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THE PEAT INDUSTRY

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Establishment

The reporting unit in the Census of Mines, Quarries and Oil Wells is the **establishment**. Beginning with the 1961 Census, the establishment is defined as follows:

The smallest unit which is a separate operating entity capable of reporting all the following:

- Materials and supplies used,
- Goods purchased for resale as such,
- Fuel and power consumed,
- Number of employees and their pay,
- Inventories,
- Shipments or sales.

The establishment is to be distinguished from smaller subdivisions or departments which do not have records which permit them to report all items required of an establishment. Prior to 1961, some establishments were required to submit two or more separate reports when they were engaged in operations which were classifiable to different industries. Beginning with 1961, separate reports for such operations will be required only in cases where accounting records can provide all the elements of principal statistics enumerated above. Special reporting arrangements were made with respondents when the acceptance of combined reports would

have seriously affected the statistics for particular industries or areas. Where continuity of industry statistics was affected by this change in reporting procedures, adjustments to the data were made back to 1957 in order to maintain comparability of the series for recent years.

A **mining establishment** is typically a mine, mine/mill, quarry, pit or bog principally engaged in mining operations. Prior to 1961, the Census of Mines, Quarries and Oil Wells attempted to cover the mining activities of all establishments, whether or not they were principally engaged in mining operations. Beginning with the 1961 Census, establishments (accounting entities) which are not primarily engaged in mining are no longer included as mining establishments in the basic industry statistics. Again adjustments to the industry statistics were made to reflect the removal of such reporting units for the period 1957-1960. These reporting units are now listed as establishments in other Bureau industry surveys, such as Wholesale Trade, Construction, etc. In order, however, to maintain complete coverage of certain commodity items produced mainly in mining establishments, many non-mining establishments are now surveyed for commodity information only and the latter are included in the appropriate tables of industry reports.

SYMBOLS

The following standard symbols are used in Dominion Bureau of Statistics publications:

- .. figures not available.
- ... figures not appropriate or not applicable.
- nil or zero.
- amount too small to be expressed.
- preliminary figures.
- ⋆ revised figures.

THE PEAT INDUSTRY

1963

The Peat Industry is classified to industry 079—of the Standard Industrial Classification.

During 1963 the Canadian producers of peat moss shipped 248,311 short tons valued at \$8,715,228. Comparable data for the preceding year was 238,035 tons valued at \$7,480,396. These valuations do not include the cost of containers. There were no shipments of peat fuel during recent years. Exports of peat moss, etc. during 1963 amounted to 206,911 tons valued at \$9,901,186. The bogs in British Columbia shipped 70,397 tons of peat moss and those in Quebec shipped 86,162. Peat moss was also harvested in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

The harvesting of peat moss is a seasonal occupation, thus, the number of persons employed varies widely from month to month. The average number of employees during 1963 was 1,482 to whom \$3,952,334 were distributed as salaries and wages. Fuel cost \$290,496 and 7,164,201 kwh. of purchased electricity cost \$111,194. Process supplies and containers cost \$2,301,369.

Peat moss, the dead fibrous moss produced from peat bogs, is valuable because of its high absorbent capacity for liquids and gases, high resistance to decomposition, and low heat conductivity. Because of these properties it makes an excellent stable litter for horses and cattle, and it is especially valuable for poultry litter. Although not a fertilizer in itself, it is a good soil conditioner as it loosens up a clay soil, helps to maintain the moisture in a light sandy soil, and adds valuable organic matter to depleted soils. The main use of peat moss is horticultural, for better lawns, more luxuriant flowers, and stronger plants and shrubs are obtainable through its addition to the soil. It makes excellent packing material for the shipment of perishable fruits, vegetables and cut flowers. It is useful for making compost and as a diluent and carrier in the application of artificial fertilizers.

Technical information on peat moss appears in the Mines Branch Information Circular 1C 104 and Technical Bulletin TB 22 published by the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa.

