

ONTARIO'S FRUIT CROP BELOW THE AVERAGE

Reports received by The Horticulturist as late as the 25th of July from correspondents in all parts of the province indicate that fruit crops generally this year in most sections will be considerably below last year's yield, and that the total production of fruit will be on the light side.

Apples do not promise as well as earlier in the season. This crop, including early and late varieties, will not be more than a moderate one. Pears and plums will yield very lightly, as the crop is reported to be a complete failure in many sections, plum orchards particularly having suffered great damage from the severe weather last winter.

As predicted earlier in the season, the peach crop will also be light. As far as Ontario fruit is concerned prices this fall should range high. Reports received by The Horticulturist from outside places indicate that the apple crop in the United States, west of the Alleghany, is not as promising as earlier in the season. The British apple crop will probably be a good one as regards quantity but deficient in quality. Next month The Horticulturist will give an exhaustive report of fruit conditions all over the continent.

A Limited Peach Crop Anticipated.

Prospects for the peach crop are much the same as predicted in the July Horticulturist, when it was announced that the peach crop would probably be a light one. As was the case early in the season, growers continue to vary in their predictions, some placing the crop as a total failure in their sections, while others, in a few cases, expect a full crop. On the whole a light to in some cases a medium yield is anticipated in the principal producing sections, including the Niagara district and along Lake Erie to Essex and Kent counties.

In Wentworth county light to medium returns are looked for, while in Lincoln a medium crop seems to be generally anticipated. One grower reporting from the St. Catharines district states that growers who have peaches should be able to market them all, as the quality and size promise well. Reporting from Welland county, a grower states that his trees are commencing to die owing to the severity of the winter.

In Norfolk the yield is expected to be light, while in Brant correspondents estimate the crop will either be a failure or a very light one. Further west, in Kent, a light to medium return is looked for, as is also the case in Essex. On the whole the crop is going to be a light one.

Early Apples Will Be Light Crop

It becomes evident as the season advances that the crop of early apples will be rather light, taking the province as a whole. As announced in the July issue of The Horticulturist, the early varieties do not appear to be doing as well as the winter apples. In some sections of the province very favorable reports are received, while in others replies indicate that the crop will be rather a light one. Reports received

by The Horticulturist in regard to this crop have been very conflicting, making it difficult to give anything like exact estimates, but it seems safe to say that the crop will not be more than a moderate one at the outside.

In the southern section of the province, including the Niagara district and counties bordering on Lake Erie, the crop on the whole will be a medium one. In Lincoln and Welland counties orchards appear to be in fair condition, and growers expect a medium to full crop. Conditions in Brant county do not appear quite as favorable. One grower states that Astracans are a failure, while others believe the yield of early Astracans and Transparents will be light. According to one statement received, the apple crop is just medium, but what there is of good quality. Essex orchards promise light returns, while in Kent the production will range from a light to a full crop. In Raleigh township one grower writes apples are not more than two-thirds as good as last year, but are free from fungous diseases of any kind. In Harwich township early apples are reported a full crop.

Bordering Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, conditions generally are possibly a little more favorable. In Lambton a medium yield is generally anticipated, while in Huron conditions point to light to moderate returns. Growers in Bruce county vary in their estimates of crop prospects, one placing the Astracans as a very light yield, while others claim there will be a medium to full crop this year of this variety. On the whole, a medium crop seems probable. Conditions in Grey and Simcoe counties are the brightest of any reported, as a full crop is generally looked for.

Along the northern shore of Lake Ontario a moderate crop is promised. In Wentworth, York, Ontario, Durham and Hastings counties prospects are favorable for a satisfactory yield. In other counties trees promise a light to full crop. As stated at the outset, the prospects in the province as a whole do not indicate more than a moderate yield of early apples.

The Fall and Winter Apple Crop.

The reports received during the latter part of July by The Horticulturist indicate that fall and winter apples will not be as heavy a crop this year as last. In the principal producing sections of Ontario the crop, while heavy in some sections, is not likely to be more than a medium one on the whole. There are a number of sections where orchards will yield very lightly, which will tend to reduce the total production.

Growers reporting from the counties bordering on the northern shore of Lake Ontario indicate there will not be more than a medium yield of the winter or early fall varieties. A large number of reports from Wentworth and York counties show that this condition prevails in these two counties, as only a light to medium crop is looked for. In a number of counties the Spy and Ben Davis varieties are said to promise