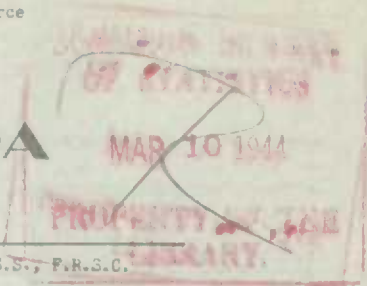


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

# MONTHLY DAIRY REVIEW OF CANADA 1944



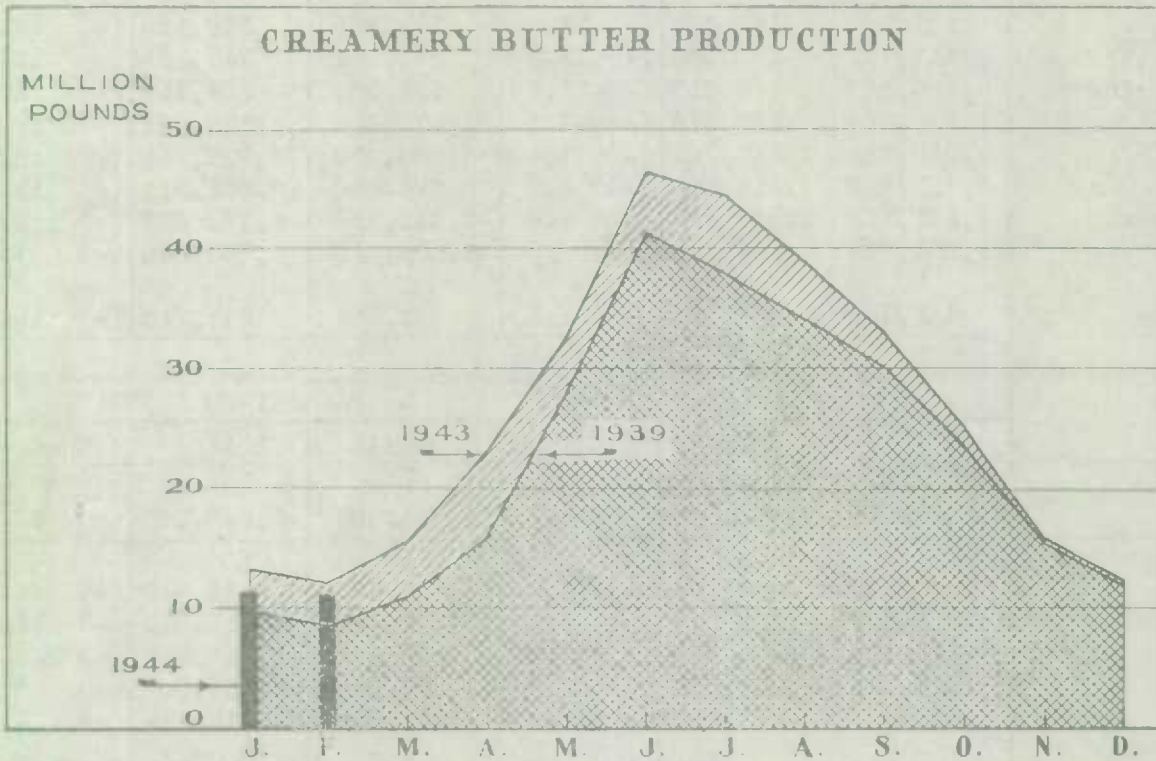
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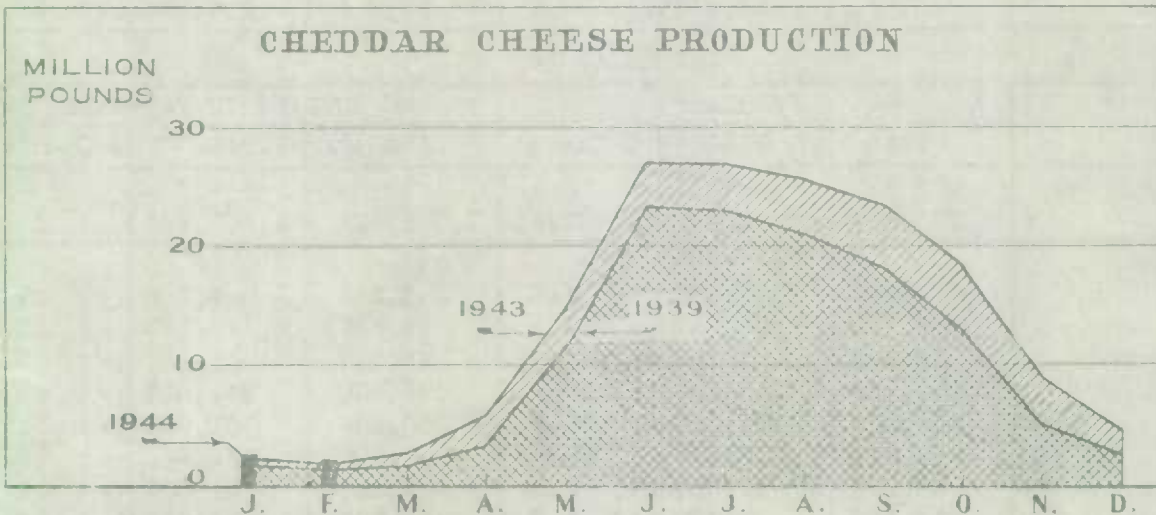
Series XLIII, Report No. 2

