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Fruit Crop Prospects

The fruit crop report, issued during the latter part of June by the Dominion Fruit Division, is in part as follows:

The prospects for an excellent apple crop are maintained. In eastern Ontario and in parts of Quebec the Tent Caterpillar is doing serious damage. With this exception insect and fungous diseases are perhaps only normal. The number of well cared-for orchards is on the increase and the result shows in the reports of better crops. British Columbia had a very light crop last year and is looking with confidence to a heavy crop this year. Nova Scotia, though it had an exceptionally heavy crop last year, has prospects of almost as good a crop for the present season, though there are many contingencies that make the crop still uncertain.

PEARS

The pear crop per tree is in good condition. In Eastern Canada many correspondents speak of the pear industry as practically a thing of the past on account of Blight. Even such resistent varieties as the Kieffer, in some cases, show serious losses from this disease. It is rather difficult to make an estimate of the aggregate of the crop. While the condition of the fruit is good, the acreage has undergone such a change that the effect upon the market can hardly be fairly estimated. The conditions in British Columbia are favorable for a large crop.

PLUMS

The plum crop is slightly above the average. The Japanese varieties are very irregular, due, in all probability, to the effects of the weather. The bloom everywhere was good, but pollinaton in some orchards was defective, and almost a total failure is the result. On the other hand, many correspondents have full crops. European and American varieties are not so irregular and promise well.

PEACHES

No great change has taken place in the condition with reference to peaches. The Niagara district has a good setting of most varieties. South-western Ontario will have a very short crop, probably not enough to supply the home market. Many cases of winter killing, not apparent in the early part of the season, are now showing in both the Niagara district and Western Ontario. The loss of peach trees in Western Ontario will be serious and will probably discourage large plantations for many years, except in limited areas. The British Columbia crop per tree is good, but the aggregate quantity is small.

CHERRIES

Sweet cherries are showing some signs of winter killing, and even where the trees are vigorous, the set of fruit is short. Sour cherries are an excellent crop everywhere.

GRAPES

The winter killing of grapes is somewhat larger than was expected but not sufficiently serious to make a marked difference in the crop. In sound vines the growth is healthy, but late. A medium crop, however, is expected.

SMALL FRUITS

Weather conditions have been favorable for strawberries; but even good weather conditions cannot make up for the poor stand of last year's plantings. Hence, in Eastern Canada there will be an excellent crop per vine but a very much reduced acreage; or if the actual acreage is not reduced the number of plants per acre will be reduced. As our percentage reports take no account of acreage there will ap-

GINSENG

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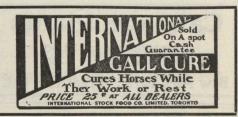
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