

Subsection 7.—Fruit

Fruit growing is carried on to some extent in all provinces but the industry reaches commercial proportions only in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. In the other provinces, because of climatic conditions, tree fruits do not thrive and fruit growing is chiefly confined to berries, which can be protected artificially or by the snow during the severely cold winters. In the Prairie Provinces continuous effort is being made to develop apple varieties that will withstand the sub-zero temperatures common in that part of the country. This research has met with some success and such varieties as Dolgo, Osman, Rescue, Haralson and Heyer No. 12 have been established. Native berries play an important part in furnishing fresh fruit in areas where cultivated types are not grown. The most important of these is the blueberry which abounds in the more isolated areas of Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland. Blueberries are the second most important fruit exported from Canada, being exceeded in volume and value only by apples: the principal market is the United States. Native strawberries, raspberries and grapes are also found growing in abundance and in certain areas of the Maritime Provinces cranberries are harvested from native bogs. In the Prairie Provinces saskatoons are an important native berry.

Pears.—The pear is one of the oldest of cultivated fruits. The Romans grew them hundreds of years before the Christian era and they were probably known and used centuries before any records were kept. The fruit reached the highest development with Belgian and French horticulturists and it is to these workers that we owe most commercial varieties.

33.—Estimated Commercial Production and Shipping-Point Values of Fruit, 1946-48, with Five-Year Averages, 1940-44

| Kind of Fruit and Year | Quantity | Weight | Value | Average Value per Unit of Quantity | Kind of Fruit and Year | Quantity | Weight | Value | Average Value per Unit of Quantity |
|------------------------|----------|---------|--------|------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|--------|-------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Apples— | | | | | Cherries— | | | | |
| Av. 1940-44... | 13,451 | 605,295 | 14,452 | 1.07 | Av. 1940-44... | 277 | 13,840 | 1,410 | 5.09 |
| 1946..... | 19,282 | 867,690 | 27,196 | 1.41 | 1946..... | 337 | 16,850 | 2,113 | 6.27 |
| 1947..... | 15,619 | 702,855 | 22,840 | 1.46 | 1947..... | 299 | 14,950 | 2,128 | 7.12 |
| 1948..... | 13,404 | 603,180 | 22,631 | 1.69 | 1948..... | 392 | 19,600 | 2,863 | 7.30 |
| Pears— | | | | | Strawberries— | | | | |
| Av. 1940-44... | 733 | 36,660 | 1,367 | 1.86 | Av. 1940-44... | 19,512 | 24,390 | 2,390 | 0.12 |
| 1946..... | 951 | 47,550 | 2,278 | 2.40 | 1946..... | 17,412 | 21,765 | 4,498 | 0.26 |
| 1947..... | 966 | 48,300 | 2,178 | 2.25 | 1947..... | 25,659 | 32,074 | 5,404 | 0.21 |
| 1948..... | 789 | 39,450 | 2,185 | 2.77 | 1948..... | 32,950 | 41,188 | 6,821 | 0.21 |
| Plums and Prunes— | | | | | Raspberries— | | | | |
| Av. 1940-44... | 413 | 20,650 | 881 | 2.13 | Av. 1940-44... | 10,106 | 12,632 | 1,885 | 0.19 |
| 1946..... | 811 | 40,550 | 1,755 | 2.16 | 1946..... | 13,240 | 16,550 | 3,364 | 0.25 |
| 1947..... | 779 | 38,950 | 1,471 | 1.89 | 1947..... | 18,212 | 22,765 | 4,354 | 0.24 |
| 1948..... | 671 | 33,550 | 1,889 | 2.82 | 1948..... | 15,657 | 19,571 | 3,279 | 0.21 |
| Peaches— | | | | | Loganberries— | | | | |
| Av. 1940-44... | 1,452 | 72,580 | 2,978 | 2.05 | Av. 1940-44... | 1,864 | 1,864 | 143 | 0.08 |
| 1946..... | 2,145 | 107,250 | 5,356 | 2.50 | 1946..... | 1,637 | 1,637 | 222 | 0.14 |
| 1947..... | 1,681 | 84,050 | 4,128 | 2.46 | 1947..... | 1,413 | 1,413 | 213 | 0.15 |
| 1948..... | 1,760 | 88,000 | 4,953 | 2.81 | 1948..... | 2,261 | 2,261 | 340 | 0.15 |
| Apricots— | | | | | Grapes— | | | | |
| Av. 1940-44... | 83 | 4,130 | 224 | 2.70 | Av. 1940-44... | 57,883 | 57,883 | 1,653 | 0.03 |
| 1946..... | 147 | 7,350 | 446 | 3.03 | 1946..... | 67,321 | 67,321 | 3,160 | 0.05 |
| 1947..... | 116 | 5,800 | 327 | 2.82 | 1947..... | 73,803 | 73,803 | 3,568 | 0.05 |
| 1948..... | 152 | 7,600 | 629 | 4.14 | 1948..... | 57,623 | 57,623 | 2,559 | 0.04 |