February

Issued March 9, 1944



1944 compared with 1943 -16.1% -8.5%



1944 compared with 1943 +33.5%+19.5%

I - CREAMERY BUTTER, CHEDDAR CHEESE AND ICE CREAM PRODUCTION IN CANADA BY PROVINCES,  
February and January-February, 1943 and 1944.

CREAMERY BUTTER						
Province	FEBRUARY			JANUARY TO FEBRUARY		
	1943 Lb.	1944 Lb.	% Change %	1943 Lb.	1944 Lb.	% Change %
CANADA	11,901,936	10,892,661	(-) 8.5	25,050,754	21,763,541	(-) 13.1
Prince Edward Island	151,205	109,421	(-) 27.6	329,981	239,319	(-) 27.5
Nova Scotia	417,701	362,032	(-) 13.3	875,266	743,165	(-) 15.1
New Brunswick	223,867	173,619	(-) 22.4	456,503	354,157	(-) 22.4
Quebec	832,019	530,386	(-) 36.3	2,477,565	1,525,621	(-) 38.4
Ontario	4,008,331	3,469,747	(-) 13.4	8,280,710	6,956,562	(-) 16.0
Manitoba	1,721,792	1,617,483	(-) 6.1	3,494,866	3,063,913	(-) 12.3
Saskatchewan	2,283,148	2,502,231	(+) 9.6	4,645,198	4,763,476	(+) 2.5
Alberta	1,901,742	1,784,111	(-) 6.2	3,808,112	3,505,585	(-) 7.9
British Columbia	362,131	343,631	(-) 5.1	682,553	611,743	(-) 10.4
CHEDDAR CHEESE						
Province	FEBRUARY			JANUARY TO FEBRUARY		
	1943 Lb.	1944 Lb.	% Change %	1943 Lb.	1944 Lb.	% Change %
CANADA	1,573,249	1,880,038	(+) 19.5	3,683,600	4,697,646	(+) 27.5
Prince Edward Island	4,347	5,169	(+) 18.9	10,756	15,547	(+) 44.5
New Brunswick	6,081	2,550	(-) 58.1	12,837	11,042	(-) 14.0
Quebec	110,124	337,960	(+) 206.9	365,484	1,241,595	(+) 239.7
Ontario	1,127,195	1,108,245	(-) 1.7	2,627,803	2,638,007	(+) 0.4
Manitoba	159,874	182,498	(+) 14.2	311,574	318,424	(+) 2.2
Saskatchewan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alberta	119,777	184,749	(+) 54.2	256,788	348,837	(+) 35.8
British Columbia	45,851	58,867	(+) 28.4	98,358	124,194	(+) 26.3
ICE CREAM						
Province	FEBRUARY			JANUARY TO FEBRUARY		
	1943 Gal.	1944 Gal.	% Change %	1943 Gal.	1944 Gal.	% Change %
CANADA	708,154	861,220	(+) 21.6	1,311,628	1,647,995	(+) 25.6
Prince Edward Island	3,739	3,253	(-) 13.0	6,343	8,066	(+) 27.2
Nova Scotia	52,789	66,851	(+) 26.6	95,327	126,817	(+) 33.0
New Brunswick	25,465	20,665	(-) 18.8	45,717	44,237	(-) 3.2
Quebec	103,954	120,751	(+) 16.2	196,739	242,012	(+) 23.0
Ontario	306,541	404,012	(+) 31.8	580,923	761,950	(+) 31.2
Manitoba	49,671	63,688	(+) 28.2	93,102	126,920	(+) 36.3
Saskatchewan	40,726	44,000	(+) 8.0	77,233	81,500	(+) 5.5
Alberta	55,186	60,000	(+) 8.7	95,107	116,033	(+) 22.0
British Columbia	70,083	78,000	(+) 11.3	121,137	140,460	(+) 16.0



