



Agriculture Division

Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products



2007

Highlights

Honey

Canadian honey production in 2007 was 61.4 million pounds, over 40% less than 2006's record production of over 100 million pounds. Most provinces pointed to higher than normal winter losses for the drop in production, though other factors such as weather, pests and availability of nectar sources also affected honey production. The yields per colony reduced to 111 pounds of honey per hive, the lowest in 15 years. While the number of colonies fell by 11.6%, colony splitting allowed beekeepers to maintain the number of managed hives, though these hives usually produce less honey. Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan collectively produced over 85% percent of Canadian honey in 2007.

Maple

Production of maple products decreased from 2006, with almost 800 thousand gallons less produced in 2007. Quebec, which generates the majority of Canadian maple products produced and sold, reported 14.3% lower production which can be attributed to poor weather conditions in parts of the maple growing regions. Despite the drop in volume, prices in Quebec remained the same at \$31 per gallon. The total value of maple products in Canada was 10.0% less than 2006 with \$168 million worth sold in 2007. Maple products include maple syrup, maple sugar and maple butter.

Statistical tables

Table 1
Production and value of honey 1

	Beekeepers ²	Colonies ²	Honey		
			Production of honey, total ³	Production of honey, total ³	Value of honey, total ³
	number	thousands of pounds	metric tonnes	thousands of dollars	
Canada 4					
Average 2002 to 2006	8,172	598,729	83,942	38,086	122,462
2006	7,695	628,401	106,599	48,366	111,255
2007 P	5,534	555,471	61,381	27,850	..
Prince Edward Island					
Average 2002 to 2006	33	1,763	85	39	167
2006	20	1,191	55	25	124
2007 P	15	1,145	51	23	..
Nova Scotia					
Average 2002 to 2006	374	19,256	746	339	1,476
2006	335	18,500	637	289	955
2007 P	325	18,500	700	318	..
New Brunswick					
Average 2002 to 2006	228	5,912	260	118	419
2006	223	8,300	298	135	300
2007 P	223	3,440	123	56	..
Quebec					
Average 2002 to 2006	230	30,158	2,896	1,314	5,652
2006	266	35,545	3,450 ^r	1,565 ^r	6,236
2007 P	266	35,000	2,350	1,066	..
Ontario					
Average 2002 to 2006	2,660	74,140	8,817	4,000	15,721
2006	2,400	76,700	8,287	3,760	11,870
2007 P	2,300	75,000	5,606	2,544	..
Manitoba					
Average 2002 to 2006	633	83,500	14,407	6,537	20,335
2006	623	85,000	18,700	8,485	14,960
2007 P	632	77,386	12,226	5,547	..
Saskatchewan					
Average 2002 to 2006	1,160	100,000	19,300	8,757	27,284
2006	1,048	100,000	25,000	11,343	22,500
2007 P	1,048	95,000	12,825	5,819	..
Alberta					
Average 2002 to 2006	722	240,200	33,935	15,397	48,685
2006	733	254,000	46,736	21,205	46,375
2007 P	725	250,000	27,500	12,477	..
British Columbia					
Average 2002 to 2006	2,133	43,800	3,496	1,586	8,687
2006	2,047	49,165	3,436	1,559	7,935
2007 P

1. Figures are compiled by Statistics Canada from provincial data, except for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island where data are collected through a Statistics Canada mail survey.
2. Beekeeper and colony numbers include pollinators that may not extract honey.
3. Production and value figures exclude inventory.
4. Does not include Newfoundland and Labrador.

Table 2
Production and farm value of maple products ¹

	2006			2007 ^p		
	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Gross value of maple products	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Maple products expressed as syrup, total	Gross value of maple products
	thousands of gallons	kilolitres	thousands of dollars	thousands of gallons	kilolitres	thousands of dollars
Canada	5,932	26,967	187,071	5,135	23,344	168,257
Nova Scotia ²	26	118	1,045	27	123	1,067
New Brunswick	254	1,155	10,878	226	1,027	10,702
Quebec ³	5,435	24,708	164,000	4,657	21,171	144,400
Ontario	217	986	11,147	224	1,018	12,088

1. Commercial production and value figures exclude inventory.
2. Estimates produced by Nova Scotia horticulture industry experts.
3. Estimates produced jointly by "La Table filière acéricole", "Cintech Agroalimentaire", "Le Groupe AGÉCO", "L'Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ)" and the regional specialists of "Le ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ)".