TABLE 1. Principal Statistics of the Peat Industry, Significant Years, 1921 - 59

Basis: Standard Industrial Classification in use prior to 1960

Year	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of process supplies and containers	Gross value of products shipped during year, including containers (f.o.b. works) ¹	Net value of production ²
	number		dollars				
1921.....			Previous to 1941, the peat industry was included in the Miscellaneous Non-metallic Mineral Products statistics. Pertinent data for these years are not available.				
1929.....							
1931.....							
1933.....							
1937.....							
1939.....							
1941.....	22	667	486, 116	17, 327	145	646, 408	628, 936
1944.....	39	1, 183	1, 154, 009	48, 423	334, 953	2, 163, 376	1, 780, 000
1946.....	41	1, 391	1, 562, 689	102, 004	569, 157	2, 920, 812	2, 249, 651
1949.....	43	1, 129	1, 510, 105	51, 804	648, 456	2, 987, 332	2, 287, 072
1951.....	37	859	1, 247, 619	111, 047	765, 387	3, 149, 444	2, 273, 010
1953.....	36	955	1, 579, 715	118, 127	866, 870	3, 432, 093	2, 447, 096
1954.....	40	880	1, 736, 002	141, 004	999, 791	3, 965, 572	2, 824, 777
1956.....	38	1, 274	2, 538, 885	175, 351	1, 251, 702	5, 451, 305	4, 024, 252
1957.....	35	1, 168	2, 542, 210	182, 987	1, 283, 093	5, 898, 696	4, 432, 616
1958.....	38	1, 447	2, 484, 732	180, 976	1, 406, 515	6, 185, 375	4, 559, 203
1959.....	38	1, 333	2, 659, 836	238, 878	1, 732, 682	7, 908, 662	5, 937, 102

¹ Includes packing materials and containers.

² Gross selling value less cost of process supplies, containers, fuel and electricity.

TABLE 1 A. Principal Statistics of the Peat Industry, 1958 - 63
Basis: Revised Standard Industrial Classification and New Establishment Concept

Year	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of process supplies and containers	Gross value of products shipped during year, including containers (f.o.b. works) ¹	Net value of production ²
	number		dollars				
1958	37	1,447	2,484,732	180,976	1,406,515	6,185,375	4,559,203
1959	37	1,333	2,659,836	238,878	1,732,682	7,908,662	5,937,102
1960	40	1,172	3,060,511	279,827	1,863,202	7,937,055	5,794,026
1961	42	1,332	3,528,474	303,976	2,246,064	9,551,831	7,001,791
1962	49	1,370	3,397,964	363,159	2,357,063	9,817,904	7,097,682
1963	56	1,482	3,952,334	401,690	2,301,369	11,040,347	8,337,288

¹ Includes packing materials and containers.

² Gross selling value less cost of process supplies, containers, fuel and electricity.

TABLE 2. Principal Statistics, by Provinces, 1962 and 1963

Province	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Earnings	Cost of fuel, electricity, process supplies and containers	Shipments		
					Peat sold or used by producers		Gross value of products shipped during year (f.o.b. works) ¹
					As fuel	Moss	
	number		dollars		tons	\$	
1962							
Nova Scotia	7	318	661,606	473,724	—	39,744	1,978,068
New Brunswick							
Quebec	26	544	1,123,574	802,421	—	77,889	2,711,817
Ontario	3	142	396,300	542,243	—	44,521	1,774,441
Manitoba							
British Columbia	13	366	1,216,484	901,834	—	75,881	3,353,578
Canada	49	1,370	3,397,964	2,720,222	—	238,035	9,817,904
1963							
Nova Scotia	6	333	820,753	364,411	—	33,118	1,469,599
New Brunswick							
Quebec	31	648	1,382,857	879,360	—	86,162	3,035,008
Ontario	4	158	491,227	590,703	—	57,854	2,229,275
Manitoba							
Alberta	3	7	27,924	7,721	—	780	30,310
British Columbia	12	336	1,629,573	860,864	—	70,397	4,276,155
Canada	56	1,482	4,352,334	2,703,059	—	248,311	11,040,347

¹ Includes value of containers.

TABLE 3. Production of Peat Fuel and Peat Moss, by Uses and by Provinces, 1962 and 1963

Province	Peat fuel		Peat moss							
			For horticulture		For poultry and stable litter		For other uses		Total moss shipments	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value ¹
		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$
1962										
Nova Scotia	}	—	39,443	1,522,522	301	17,777	—	—	39,744	1,540,299
New Brunswick										
Quebec	}	—	76,822	1,936,741	1,004	25,808	63	5,934	77,889	1,968,483
Ontario										
Manitoba	}	—	41,258	1,105,395	3,263	163,155	—	—	44,521	1,268,550
British Columbia										
Totals	—	—	233,016	7,249,622	4,956	224,840	63	5,934	238,035	7,480,396
1963										
Nova Scotia	}	—	32,896	1,126,282	222	10,132	—	—	33,118	1,136,414
New Brunswick										
Quebec	}	—	84,914	2,207,278	1,196	32,251	52	6,084	86,162	2,245,613
Ontario										
Manitoba	}	—	57,854	1,681,634	—	—	—	—	57,854	1,681,634
Alberta										
British Columbia	—	—	780	27,906	—	—	—	—	780	27,906
Totals	—	—	246,709	8,659,389	1,550	49,755	52	6,084	248,311	8,715,228

¹ Does not include cost of containers which were valued at \$2,337,508 in 1962 and \$2,271,747 in 1963.