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SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DAIRY PRODUCTION IN CANADA  
(FEBRUARY, 1944)

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in February decreased approximately 8.5 per cent as compared with the February make of 1943 and increased 0.2 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. During the month of February 10.9 million pounds of butter were produced, and during the two months, January and February, the output reached a total of 21.8 million pounds. The decrease in the February make occurred in all provinces except Saskatchewan.

DAIRY BUTTER PRODUCTION in January, based on returns from representative groups of Dairy Correspondents, decreased 2.4 per cent as compared with that produced in the same month of the preceding year, and increased 36.7 per cent in comparison with the December output of 1943.

CHEESE PRODUCTION increased approximately 19.5 per cent in February as compared with February, 1943, and was about 33.3 per cent below that of the previous month. The February make was approximately 1.9 million pounds, and the total for the two months, January and February, amounted to 4.7 million pounds. The increase in the February make occurred in all provinces except New Brunswick and Ontario.

ICE CREAM PRODUCTION in February amounted to approximately 861 thousand gallons, an increase of 21.6 per cent as compared with the February output of 1943. For the two months, January and February, 1.6 million gallons were produced, an increase of 25.6 per cent in comparison with the first two months of the preceding year.

The total production of CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS during January registered an increase of approximately 6.4 per cent as compared with the same month last year, and an increase of 14.0 per cent as compared with the preceding month. The total production of 12.8 million pounds was represented by 11.1 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products and 1.7 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products. EVAPORATED MILK, included in the former group, increased 2.1 per cent as compared with the same month last year and 16.9 per cent as compared with the preceding month. SKIM MILK POWDER, included in the latter group, decreased approximately 9.1 per cent and increased 16.1 per cent, respectively.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRICES at Montreal, as quoted by the Canadian Commodity Exchange for the first grade product, averaged  $35\frac{1}{4}$  cents a pound, which was the same as that reported for February, 1943. Domestic Cheese at Montreal averaged 21 cents as compared with 22 cents in the same month last year. Export cheese was 20 cents f.o.b. factory as compared with 20 cents, f.o.b. Montreal in the same month of 1943.

The combined output of creamery butter and cheddar cheese during the month of February represented the equivalent of 276 million pounds of milk, registering a decrease of approximately 20 million pounds as compared with the combined make in terms of milk for the same month a year ago. Creamery butter represented 92.4 per cent and cheese represented 7.6 per cent of the total.

The domestic disappearance of creamery butter in the month of January amounted to 23.9 million pounds, representing an increase of 13.7 per cent as compared with the same month last year and a decrease of 4.3 per cent in comparison with the preceding month.

The domestic disappearance of creamery and dairy butter combined, amounted to 28.3 million pounds or 2.4 pounds per capita. This represented an increase of approximately 11 per cent over that of January a year ago.

REVIEW OF PRODUCTION CONDITIONS IN CANADA

(Based on the reports of Observers and Dairy Correspondents)

**SUMMARY:** Creamery Butter Production as reported in table 1, would indicate a slightly more favourable situation than that shown in the previous month. While the production fell below the output of the same month last year, the decline was much less pronounced. Several factors contributed to this situation, not the least of which was the favourable weather that prevailed during the month. It will be observed from the production conditions reported by provinces on the two following pages, that temperatures were moderate in all parts of the Dominion, with a marked absence of sub-zero extremes or heavy falls of snow. Hence, with the exception of a few districts in the Province of Quebec there was little interference with regular deliveries of milk and cream to market. In Western Canada the open weather conditions permitted the use of wheeled vehicles all winter, with a consequent increase in milk and cream receipts. This was particularly evident in Saskatchewan, where the February deliveries of creamery butter-fat were sufficient to place the total output in that Province at 23 per cent of the Canadian production in comparison with only 19 per cent in the same month of 1943. Moreover, since dairy herds were able to graze in the open fields, better use was made of available feed supplies. Finally, it should be remembered that February, 1944, having 29 days instead of 28 days, the figures reported are not strictly comparable with February, 1943. Converted to a 28-day month, the production in February, 1944, would be only 10,517,052 pounds, and represents a decrease of 11.6 per cent in comparison with the same month of the previous year instead of 8.5 per cent on the basis of a 29-day month.