Annual honey survey

Data sources

Prior to the 1999 crop year, Statistics Canada compiled data on Honey and other Apiary Product Farms through a combination of survey taking and administrative sources of data. Estimates published for the provinces of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan were based on a probability sample survey of beekeeping operations in those provinces. Provincial departments of agriculture in the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia carried out their own surveys to independently estimate all honey variables published in this annual bulletin.

Beginning with the 1999 crop year, the provinces of Nova Scotia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan were added to the list of provinces for which data was compiled solely from provincially administered survey vehicles. While these surveys cover the same subject matter as the Statistics Canada survey, each province customizes its own questionnaire to request supplementary data on topics relevant to its apiculture industry. It is worth noting that no data has ever been collected or compiled for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador with respect to this industry.

In September of 2000, Statistics Canada conducted a census of beekeepers in the provinces of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. The survey frame in these provinces was drawn from a list compiled after the conclusion of the 2001 Census of Agriculture and augmented from a registration list provided by the respective agricultural authorities in each of those two provinces. The Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick Honey Survey is now conducted as a mail out/ mail back survey. Honey surveys prior to September of 1999 were conducted through a computer assisted telephone interview process.

The goal of the Statistics Canada Honey survey is to provide an estimate of the quantity and value of the domestic commercial production of honey.

Revisions

The estimates are preliminary when first published and subject to revision in the next year. There are relatively few revisions made to the estimates due to the availability of administrative data at the time estimates are initially published.

Maple products

The data for New Brunswick and Ontario in this release, were prepared by Statistics Canada. Survey data for New Brunswick and Ontario are weighted using the number of taps made on maple trees in the spring of 2006, as reported on the 2006 Census of Agriculture.

Estimates for the province of Quebec were prepared by "l'Institut de la statistique du Québec".

Data quality description

Sources

Maple product estimates are collected and compiled by Statistics Canada on an annual basis. Data collection for Ontario and New Brunswick takes the form of a mail-in survey sent by Statistics Canada to all known producers in these provinces. Quebec, which is the world leader in maple production, as well as Nova Scotia provides the estimates using administrative data.

Data for New Brunswick and Ontario are collected and compiled by Statistics Canada, Agriculture Division. The data from all provinces are assembled and published by Statistics Canada.

Methodology

Nova Scotia

A specialist provides all administrative data on maple production in the province of Nova Scotia.

New Brunswick and Ontario

Questionnaires for these provinces received by Statistics Canada are manually scanned for inconsistencies upon receipt. They are then data captured using a system of electronic edits designed to detect data inconsistencies and to reject most anomalies. These anomalies are investigated and manually corrected to assure accuracy of reporting. The resultant tabulations are compared to previous years and the most recent Census. Significant variations are identified and investigated. Finally the data are weighted using the number of taps made on maple trees as reported on the most recent Census.

Québec

The production data are established by la "Table filière acéricole". It is composed of all the Industry representatives. This committee takes into account various data sources in its analysis which are predominantly: "Cintech Agroalimentaire", "Groupe AGÉCO", "ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ)", "Fédération des producteurs acéricoles du Québec (FPAQ)" and the processing industry.

The production value data are established by MAPAQ and l'Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ) from the numbers provided by FPAQ and MAPAQ regional specialists.

Data quality

The Maple Products Survey is a non-probability survey, the data for which are collected at year-end. Statistics Canada revises their portion of the data only when significant outliers are received subsequent to the compilation of the data. The published data from Quebec represents a consensus of representatives from the industry. The major elements that permit the industry representatives to provide official statistics are a probability survey of maple producers, a weekly follow up of a regional target group, data on syrup classification and international trade.

Conversion factors (revised in 1995)

Note: Conversion factors were revised beginning in 1995 due to improved measurement standards in the Province of Quebec.

1 gallon of syrup = 9.2 pounds of maple sugar

1 gallon of syrup = 10.4 pounds of maple taffy

1 gallon of syrup = 13.248 pounds of syrup

1 pound = 0.454 kilograms

1 gallon = 4.546 litres

1 litre = 0.220 gallons

Acknowledgement

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Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 ^s	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
P	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published

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