TABLE 4. Production of Peat Fuel, 1946 - 63

Year	Short tons	Value	Year	Short tons	Value
		\$			\$
1946	145	1,305	1951	50	1,100
1947	95	950	1952	32	320
1948	85	850	1953	—	—
1949	56	560	1954	6	60
1950	58	580	1955-63	—	—

TABLE 5. Production of Peat Moss, 1954 - 63

Year	Short tons	Value	Year	Short tons	Value
		\$			\$
1954	99,272	3,018,622	1959	184,049	6,226,688
1955	117,579	3,485,287	1960	184,784	6,088,138
1956	128,054	4,240,714	1961	224,031	7,295,087
1957	137,747	4,734,504	1962	238,035	7,480,396
1958	149,401	4,778,860	1963	248,311	8,715,228

TABLE 6. Exports of Peat Moss and Other Mosses, 1954-63

Year	Quantity	Value	Year	Quantity	Value
		\$			\$
1954	87,333	4,499,952	1959	161,236	8,976,389
1955	102,997	5,388,362	1960	157,490	8,825,540
1956	113,346	6,068,845	1961	187,621	10,414,574
1957	117,877	6,668,723	1962	205,222	10,999,085
1958	129,138	7,507,463	1963	206,911	9,901,186

Note: The weight of peat moss shipped varies greatly depending on the moisture content. Weight is used as a unit of measure of production (shipments) owing to the fact that Canadian moss is shipped in various forms, including bales, bags, pads, etc., and at present there is no general standardization in Canada as to the size of these units.

TABLE 7. World Production of Peat, by Countries¹

Source: *Minerals Year Book* published by the United States Bureau of Mines

Country	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
thousand short tons					
Argentina, fuel	3	3 ²	3 ²	3 ²	3 ²
Austria, fuel	39	40 ²	40 ²	40 ²	11
Canada, Agricultural use ³	184	185	224	238	259
Denmark, fuel	463	187	125	67	55
Finland:					
Agricultural use	1	6	4	4	7 ²
Fuel	151	159	128	99	123
France:					
Agricultural use ²	31	19	33	31	33
Fuel	3	2	4	3 ²	3 ²
Germany:					
East ²	550	550	550	550	550
West:					
Agricultural use	931	895	577	675	850 ²
Fuel	972	871	830	911	915 ²
Hungary, agricultural use ²	65	65	65	65	65
Ireland:					
Agricultural use	13	14	21	24	22 ²
Fuel	4,805	4,514	3,912	4,198	4,100 ²
Israel, agricultural use ²	44	50	55	55	55
Japan ²	80	80	80	80	80
Korea, Republic of, agricultural use	99	107	45	137	140 ²
Netherlands ²	500	500	500	500	440
Norway:					
Agricultural use	55	42	50	40	45 ²
Fuel	235	198	180	161	115
Poland	123	125	83	73	75 ²
Sweden:					
Agricultural use	69	77	70 ²	70 ²	75
Fuel	267	231	275 ²	275 ²	275 ²
U.S.S.R.					
Agricultural use ²	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Fuel	66,700	59,100	57,300	60,600 ²	60,600 ²
United States, agricultural use	419	471	531	572	579
World total (estimate) ^{2,5}	176,800	168,500	165,700	169,500	169,500
Fuel peat (included in world total) ^{2,3,5}	74,040	65,710	63,150	66,710	66,550

¹ This table incorporates a number of revisions of data published previously.

² Estimate.

³ In addition, Canada produces a negligible amount of peat fuel.

⁴ Less than 500 tons.

⁵ In addition Iceland, Italy and Spain produced a negligible amount of peat fuel.

