

FAIR APPLE CROP IS PROMISED BY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

June Returns from Various Districts to Fruit Branch of Department of Agriculture Show Prospects.

BIG CROP IN B.C.

The Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report for July, issued by the Fruit Commissioner's Branch of the Department of Agriculture, contains the following reports of apple crop prospects in Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia:—

ONTARIO.

The weather during the month of June has been excessively hot and dry, but the situation was relieved by heavy rains about ten days ago. The following reports have been received from points in eastern Ontario:—

Brighton.—Early varieties a good crop. Snow, McIntosh, Wealthy, and Greening are about 75 per cent of an average crop; Winters 70 per cent, with Spies leading. Ben Davis vary from fair to very heavy. There is considerable apple scab evident on the leaves and fruit. There will probably be an increase of 25 per cent over the 1918 crop.

Trenton.—The set has been fair in spite of hot weather during bloom. Wealthy, Stark, Spy, and Ben Davis are best; Greening and Russet are light, due to heavy dropping; McIntosh and Snow are fair. The total crop will be 20 per cent more than 1918.

Oshawa.—The crop is about 10 per cent larger than last year, but there are very few clean orchards. Spies give the best promise. Apple scab is developing rapidly.

Newcastle.—Spy and Baldwin a fair crop; Russet, Stark, and Greening light. Total crop about 40 per cent of average.

Cobourg.—There are some good crops in well-cared-for orchards, but the crop is generally light to fair. Spies are a good crop; Russets light. Scab is developing.

Colborne.—About a medium crop. Spy and Ben Davis best; Russets light.

Bowmanville.—The crop is only fair. Very little spraying was done on account of excessive rains in the spring, so that the quality of fruit is poor. The effects of winter injury are also much in evidence throughout this district.

Prince Edward County.—The crop is disappointing except in a few districts. Even orchards in favoured localities and where spraying and pruning were thorough will have less than an average crop. Spys and Baldwins appear to be plentiful at Wellington and Waupoos. Present prospects for the county are about one-third of a normal crop. Many trees are still dying from the effects of winter injury. There are some good crops in well-cared-for orchards. At South Bay, Spy, Mann, Stark, and Ben Davis are best; Colvert, Russet, Pewaukee light. Bloomfield reports all varieties extremely light. Wellington gives very favourable reports of a good set of clean fruit. There have also been excellent reports from Milford.

St. Lawrence Valley.—Weather conditions have been ideal, and although the set has not been as heavy as was expected, there is promise of a fair crop. There is no serious development of scab, and the crop on the whole promises to be fairly clean. The effects of the severe winter of 1917-18 are most noticeable on Fameuse, whole orchards of this variety having been wiped out. McIntosh Red, Wealthy, and St. Lawrence have also suffered to some extent. McIntosh trees give promise of 75 to 85 per cent of an average crop.

Prospects in western Ontario have decreased about 10 per cent since our last report was published, due to excessively dry weather and extreme heat. In well-

CANADA'S POTATO CROP SMALLER THAN IN 1918.

The following is taken from the Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report for July, issued by the Department of Agriculture: The total acreage of potatoes planted in the various provinces of Canada is estimated at 692,900 acres, as compared with 735,192 acres in 1918, a decrease of 42,292 acres, or 6 per cent. By provinces the estimate is as follows:—

Province—	1918. (Acres).	Per cent of 1918.	1919. (Acres.)
Prince Edward Island	31,543	97	30,700
Nova Scotia	51,250	88	45,200
New Brunswick	57,272	94	54,000
Quebec	264,871	94	249,000
Ontario	166,203	92	153,000
Manitoba	45,000	97	44,000
Saskatchewan	59,793	99	59,000
Alberta	44,247	99	44,000
British Columbia	15,013	94	14,000
Total for Canada	735,192	94	692,900

sprayed orchards the fruit is apparently clean. Burford reports early and fall varieties the same as last year and winter varieties much better. Spy, Greening, Blenheim, Ribston, and Colvert are leading. Ingersoll: Fall varieties 50 per cent; winter varieties 75 per cent; Spy and Baldwin nearly a full crop; Greenings 30 per cent. Quality good. In the Burlington district all varieties are less than medium and the crop cannot exceed 40 per cent of normal.

