Bumper apple crop will boost exports

Autumn is apple harvesting season in Canada and this year Canadian apple producers are optimistic as the 1985 crop is expected to be larger and better than last year's.

After a record year in 1983 with 484 850 tonnes, total production in Canada's apple industry in 1984 amounted to 440 559 tonnes. Indications this year are that total production will rise significantly.

Exports and imports

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Increased production is expected to lead to increased exports. In 1984, exports accounted for 9 per cent of production and amounted to 49 775 tonnes. British Columbia, one of the country's main production areas, accounted for 70 per cent of total Canadian exports which were sent to more than 30 countries.

B.C. Tree Fruits of Kelowna, British Columbia, which ships more than one million boxes of fruit annually to export markets, is the largest North American supplier of apples.

Imports during 1984 amounted to 98 846 tonnes. The United States is Canada's main supplier, usually providing about 75 per cent of imports.

Areas of production

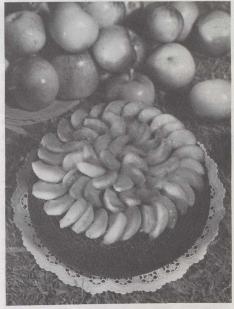
There are five main apple production areas in Canada. They include: the Okanagan and Kootenay Valleys in British Columbia; most of the counties in the St. Lawrence Valley around the lower Great Lakes in southern Ontario; southern Quebec; the St. John River Valley in New Brunswick; and the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia.

More than 30 varieties of apple are grown in Canada. The main varieties are the McIntosh which originated in Eastern Ontario, Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Spartan and Spy.

While many apples are suitable for all purposes, others are especially good for specific uses such as cooking or processing. Crisp, juicy apples with a fine, firm texture, like the McIntosh, Spartan and Red and Golden Delicious are favourite eating apples while tart juicy apples, such as the Spy and Idared, are excellent choices for cooking.

Large industry

Many apple varieties, including Greening, McIntosh and Newtown, are used by the apple processing industry to make pure apple juice, applesauce and apple pie filling. While some processors use only one kind of apple in their product, often two or three varieties are blended to produce a special flavour.



More than 30 varieties of Canadian apples can satisfy every taste.

The apple processing industry is a major component of apple production in Canada. In 1984, 42 per cent of total production was processed with about 70 per cent used for juice and the rest for other products.

More Asia-Pacific trade

A major trade initiative in the Asia-Pacific area was announced by the Canadian government on October 3.

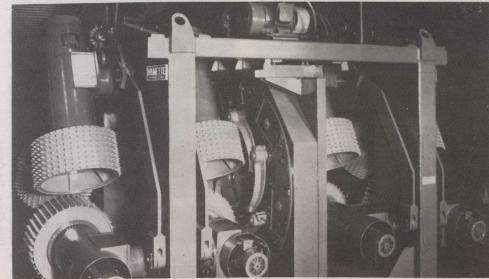
Speaking to the Canada-Korea Business Councils in Vancouver, British Columbia, Minister for International Trade James Kelleher said that an additional \$6.5 million has been committed this fiscal year to increase Canada's trade representation in the Pacific Rim.

Mr. Kelleher announced that Canada would open "a consulate general in Osaka which will be heavily oriented to trade and the acquisition of technology". In addition four more trade commissioners will be sent to China and a consulate will be opened in Shanghai before the end of the year, he said.

"We also have started work on a score of special projects throughout the Asia-Pacific area, and we're considering the merits of several more, including some in Korea," said Mr. Kelleher.

Referring to the trade initiative that Canada is undertaking with the United States, Mr. Kelleher stated: "Nothing we do with our neighbour to the South will in any way detract from our trading efforts in any other part of the world."

Forest machines at Auckland fair



Capable of handling all types of soft, hard and frozen logs, the fully automatic Quad Tri-Roll Debarker from Brunette Machine Works of New Westminster, British Columbia, will be part of the Canadian exhibit at WOODEX '85 in Auckland, New Zealand from November 13 to 16. Sixteen leading companies representing Canada's forest machinery and service industries will present products ranging from skidders, carriages, chippers, edgers, loaders saws and high speed processors to feller forwarders or bunchers and slashers, at the trade fair. The Canadian forest products industry, where expertise is especially strong in tree harvesting and sawmill operations, supplies 20 per cent of the value of total international forest products exports for a net balance of trade of \$10 billion annually.