

34.—Acreages, Yields and Values of Flaxseed, Fibre and Tow in Canada, 1937-43

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1915-30 will be found at p. 284 of the 1934-35 Year Book, and for 1931-36 at p. 224 of the 1942 edition.

Year	Area	Production			Values			
		Seed	Fibre	Green Tow	Seed	Fibre	Green Tow	Total
	acres	bu.	lb.	tons	\$	\$	\$	\$
1937.....	7,907	39,535	1,368,600	2,654	40,220	211,880	79,620	331,720
1938.....	10,225	77,992	2,662,000	2,246	189,750	241,850	87,000	518,600
1939.....	10,536	63,216	4,079,600	2,230	245,700	914,100	89,200	1,249,000
1940.....	20,275	81,300	5,977,500 ¹	1,027	345,925	1,315,050 ¹	65,600	1,726,575
1941.....	44,467	137,930	11,000,000 ¹	755	482,750	2,597,500 ¹	37,750	3,118,000
1942.....	47,070	195,915	9,312,000	875	439,827	2,528,778	33,645	3,001,700
1943 ²	35,297	157,957	10,140,000 ³	815	631,828	2,366,400	48,900	3,047,128

¹ Including turbine tow.

² Subject to revision.

³ Includes estimated production from 8,040 acres carried over from previous processing year.

Apiculture.—The 1942 Canadian honey crop totalled 24,086,100 lb. as compared with 27,487,700 lb. in 1941, a decrease of 12·4 p.c. Although numbers of beekeepers and colonies were the highest on record, average yields were disappointingly low, the average for the Dominion being only 56 lb. per hive. Sharp declines in production from the previous year were recorded in three of the main producing provinces, the decreases amounting to 35 p.c. in Ontario, 37 p.c. in Manitoba and 20 p.c. in Alberta. These declines were only partially offset by larger crops in the other provinces.

The quantity of beeswax produced in 1942 is estimated at 361,300 lb. as compared with 412,300 lb. produced in 1941.

In spite of a smaller volume of production, however, the 1942 crop of honey and wax was valued at \$3,505,000, which was \$190,200 or 5·4 p.c. higher than the value of the 1941 crop. Practically the entire crop has been marketed at an average return to the producers of 13·9 cents per lb. This is 2·4 cents per lb. higher than the average price paid for the 1941 crop.

Beeswax prices were also higher, averaging 45·6 cents per lb. as compared with 39·1 cents paid in the previous year.

Seasonal Conditions and Quality of the 1942 Crop.—Cool, wet weather during the gathering season curtailed production generally in the main producing areas in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and the lower mainland and coast district of British Columbia. On the other hand, in the interior of British Columbia weather conditions were extremely favourable and the 1942 crop was the best in many years. Limited rainfall in Saskatchewan resulted in an exceptionally heavy-bodied crop of high quality honey. Alberta honey, too, is described as generally light in colour, mild in flavour and low in moisture content. The Manitoba crop was of fair-to-good quality, but Ontario honey was of only fair flavour and rather high in moisture content. Excellent quality honey was produced in British Columbia and the Maritime Provinces.