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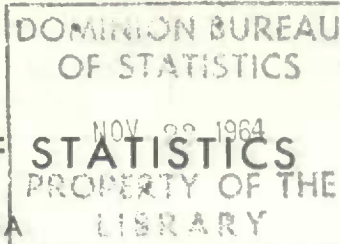
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Honey Report No. 2 - 1964

FIRST ESTIMATE OF HONEY PRODUCTION, 1964*

Preliminary estimates indicate that a honey crop of 35.1 million pounds was produced in 1964, 17 per cent below the 1963 crop of 42.1 million pounds but greater than production in 1962. It is also above the 28.5 million pound average for the period 1952-61. The decline in output this year compared with 1963 was brought about by a lower average yield. Last year, however, extremely good yields were general and production was the largest in fifteen years. Colony numbers in 1964 were higher than in the previous season with the greatest expansion having occurred in Alberta. The number of active beekeepers also continued to increase moderately. However, the total number of beekeepers, estimated at 10,760 this year, was still substantially below the average of almost 14,000 for the 1952-61 period.

The crop in each of the provinces except Nova Scotia and British Columbia was lower in 1964 than in 1963. Average yields, however, were smaller this year than last in all provinces due to generally less favourable weather conditions. One exception was Western Ontario where considerably higher yields were recorded in 1964 than in the previous season. Eastern Ontario, in common with Quebec, experienced a combination of mid-summer drought followed by cool wet weather later in the season and yields per colony were drastically reduced. Prairie beekeepers also had generally lower yields in 1964 than in 1963; weather conditions in these provinces were variable with dry weather in some districts and an excess of moisture and unfavourably low temperatures in others.

The bulk of the reduction in honey output from 1963 occurred in the Prairie Provinces where the total crop was about 5 million pounds smaller this year. Nevertheless the proportion of the 1964 total honey production produced in the four western provinces is about 61 per cent compared with 63 per cent in 1963.

* 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.

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Preliminary Estimates of the Number of Beekeepers and Colonies of Bees and
Production of Honey in Canada(1), by Province, 1962, 1963 and 1964(2)
with 10-year Averages, 1952-61

			H O N E Y		
Province and Year		Beekeepers	Colonies	Average Yield Per Colony	Total Production
		no.	no.	lb.	'000 lb.
P.E.I.	1952-61	110	890	79	70
	1962	80	540	54	29
	1963	60	600	107	64
	1964	70	650	80	52
N.S.	1952-61	400	2,410	66	159
	1962	340	2,800	53	148
	1963	300	2,700	79	213
	1964	280	3,400	70	238
N.B.	1952-61	260	1,630	60	98
	1962	170	1,100	56	62
	1963	210	1,410	89	125
	1964	270	1,540	65	100
Que.	1952-61	2,880	55,050	60	3,324
	1962	1,990	48,300	65	3,140
	1963	2,010	49,700	83	4,125
	1964	1,880	48,900	52	2,543
Ont.	1952-61	3,220	148,200	61	9,091
	1962	2,500	126,000	93	11,718
	1963	2,630	130,300	84	11,000
	1964	2,560	130,000	83	10,810
Man.	1952-61	1,090	39,780	130	5,187
	1962	730	38,560	120	4,630
	1963	700	42,750	170	7,285
	1964	810	46,000	128	5,880
Sask.	1952-61	2,460	28,760	120	3,438
	1962	1,800	37,200	77	2,864
	1963	1,650	36,700	166	6,100
	1964	1,550	39,000	135	5,265
Alta.	1952-61	1,580	44,610	128	5,703
	1962	1,260	65,400	105	6,867
	1963	1,100	71,600	162	11,600
	1964	1,450	83,850	102	8,590
B.C.	1952-61	1,980	16,000	90	1,443
	1962	1,500	20,570	61	1,255
	1963	2,000	24,300	67	1,630
	1964	1,890	28,900	58	1,670
CANADA	1952-61	13,980	337,330	85	28,513
	1962	10,370	340,470	90	30,713
	1963	10,660	360,060	117	42,142
	1964	10,760	382,240	92	35,148

(1) Does not include Newfoundland.

(2) Subject to revision.