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## LATEST ESTIMATES OF PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF HONEY 1957 \*

The revised estimate of the 1957 honey crop is 32.0 million pounds. This is 32 per cent above the 1956 crop of 24.3 million pounds and 4 per cent above the 1946-1955 average. The increase in production in 1957 from that of 1956 was brought about by a 32 per cent increase in the average yield per colony which, in 1957, stood at 98 pounds. This is the highest yield since 1951 when beekeepers obtained 101 pounds per colony. In only four seasons since the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' statistical series on honey was started in 1924 has the yield per colony exceeded that of 1957. Yields in 1957 were substantially higher than in 1956 in Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The Prairie Provinces produced 48.3 per cent of the honey crop in 1957 and 53.9 per cent in 1956.

The number of beekeepers was slightly higher in 1957 than in 1956 but the number of colonies was down somewhat. Reduction in colony numbers occurred in Quebec, Ontario and Prince Edward Island with increases in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan while in Alberta and British Columbia estimates indicated the same number of colonies operated in 1957 as in 1956. The total value of the 1957 honey crop is estimated at 5.8 million dollars, 31 per cent above the 1956 figure of 4.4 million dollars and 7 per cent greater than the average for the years 1946-1955. The average price to beekeepers for the 1957 honey crop was 18 cents per pound, the same as in 1956 and the same as the average for the years 1946-1955.

Table 1.- Production and Value of Honey in Canada, 1956 and 1957, with 10-year Averages, 1946-55

| Year    | Bee-keepers | Colonies | Average Yield per Colony | Total Production | Average Price per Pound | Total Value |
|---------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
|         | no.         | no.      | lb.                      | '000 lb.         | \$                      | \$'000      |
| 1946-55 | 24,040      | 440,000  | 70                       | 30,864           | .18                     | 5,417       |
| 1956    | 14,410      | 330,000  | 74                       | 24,272           | .18                     | 4,419       |
| 1957    | 15,040      | 325,700  | 98                       | 32,051           | .18                     | 5,795       |

\* 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. A final yield and price survey is conducted in November. Provincial officials provide the mailing lists of beekeepers and aid in the interpretation of survey results.



Table 2.- Latest Estimates of the Numbers of Beekeepers and Colonies of Bees, Production and Value of Honey and Value of Honey and Wax in Canada, by Province, 1956 and 1957, with 10-year Averages, 1946-1955.

| Province and Year | Bee-keepers | Colonies | HONEY                    |                  |                         |             | Value of Honey & Wax |
|-------------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
|                   |             |          | Average Yield per Colony | Total Production | Average Price per Pound | Total Value |                      |
|                   | no.         | no.      | lb.                      | '000 lb.         | \$                      | \$'000      | \$'000               |
| P.E.I. 1946-55    | 130         | 800      | 76                       | 61               | .20                     | 12          | 12                   |
| 1956              | 110         | 1,000    | 92                       | 92               | .20                     | 18          | 19                   |
| 1957              | 100         | 800      | 69                       | 55               | .20                     | 11          | 12                   |
| N.S. 1946-55      | 400         | 2,000    | 58                       | 115              | .23                     | 27          | 28                   |
| 1956              | 410         | 2,200    | 73                       | 161              | .22                     | 35          | 36                   |
| 1957              | 400         | 2,500    | 68                       | 170              | .22                     | 37          | 39                   |
| N.B. 1946-55      | 420         | 2,400    | 53                       | 127              | .28                     | 36          | 37                   |
| 1956              | 220         | 1,400    | 72                       | 101              | .31                     | 31          | 32                   |
| 1957              | 260         | 1,500    | 60                       | 90               | .31                     | 28          | 29                   |
| Que. 1946-55      | 4,280       | 73,100   | 53                       | 3,888            | .22                     | 839         | 865                  |
| 1956              | 2,890       | 51,600   | 57                       | 2,941            | .23                     | 676         | 695                  |
| 1957              | 2,720       | 49,700   | 75                       | 3,728            | .25                     | 932         | 958                  |
| Ont. 1946-55      | 4,520       | 203,600  | 54                       | 10,968           | .18                     | 1,936       | 2,014                |
| 1956              | 3,300       | 141,600  | 45                       | 6,372            | .18                     | 1,147       | 1,201                |
| 1957              | 3,140       | 135,500  | 82                       | 11,111           | .18                     | 2,000       | 2,094                |
| Man. 1946-55      | 2,340       | 50,000   | 102                      | 5,080            | .16                     | 819         | 852                  |
| 1956              | 1,200       | 40,000   | 125                      | 5,000            | .17                     | 850         | 884                  |
| 1957              | 1,200       | 42,000   | 124                      | 5,208            | .16                     | 833         | 873                  |
| Sask. 1946-55     | 5,490       | 42,600   | 99                       | 4,200            | .16                     | 688         | 712                  |
| 1956              | 2,650       | 27,000   | 124                      | 3,348            | .17                     | 569         | 591                  |
| 1957              | 2,650       | 28,500   | 134                      | 3,819            | .16                     | 611         | 641                  |
| Alta. 1946-55     | 4,440       | 50,900   | 106                      | 5,414            | .16                     | 842         | 873                  |
| 1956              | 1,800       | 48,200   | 98                       | 4,724            | .16                     | 756         | 792                  |
| 1957              | 1,800       | 48,200   | 134                      | 6,459            | .16                     | 1,033       | 1,081                |
| B.C. 1946-55      | 2,020       | 14,600   | 69                       | 1,011            | .21                     | 217         | 224                  |
| 1956              | 1,830       | 17,000   | 90                       | 1,533            | .22                     | 337         | 349                  |
| 1957              | 2,770       | 17,000   | 83                       | 1,411            | .22                     | 310         | 321                  |
| CANADA 1946-55    | 24,040      | 440,000  | 70                       | 30,864           | .18                     | 5,417       | 5,616                |
| 1956              | 14,410      | 330,000  | 74                       | 24,272           | .18                     | 4,419       | 4,599                |
| 1957              | 15,040      | 325,700  | 98                       | 32,051           | .18                     | 5,795       | 6,048                |

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