Milk production and utilization for the month of January is published for the first time in this issue of the Review. (See table IV). The total milk production of Canada as shown amounted to 930 million pounds in January 1944, as against 941 million pounds in the same month of 1943. This decline of only one per cent in relation to that produced in the same month a year ago, reveals a decided improvement in the farm supply, the December production being 5 per cent less than that produced in December 1942. Declines were registered in all Provinces except Alberta and British Columbia, the latter showing an increase of 7.5 per cent. The most significant reductions were shown in Prince Edward Island and Manitoba. Sales of fluid milk in January increased 11 per cent, while products manufactured in factories declined 10.8 per cent. Dairy butter which had shown heavy declines in 1943, as compared with the corresponding months of the previous year, shows a much more favorable relationship in January 1944. (See table III).

The numbers of cows on farms in January showed an increase of 2 per cent, but the percentage milking fell from 67.4 to 63.5. More cows were in calf in January but there is no indication that the percentage milking will materially change in the immediate future. The feed shortage in the Eastern Provinces is not as serious as might have been the case if the Winter had been more severe. Nevertheless, farmers in some areas are finding it difficult to buy the varieties of grain required, and others are reluctant to buy feeds at the prices offered. The shortage of protein feeds has also had an adverse effect on milk production. Cheese factories are receiving increased quantities of milk and appear to have benefited in some districts from a surplus of fluid milk. The labor situation is becoming more acute, and everything considered, there appears to be little hope for any increase in milk production; and until cows go on grass the decline from the previous year may be somewhat more pronounced than was revealed in the first part of 1943.



Prince Edward Island: Weather conditions have been favourable during the past month, with light precipitation and an absence of extreme temperatures. A shortage of water appeared imminent early in the Winter, but rain and heavy falls of snow saved the situation. Total precipitation at Charlottetown in February was 3.73 inches as against a long-time average of 3.52 inches. It is expected that the clover crop will go through the Winter in good condition, and judging from soil moisture conditions there should be good prospects for hay and grass next season. Farmers are short of bran and protein feeds. This factor adversely affected milk production in January. Good quality hay is scarce and is selling at \$20.00 to \$24.00 a ton. Due to heavy sales, cow numbers were down 5 per cent in January. Milk production declined 10 per cent, and the production per cow fell considerably below that of January, 1943.

Nova Scotia: The December 1st. survey showed a gain of 2.2 per cent in the numbers of dairy cows on farms, but it is believed that heavy sales have since reduced cow holdings to some extent. Milk production in January fell nearly 5 per cent, while fluid sales increased 7 per cent over the same month last year. The demand for fluid was considerably in excess of the supply. Observers state that the decline in milk production was due entirely to a shortage of feed and the absence of available farm labor. Grains have been coming in freely, although shortages are reported from outlying districts. Poor quality hay seems to be the most serious problem; although it is also difficult to procure supplies of concentrates and mill feeds.

New Brunswick: Heavy snow storms during February made it difficult to haul feed and make deliveries to market. Temperatures however, were moderate throughout the month. The feed situation has improved a little, and there is no shortage of fluid milk, although the increased demand has reduced the amount available for manufacture. Cow numbers were up in January, but no change was recorded in the numbers freshening. Attractive prices for potatoes has diverted the use of farm labor from dairying during the potato marketing season.

Quebec: It was difficult for some farmers to make deliveries to fluid milk distributors in February, owing to snow blocking side-roads. Concentrated feed stuffs are scarce and high in price. Ample grain is being shipped in, although there is a reluctance to buy at prices asked. However, there appears to be ample supplies of roughage. Cow numbers rose 5 per cent in January, but the numbers due to freshening were about the same as a year ago. Although fewer cows were reported in calf, observers expect cows to freshen earlier this Spring. Moisture and temperature conditions offer good prospects for grass and hay in the coming season. Milk production in January increased one-half of one per cent over that in January 1943, while fluid sales advanced over 8 per cent.

