

HOP-CULTURE

Few changes have taken place in this industry; the area under hop-culture remains at about 650 acres. Production is more or less limited by quotas and the requirements of the trade in the Dominion. The gardens are well maintained. The 1942 yield of 3,000 bales was below normal on account of climatic conditions. The estimated production for 1943 is 3,500 bales (9,375 cwt.).

BEEKEEPING INDUSTRY

Unfavourable weather conditions at critical periods during the past season in the Auckland, Hamilton, Hastings, and Palmerston North districts adversely affected nectar secretion and also the normal flight of bees; consequently, honey crops in these areas are below average. Elsewhere throughout the Dominion good payable crops have been secured.

The crops so far made available for marketing purposes are of excellent quality, but the quantity is far short of requirements. The demand for beeswax for manufacturing purposes greatly exceeds the supply.

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