increase in colony numbers. However, the number of active beekeepers estimated at 11,660 in 1961 was considerably below the 1960 total of 12,570 and the 1950-1959 average of 15,660.

Honey production was greater in 1961 than in 1960 in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia. In Ontario, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick output this year was below that of last year while Manitoba beekeepers obtained a crop equal to that of the previous season. However, most of the over-all increase occurred in Alberta where almost 10 million pounds of honey were produced in 1961, an increase of 30.8 per cent from the 7.6 million of 1960. This increase in production was brought about by a combination of good yields averaging 165 pounds per colony and an increase in the number of colonies, estimated at 60,000 this season compared with 54,900 in 1960.

In all provinces except Saskatchewan and Ontario average yields per colony were either substantially above or close to those of 1960. The 1961 yields per colony were also above the average for 1950-1959 in all provinces except Quebec, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island. The number of beekeepers in 1961 was below the average for the period 1950-1959 and colony numbers were also somewhat lower. However, as yields were substantially better, total production was higher. The average number of colonies per beekeeper estimated at 29 in 1961 was considerably above the average of 23 for the years 1950-1959, suggesting a greater degree of specialization in this industry.

\* Source: Estimates for the province of Quebec are prepared by the Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce, of that province. For all other provinces, except Newfoundland, for which data are not available, the estimates are prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Provinces. Three mail questionnaire surveys are conducted, one in July to obtain the number of colonies and another in September to determine yields. This report is based on the results of the July and September surveys. A final yield and price survey is conducted later. Provincial officials provide the mailing lists of beekeepers and aid in the interpretation of survey results.



Preliminary Estimates of the Number of Beekeepers and Colonies of Bees  
and Production of Honey in Canada 1/, by Province, 1960 and 1961 2/,  
with 10-year Averages, 1950-1959

Province and Year	Beekeepers	Colonies	HONEY	
			Average Yield Per Colony	Total Production
	no.	no.	lb.	'000 lb.
P.E.I.	1950-59	110	850	68
	1960	90	800	65
	1961	90	900	73
N.S.	1950-59	400	2,220	142
	1960	380	2,800	146
	1961	390	2,690	242
N.B.	1950-59	320	1,860	103
	1960	190	1,200	86
	1961	170	1,280	82
Que.	1950-59	3,240	59,140	3,440
	1960	2,220	49,840	2,284
	1961	2,130	48,700	2,971
Ont.	1950-59	3,600	162,900	10,116
	1960	2,720	123,100	9,232
	1961	2,700	126,000	8,806
Man.	1950-59	1,310	41,140	5,013
	1960	920	41,700	6,380
	1961	790	40,560	6,380
Sask.	1950-59	2,790	29,180	3,437
	1960	2,400	33,200	4,515
	1961	2,000	36,800	3,930
Alta.	1950-59	1,900	41,830	4,920
	1960	1,670	54,900	7,576
	1961	1,390	60,000	9,912
B.C.	1950-59	1,990	15,200	1,303
	1960	1,980	19,800	1,940
	1961	2,000	19,980	2,080
CANADA	1950-59	15,660	354,320	28,542
	1960	12,570	327,340	32,224
	1961	11,660	336,910	34,476

1/ Does not include Newfoundland.

2/ Subject to revision.

This Memorandum prepared in the Crops Section of the Agriculture  
Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.