Ontario: A lack of concentrates and the unbalanced nature of dairy rations is offered by observers as one of the prime causes for a fall-off in milk production during the first part of this year. Labor is also scarce but it is believed that this factor will not affect the dairy situation until the heavy production season commences. It is encouraging to note that cow numbers were up  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent in January; more cows are in calf and freshenings are expected to show an increase in the Spring. Grade cows are selling at good prices, averaging, in sections of western Ontario from \$150.00 to \$175.00. Milk production in January fell 2 per cent below the output in the same month last year. Yet, owing to mild weather in many areas the supplies of fluid milk have been sufficient to meet local needs. In some districts, milk dealers have been forced to refuse deliveries for fluid purposes. From now on it is believed that more milk will be diverted into the cheese manufacturing channel.

Manitoba: Mild weather continued throughout January, and although the snow-fall was light there does not appear to be any shortage of water. Supplies of grain and roughage are quite sufficient, possibly a little better than usual; while peas and soy bean meal are being used in place of protein supplements. Milk production was down 7 per cent from that of January, 1943, and in some areas temporary shortages of fluid milk have been reported. More farmers are making dairy butter, although the total output is still below that of the previous year. Fewer farm laborers are available, yet reports indicate that the distribution of labor is being well regulated. Production during the coming season will be dependent upon frequent rains in the Spring to provide moisture inadequately supplied during the Winter months.

Saskatchewan: Mild weather permitted the accumulation of reserve feed supplies on many farms, but owing to lack of snow there is insufficient water to fill dug-outs, dams and ponds. In some southern areas water shortages have been reported. Cow numbers were slightly lower in January, and fewer cows have been coming into milk. Deliveries of milk have been well maintained, however, and the production in January was almost equal to that of a year ago. Cream shippers are increasing and the volume of fat delivered in February was considerably greater than a year ago. Some farmers are going out of business due to shortage of help but new farmers are taking their place. Cows are selling at good prices; grades fetching \$100.00 and more per cow. Production prospects are regarded as quite hopeful, but much will depend on early rains to start the grass in the coming Spring.

Alberta: Moderate to mild weather in January permitted dairy stock to run at large, so that feed requirements were considerably curtailed. Farmers have ample stocks of grain and roughage, and with a few exceptions no shortages have been reported. Cow numbers in January showed a very slight decline as compared with the same month a year ago, and the percentage milking also declined. There seems to be no indication of any increase in freshenings. The demand for fluid milk still continues. In some areas, however, the attractive prices offered for fluid has created local surpluses which are now being redirected into cheese manufacturing. Fluid sales increased 20 per cent in January while deliveries to creameries declined. However, the total milk production in January was nearly one per cent above that of the same month a year ago.

British Columbia: One of the finest Winters on record was experienced in this Province. There was some wind but very little cold weather, and the precipitation was abnormally light. At Agassiz, total rain and snow combined represented the equivalent of 3.76 inches as compared with a fifty-one year average of 5.79 inches. Less feed was needed than usual, while controlled prices and freight assistance helped farmers to purchase their requirements. This favorable situation combined with high prices for milk, produced an increase of 7.5 per cent in the over-all output in January as compared with the same month of the preceding year. All products contributed to this increase except dairy butter, farm-made cheese and milk fed to live stock. It is also encouraging to observe that cow numbers increased in January, and with more cows in-calf potential producers appear to be on the increase.



Table II - PRODUCTION OF MILK PER COW AND PERCENTAGES OF COWS MILKING IN JANUARY 1940 to 1944.

Province	Milk Production per cow in Pounds per day						Percentage of Cows Milking					
	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	Av.	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	Av.
Prince Edward Island	8.2	9.4	11.9	15.2	9.3	11.1	59.6	66.0	70.5	82.9	67.6	69.0
Nova Scotia .....	14.1	13.3	13.5	13.5	12.3	14.1	78.1	77.1	76.1	76.6	75.3	77.0
New Brunswick .....	9.9	10.9	9.3	12.7	12.9	12.3	64.0	69.6	75.5	74.4	73.2	71.3
Quebec .....	7.3	7.7	7.3	9.8	8.1	8.3	48.2	48.1	42.5	60.7	52.3	50.5
Ontario .....	13.0	12.8	13.5	12.3	11.6	13.0	63.0	68.7	60.3	61.4	61.8	60.9
Manitoba .....	10.8	12.1	11.6	11.7	10.3	11.6	57.3	60.1	64.1	62.4	57.9	60.0
Saskatchewan .....	9.8	10.4	9.4	9.6	9.4	9.9	57.6	53.8	56.5	59.0	54.4	55.7
Alberta .....	10.5	12.3	12.1	10.5	10.7	11.6	54.0	57.9	56.6	57.8	58.7	56.9
British Columbia ...	15.9	14.3	14.4	12.9	15.8	15.1	77.7	77.9	78.0	77.2	74.6	77.1
CANADA .....	10.6	10.9	10.9	11.1	10.3	10.8	62.0	62.2	63.0	67.4	63.5	63.6