In the Georgian Bay district there is promise of an increase of from 25 to 50 per cent over last year. Baldwins are 25 per cent less, but all other varieties show increases as follows: Gravenstein, Pewaukee, Cranberry, and fall varieties, 50 per cent; Russet, King, and Ben Davis, 25 per cent; early varieties, 60 per cent; Spys are equal to 1918. Fall and winter varieties will be from 60 to 75 per cent of an average crop.

British Columbia.—The output from the Okanagan Valley this year will probably exceed that of 1918 by 25 per cent. Wealthy, Jonathan, and McIntosh are best and Newtowns light. There is also a heavy crop on Vancouver Island. Duchess, Wealthy, King, Spy, Wagener, and Ontario give best promise; Gravenstein, Baldwin, and Cox's Orange are light to medium. The crop on the lower mainland is light. Reports received from the Kootenay Valley are extremely favourable. All varieties promise a good crop, the heaviest set being on King, Spy, Newton, Baldwin, Spitzenberg, Jonathan, Wagener, and Ontario.

QUEBEC.

Hemmingford.—Fameuse and McIntosh are about 75 per cent of a normal crop; Duchess, Alexander, Wealthy, St. Lawrence, and Russet, 25 per cent. The total crop for this district will be about 50 per cent of last year.

Chateauguay.—Alexander, Duchess, and Transparent good. McIntosh, Fameuse, and Wealthy have fallen very badly, and the crop of these varieties is scattered. The effects of winter-killing are very serious, especially on Fameuse and McIntosh.

St. Hilaire and Rougemont.—Orchards in this district are in a lamentable condition. It is estimated that over 200 acres of full-bearing Fameuse orchards have died since the winter of 1917-18. The total loss cannot be estimated. Even trees which gave fair promise at blossom time are now showing little or no fruit. The total crop will be very light.

Abbotsford.—Fair prospects. Early varieties are light. Best promise is on St. Lawrence, Alexander, McIntosh, and Russet. Spraying has been more general than usual and the drop has not been too heavy. Fameuse are a light crop and the trees are in a weakened condition; many will die during the summer. Crop will exceed last year by 50 per cent after making allowance for losses from winter-killing.

Vimy's Artillery.

At the battle of Vimy the Canadian Corps Artillery had in operation against the enemy 848 guns; at Hill 70, 466 guns; at Passchendaele, 587 guns; and in the action of March-April, 1918, 564 guns, according to the report of the Overseas Minister of Militia.

POTATO CROP OUTLOOK IS BELOW AVERAGE

Reports from Districts in Ontario Show how Weather Affected Prospects.

The following report of potato crop prospects from commercial potato districts of Ontario is issued by the Department of Agriculture:—

Whitby.—Twenty per cent decrease in acreage and 25 per cent decrease in yield. The crop was planted very late. Beetles are numerous.

St. Catharines.—Early potatoes only half a crop. There was considerable planting of late potatoes, following the heavy rain. These promise a good crop.

Bloomfield.—Small acreage on account of unfavourable weather.

Kingston (Cataract).—Early potatoes on light soil likely to yield 200 to 300 bushels per acre, which is an average crop. On heavy soil the crop is very light. Late potatoes are only now being planted on account of prolonged drought in June.

Sarnia.—Twenty-five per cent decrease in acreage. All crops are backward on account of drought, and potatoes will be a light crop unless weather conditions improve.

Ottawa.—Heavy rains prevented the crop being planted as early as usual, but the acreage is about average. Potato beetles have been unusually severe.

Canada's War Pigeons.