TABLE 8. Employees and their Earnings in the Peat Industry, 1958 - 63

Year	Employees					Man-hours worked	Earnings		
	Administration		Workmen		Total employees		Adminis- tration	Workmen	Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female					
	number					dollars			
1958	47	22	1,301	77	1,447	2,298,171	214,159	2,270,573	2,484,732
1959	54	25	1,207	47	1,333	2,221,117	269,908	2,389,928	2,659,836
1960	47	23	1,073	29	1,172	2,417,903	300,699	2,759,812	3,060,511
1961	48	22	1,222	40	1,332	2,571,403	334,310	3,194,164	3,528,474
1962	53	22	1,267	28	1,370	2,570,828	329,792	3,068,172	3,397,964
1963	56	23	1,387	16	1,482	2,841,966	372,825	3,579,509	3,952,334

TABLE 9. Workmen in the Peat Industry, by Months, 1962 and 1963

Month	1962					1963				
	At bogs		At dressing plants		Total	At bogs		At dressing plants		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female	
	number									
January	276	2	175	12	465	229	—	222	9	460
February	368	2	301	11	682	314	—	321	9	644
March	452	2	370	13	837	386	—	410	11	807
April	471	2	371	15	859	462	—	417	10	889
May	744	2	402	10	1,158	1,198	17	431	11	1,657
June	2,014	28	375	12	2,429	2,355	21	455	12	2,843
July	1,861	32	354	7	2,254	2,022	10	408	12	2,452
August	1,919	91	316	8	2,334	1,909	14	376	12	2,311
September	1,385	31	350	8	1,774	1,622	6	359	14	2,001
October	1,328	7	289	8	1,632	1,258	3	284	12	1,557
November	472	3	256	9	740	573	2	244	10	829
December	139	1	168	3	311	191	—	167	5	363
Averages	955	18	312	10	1,295	1,043	6	343	11	1,403
Man-hours worked	2,424,946					2,692,275				

TABLE 10. Fuel and Electricity Used in the Peat Industry, 1963

Kind	Quantity	Cost at plant
Bituminous coal (a) From Canadian mines	21 short ton	525
(b) Imported	—	—
Sub-bituminous coal (from Alberta mines only)	450 short ton	1,800
Anthracite coal	—	—
Lignite coal	—	—
Coke (for fuel only)	—	—
Gasoline, (includes gasoline used in cars and trucks)	344,032 Imp. gal.	115,943
Kerosene or coal oil	3,863 "	708
Fuel oil	348,683 "	43,277
Wood (cords of 128 cubic feet of piled wood)	448 cord	5,270
Gas (a) Liquefied petroleum gases (propane, etc.)	69,841 Imp. gal.	12,421
(b) Other manufactured gas	—	—
(c) Natural gas	259,486 M cu. ft.	110,552
Other fuel	—	—
Electricity purchased for power and lighting	7,164,201 kwh.	111,194
Electricity purchased for other purposes	—	—
Totals (cost only)	401,690
Electricity generated (a) For own use	67,200 kwh.	...
(b) For sale	—	—