Table III - PRODUCTION OF DAIRY BUTTER IN CANADA BY PROVINCES, 1939 to 1943, WITH JANUARY PRODUCTION FOR THE YEARS 1942 to 1944.

Province	YEARLY PRODUCTION					JANUARY PRODUCTION		
	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1942	1943	1944
	000 lb.	000 lb.	000 lb.	000 lb.	000 lb.	000 lb.	000 lb.	000 lb.
CANADA .....	87,459	84,256	82,796	78,528	86,407	6,227	4,450	4,341
Prince Edward Island	1,400	1,251	1,175	900	800	50	28	27
Nova Scotia .....	4,500	4,292	4,200	4,250	2,846	276	185	165
New Brunswick .....	3,200	7,918	7,600	7,750	5,000	620	400	376
Quebec .....	13,100	12,576	12,400	11,600	7,867	324	559	531
Ontario .....	14,822	14,418	14,600	13,500	7,723	391	510	490
Manitoba .....	8,750	8,600	8,400	7,900	5,925	585	439	430
Saskatchewan .....	20,600	20,000	19,600	18,700	14,586	1,720	1,342	1,329
Alberta .....	13,400	13,200	12,900	12,100	9,317	1,137	875	884
British Columbia ...	2,687	2,001	1,921	1,825	1,643	124	112	109


 Table IV. - TOTAL MILK PRODUCTION IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, JANUARY 1942, 1943 and 1944  
 (In Thousands of Pounds)

		Total Milk Production	Butter(1)	Cheese	Concentrated		Milk Otherwise Used(2)
					Milk Products	Ice Cream	
Canada	1942	914,564	396,925	58,527	22,591	9,656	426,845
	1943	940,552	411,989	25,695	27,515	9,481	465,872
	1944	930,092	356,110	33,448	30,354	12,360	497,820
Prince Edward Island	1942	7,023	3,495	120	-	32	3,376
	1943	8,686	4,841	73	-	41	3,731
	1944	7,788	3,673	117	-	76	3,922
Nova Scotia	1942	28,470	14,798	30	434	758	12,450
	1943	29,803	15,043	28	236	663	13,828
	1944	28,364	12,785	28	174	942	14,435
New Brunswick	1942	27,371	16,767	606	-	274	9,724
	1943	26,160	14,810	80	-	316	10,952
	1944	25,018	13,028	99	-	370	11,521
Quebec	1942	171,989	37,346	15,220	4,249	1,752	113,422
	1943	185,355	51,608	3,466	4,528	1,458	124,295
	1944	186,020	35,729	10,941	6,480	1,905	130,965
Ontario	1942	331,292	120,763	35,577	13,747	4,169	157,036
	1943	322,367	111,955	17,686	18,539	4,311	169,876
	1944	316,687	93,097	17,678	16,145	5,623	182,144
Manitoba	1942	77,702	46,747	3,119	-	760	27,076
	1943	83,353	51,785	1,837	-	683	29,048
	1944	77,551	43,927	1,635	-	994	30,995
Saskatchewan	1942	118,373	78,990	154	-	471	38,758
	1943	129,860	86,712	135	-	573	42,440
	1944	129,700	84,048	133	-	589	44,930
Alberta	1942	111,821	65,146	2,963	1,452	659	41,601
	1943	114,036	65,112	1,748	1,175	627	45,374
	1944	114,992	60,994	2,050	1,709	880	49,359
British Columbia	1942	40,523	12,873	758	2,709	781	23,402
	1943	40,932	10,123	642	3,037	802	26,328
	1944	43,972	8,829	737	3,846	981	29,549

(1) Represents creamery butter (Table I) and Dairy Butter (Table III) on a milk basis.

(2) Includes Fluid Sales, Farm-Home consumed and milk fed to live stock; the production of which amounted to 329 million pounds, 125 million pounds and 43 million pounds, respectively, for the whole of Canada in January, 1944.