

ports went mainly to the United Kingdom, the United States, Belgium, Luxembourg, Japan and the Netherlands.

Sugar beets and beet sugar. Sugar beets are grown commercially in Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta and beet sugar factories are located in these provinces. In Quebec, commercial production is centred in the St-Hilaire area of the Eastern Townships; Alberta, where sugar beets are grown under irrigation, produces the largest crop. Acreage, yield and value of sugar beets for the years 1969-73 are shown in Table 11.17, together with quantity and value of shipments of beet sugar.

Maple sugar and maple syrup. Maple syrup is produced commercially in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. The bulk of the crop comes from the Eastern Townships of Quebec, a district famous in both Canada and the United States as the centre of the maple products industry. Virtually all of the maple products exported go to the United States with the larger proportion moving as sugar, although substantial quantities of syrup are also shipped. Much of the syrup sold in Canada is marketed in one-gallon cans direct to the consumer from the producer, but a considerable amount of both sugar and syrup is sold each year to processing firms. Production and value of maple sugar and maple syrup, by province, are shown in Table 11.18.

Greenhouse operations. The total area operated under glass and plastic in 1971 and 1972 amounted to 32.1 million sq ft and 35.6 million sq ft, respectively, while the total value of growers' sales stood at \$64.6 million in 1971 and \$74.1 million in 1972.

Nursery industry. In 1972 the nursery trades industry had a total revenue of \$55 million. Approximately 44% of this represents grower sales of traditional fruit and nursery stock and 34% was earned by supplying the increasing demand for contracted services.

Eggs. Table 11.19 shows production and value of farm eggs by province. Egg production totalled 461.7 million dozen in 1973, 1.4% less than the 468.4 million dozen produced in 1972. The number of layers decreased in 1973 over 1972. The rate of lay per 100 layers rose to 21,515 from 21,016 and the farm selling price of eggs averaged 55.3 cents a dozen compared with 37.1 cents a dozen in 1972. The Atlantic Provinces produced 8.2% of all eggs in 1973, Quebec 12.9%, Ontario 41.3%, the Prairie Provinces 25.3% and British Columbia 12.3%.

Wool. Estimates of production of shorn wool in 1973 at 3.2 million lb. were 7% lower than 1972. Average farm price per lb. (excluding a six-cent Patronage Dividend declared for 1972) was 31.4 cents for 1972 compared to 16.3 cents in 1971.

Tobacco. The total acreages planted in 1973 as compared to 1972 declined in Quebec, but increased fractionally in the Maritime Provinces and substantially in Ontario. The yields per acre were higher in Quebec and Ontario and declined in the Maritime Provinces. Total production, however, increased from 186.8 million lb. in 1972 to 257.3 million lb. in 1973. The average value per lb. advanced from 76.5 cents in 1972 to 78.8 cents in 1973 (Tables 11.20 and 11.21).

No information is available on the production of cigarettes for domestic consumption but, on the basis of domestic sales reported to Statistics Canada by manufacturers, the number of cigarettes sold rose from 50,864.4 million in 1971 to 53,292.5 million in 1972 and to 54,864.3 million in 1973.

11.4.6 Prices of agricultural products

The index of farm prices of agricultural products (Table 11.22) was designed to measure changes occurring in the average prices farmers receive at the farm from the sale of farm products. In comparing current index numbers with those prior to August 1973, the following points should be considered. Prices of all western grains used in the construction of the index prior to that date are final prices; all later figures are adjusted initial prices only for wheat, oats and barley. Any subsequent participation payments will be added to the prices currently used and the index revised upward accordingly. Average cash prices per bu of major Canadian grains are given in Table 11.23 and yearly average prices a cwt of Canadian livestock in Table 11.24.

11.4.7 Food consumption

The food consumption figures represent available domestic supplies of food which include production, stocks on hand at the beginning of the year, imports less exports, and stocks