Operators of Peat Bogs or Plants, 1963

Name	Head office address	Location
Nova Scotia:		
Annapolis Valley Peat Moss Co. Ltd. ¹	Berwick	Berwick
Island Peat Moss ¹	246 Main St., Glace Bay	Glace Bay
New Brunswick:		
Atlantic Peat Moss Co. Ltd. ¹	4460, boul. Pie IX, Montréal, Québec	Shippegan, Lameque
Bushland Products Ltd. ³	Lower Caraquet	Pokesudie
Fafard Peat Moss Co. Ltd. ¹	Shippegan	Shippegan
Grand Anse Peat Moss Co. Ltd. ¹	Grand Anse	Grand Anse
Grand Falls Peat Co. Ltd. ¹	Grand Falls	Grand Falls
Heveco, Ltd. ³	Tabusintac	Covedell
Québec:		
Bélanger, G. ¹	Rimouski	Rimouski
Boulanger, Andie-Albert ¹	St-Fabien	Rimouski
Bourque & Fils Enr'g. ¹	St-Marc-des-Carières	St-Alban
Cornier, Eloi ³	Bécancourt	Nicolet
Fortin, Jean J. Mme ¹	582, boul. Lamarche, Chicoutimi	La Baleine
Gagnon & Thérberge ¹	St-Fabien	St. Simon
Huot, Omer ¹	St-Étienne	Lévis
Leclerc Peat Moss ¹	La Baleine	Charlevoix
Michaud, J.F.A. ¹	Isle, Verte	Isle Verte
Ouellet, E. & F. ¹	Isle Verte	Isle Verte
Ouellet & Bélanger ¹	St. Eugène	Rimouski
Premier Peat Moss Producers Ltd. ¹	Rivière-du-Loup	Cacouan, Isle Verte, Rivière-du-Loup
Produits de Tourbe Beausejour, Les ¹	St. Romuald	Lévis
Québec Peat Moss Co. ^{1,2}	St. Guillaume D'Upton	St. Bonaventure
R. & B. Moss & Peat Products ¹	Box 243, Waterville	Waterville
Roy, Benoit ¹	Rivière Blanche	Matane Co.
Roy, Ernest ¹	St-Fabien	St-Fabien
Roy, Roméo ¹	St-Ulric	St-Ulric
Saguenay Peat Moss Co. Ltd. ¹	582, boul. Lamarche, Chicoutimi	Bagot Twp.
Smith Canadian Peat Inc. ³	Box 215, Magnolia, Ohio, U.S.A.	St. Charles de Bellechasse
Thérberge, Henri ¹	St-Fabien	St-Fabien
Tourbe du St. Laurent Ltée ³	C.P. 175, Rivière-du-Loup	Rivière-du-Loup
Tourbière Berger Inc. (Les) ³	St-Fabien	St-Fabien
Tourbière Clair Inc. ¹	C.P. 667, Baie Comeau	St. Charles de Bellechasse
Tourbières Lambert Inc. ¹	Rivière-Ouelle	Rivière-Ouelle
Tourbières Noel Inc. ¹	St-Fabien	Rimouski
Tourbière, Ouellet ¹	Isle Verte	Rivière-du-Loup
Tourbière de Pointe-au-Père ¹	Mont-Joli	Pointe-au-Père
Tourbière Rivière-Ouelle, Les ¹	Rivière-Ouelle	Rivière-Ouelle
Tourbière St. Alexandre ¹	St. Alexandre	St. Alexandre
Tourbière de St-Fabien ¹	St-Fabien	St-Fabien
Tourbières du Saguenay Ltée, Les ¹	C.P. 11 St-Fabien	Les Escoumins
Tourbière Thérberge Inc. ¹	St. Fabien	St. Fabien
Tourbière-Thibault ¹	St. Fabien	St. Eugène

Operators of Peat Bogs or Plants, 1963 — Concluded

Name	Head office address	Location
Ontario:		
Atkins & Durbrow (Erie) Ltd. ¹	Wainfleet Twp.
Amaranth Peat Products ¹	Shelburne	Amaranth Twp.
Stratford Peat Moss Products ¹	371 Taylor St., Stratford	Ellice Twp.
Manitoba:		
Western Peat Co. Ltd. ¹	New Westminster, British Columbia	Moss Spur
Alberta:		
L. M. Consumers Supply Ltd. ¹	10631-92nd St., Edmonton	Edmonton
Noralta Peat Moss Products Ltd. ¹	Alpen	Alpen
Sturgeon Peat Moss Products Ltd. ¹	11231-B Jasper Ave., Edmonton	Bruderhiem
British Columbia:		
Acme Peat Products Ltd. ¹	687 No. 7 Road R.R. 2, Richmond	Lulu Island
Atkins & Durbrow Ltd. ¹	401-1033 Davie St., Vancouver	Ladner
Blundell Peat Co. Ltd.	820 No. 6 Road, Vancouver	No. 6 Road
Bymeroad Peat Farm ¹	6350 McKay Ave., South Burnaby	Burnaby South
Coast Peat Co. Ltd. ¹	736 Granville St., Vancouver	Pitt Meadows
Lulu Island Peat Co. Ltd. ¹	261 No. 7 Road, R.R. 2, Richmond	Lulu Island
Meadowland Farms Ltd. ¹	5070 Keith St., Burnaby	South Burnaby
North American Peat Ltd. ¹	5280 Byrne Road, Burnaby	Burnaby
Northern Industries Ltd. ¹	245 No. 8 Road, Richmond	Richmond
Northern Plastics Ltd. ¹	245 No. 8 Road, Richmond	Langley
Richmond Peat Products Ltd. ¹	245 No. 8 Road, Richmond	Lulu Island
Western Peat Moss Ltd. ¹	Box 399, New Westminster	Delta Municipality

¹ Produces moss.² Produces humus.³ Active but no shipments made. These companies are not included for statistical purposes in the Peat Industry.

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