The Canadian Corps Pigeon Service during the war employed 1,000 pigeons. In normal trench warfare about 100 pigeons were sent forward daily to the trenches. The men trained for duty with the pigeons were called Pigeoneers. This service was maintained as a part of the signal service, in addition to wireless telegraphy, visual signalling, and other means of communication, as stated in the report of the Overseas Minister of Militia.

Salvage Corps Work.

The Canadian Salvage Corps, an organization existing for the collection, shipment, and reissue of stores, equipment, engineer material, wire, ammunition, brass cartridge cases, etc., which become scattered about the country during a campaign, effected salvage during the year 1918 of the approximate cash value of \$8,737,775, as stated in the report of the Overseas Minister of Militia for that year.

Wintering of Bees.

So much has been learned in recent years about wintering bees that it can now be stated definitely that the loss of colonies in winter is preventable. Information as to preparing bees for winter may be obtained free of cost in the publications of the Department of Agriculture which deal with the subject of bee-keeping.

CROP REPORT FOR MONTH OF JUNE IS FAVOURABLE

[Continued from page 1.]

to cut; well headed, straw long. Late-sown spring grains short straw, owing to June drought, but all crops helped by recent showers. Early potatoes promising; late poor; hot, dry season gave roots a poor start. Corn growing rapidly; clover and alfalfa cutting good yields.

MANITOBA.

From the Manitoba Department of Agriculture.—June weather warm and showery. Wheat 20 inches high; 60 per cent in head two weeks ahead of normal. Oats fair; barley promising; flax fair. Rye good; slight cutworm damage; grasshoppers ate some crops southwest corner of Manitoba; damage not general or serious. Hay promising; general outlook good.

Morden.—Crops well advanced for season; harvest promises to be very early; rainfall over 3 inches in two hours; no grasshoppers in Morden district, but wireworms and cutworms plentiful.

SASKATCHEWAN.

From the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture.—Heavy rains have fallen in many districts throughout Saskatchewan during the past three days, although too late to materially affect the wheat crop, especially the southwest, where it is feared it is beyond recovery. It will greatly improve later sown grains. Reports show wheat heading out in consequence of drought from 6 to 8 inches high.

Indian Head.—Crop conditions about average. Straw will be short; 50 per cent of wheat headed. Hay crop 75 per cent of average; slight damage from hail on the 29th.

Rosthern.—Nearly 1 inch of rain on the 10th stopped soil drifting for few days; wind and dust continued doing damage till 27th. An inch of rain 27th to 29th.

ALBERTA.

From the Alberta Department of Agriculture.—Peace River, excellent rains and warm. Central Alberta fair; scant moisture in June looked like 15 per cent reduction of normal; coming back now. Southern Alberta, Red Deer south to Carstairs, fair; Carstairs south to boundary most of crops partially burned; fair on main C.P.R. Some crops on Aldersby-Crowsnest country practically failure. Pincher to Medicine Hat very hot and windy; 19th to 28th no rain and no reserve of moisture. East side of province dry. Medicine Hat to Vermilion hay crop light. Stockmen anxious.

Lacombe.—First ten days June cool and showery. Total precipitation one-half inch less than year ago. Latter part of month hot and dry; local showers in this district responsible for crops looking good; early cereals heading out at this station; hay crop light; northern and eastern sections province need rain.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Invermere.—The forepart of the month was cool, frost being recorded three times and doing considerable damage to garden and field crops. Irrigation has been carried on to the limit. Only 0.5 inch of rain fell during the month. Haying has commenced, but is only a fair crop.

Summerland.—Weather turned warmer; very dry. Sweet cherry crop light; sour cherry crop good; apricots fair; peaches, apples, and pears good; a very heavy June drop cut apples heavily, but good crop remains.

Sidney.—Orchard and small fruit crops in excellent prospects and condition; forage crops and cereals in good condition. Haying is general; crop much above average. Pastures good; all live stock in good condition and in good demand.

Save by the W.S.S. method.