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## REPORT ON LIVESTOCK SURVEYS

## CATTLE - SHEEP - HORSES, DECEMBER 1, 1957

Cattle: There was virtually no change in the total number of cattle and calves kept on farms in Canada<sup>1/</sup> at December 1, 1957 compared to the number on hand at December 1, 1956. The latest estimate of 10,293,000 compares with the revised estimate of 10,379,000 head at December 1, 1956. However, this marks the first time since 1950 that a decrease in cattle numbers was recorded. Milk cows, estimated at 3,087,300 head, were slightly below the December 1956 revised estimate of 3,092,000 head. Small increases in Quebec (1.5 per cent), Ontario (0.3 per cent), and British Columbia (3.4 per cent) were offset by decreases in each of the other provinces. Beef cows, estimated at 1,951,300 head at December 1, 1957 compare with the 1,912,200 head on hand twelve months previously, a rise of 2 per cent. A 2.5 per cent decrease in Eastern Canada was more than counter-balanced by a 3.3 per cent rise in the West. Other beef cattle showed decreases. Heifers dropped off 13.7 per cent while steers declined 1.5 per cent, despite a 6.7 per cent rise in numbers of steers on farms in Ontario. Steers on farms in Western Canada showed a 7.3 per cent decrease. Calf numbers at December 1, 1957 increased 1.2 per cent to 2,775,000 head. Increases in Ontario (765,000 vs. 763,000), Saskatchewan (534,000 vs. 523,000), and Alberta (760,000 vs. 720,000) more than offset decreases in the other provinces.

Sheep: The number of sheep on farms in Canada at December 1, 1957 are estimated at 1,111,500 head, an increase of 3 per cent over the revised estimate for December 1, 1956. All of the increase occurred in Ontario and the Western Provinces, as numbers in Eastern Canada, including Ontario, showed no change while an increase approaching 7 per cent was evident in the West. Sheep over one year old increased about 1.5 per cent in the whole country, as a 5 per cent rise in the West offset a drop of 1.5 per cent in the eastern provinces. Ontario and Alberta, the two largest sheep raising provinces, both showed good increases in numbers of sheep over a year old - nearly 7 per cent in Ontario and 9.5 per cent in Alberta.

Horses: The number of horses on farms fell from 745,500 at December 1, 1956 to 702,500 twelve months later, a drop of nearly 6 per cent.

The estimates published in this report were derived from the semi-annual survey conducted in co-operation with the Provincial Governments. The December 1956 estimates have been revised to bring them into line with the June, 1956 census. The Canada totals do not include estimates of livestock populations in the Province of Newfoundland. The 1956 June 1 census reported 13,647 cattle, 79,466 sheep, and 11,611 horses in that province.

<sup>1/</sup> Not including Newfoundland.

Prepared in Livestock Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION

Table 1a.- Number of Cattle on Farms in Canada, by Class and Province, at December 1, 1957

Province	Bulls	Cows		Yearling Heifers		Steers	Calves	Total
		for Milk	for Beef	for Milk	for Beef			
- thousand head -								
Pr. Edward Isld.	1.2	42.0	4.5	8.4	7.9	15.0	33.0	112.0
Nova Scotia	2.5	75.8	10.4	15.8	7.5	12.0	36.0	160.0
New Brunswick	3.4	81.5	8.4	16.5	3.6	6.6	39.0	159.0
Quebec	62.0	1,055.0	105.0	180.0	23.0	40.0	290.0	1,755.0
Ontario	47.0	1,003.0	277.0	243.0	163.0	459.0	765.0	2,957.0
Totals, East	116.1	2,257.3	405.3	463.7	205.0	532.6	1,163.0	5,143.0
Manitoba	18.0	215.0	176.0	43.0	53.0	75.0	225.0	810.0
Saskatchewan	34.0	254.0	525.0	49.0	142.0	167.0	534.0	1,705.0
Alberta	46.0	270.0	750.0	52.0	173.0	224.0	760.0	2,275.0
Br. Columbia	7.0	91.0	95.0	21.0	24.0	29.0	93.0	360.0
Totals, West	105.0	830.0	1,546.0	170.0	392.0	495.0	1,612.0	5,150.0
Totals, CANADA	221.1	3,087.3	1,951.3	633.7	597.0	1,027.6	2,775.0	10,293.0

Table 1b.- Number of Cattle on Farms in Canada, by Class and Province, at December 1, 1956<sup>1/</sup>

Province	Bulls	Cows		Yearling Heifers		Steers	Calves	Total
		for Milk	for Beef	for Milk	for Beef			
- thousand head -								
Pr. Edward Isld.	1.5	43.0	5.0	8.5	7.5	18.0	34.5	118.0
Nova Scotia	3.2	81.0	11.5	18.0	8.3	15.0	40.0	177.0
New Brunswick	4.0	83.0	8.7	17.0	5.3	7.0	41.0	166.0
Quebec	64.0	1,039.0	115.0	195.0	28.0	40.0	294.0	1,775.0
Ontario	47.0	1,000.0	275.0	252.0	190.0	430.0	763.0	2,957.0
Totals, East	119.7	2,246.0	415.2	490.5	239.1	510.0	1,172.5	5,193.0
Manitoba	19.5	219.0	178.0	49.0	57.5	81.0	230.0	832.0
Saskatchewan	34.5	263.0	505.0	52.0	160.0	182.5	523.0	1,720.0
Alberta	48.0	276.0	715.0	56.0	208.0	237.0	720.0	2,260.0
Br. Columbia	7.5	88.0	101.0	21.0	27.0	33.5	96.0	374.0
Totals, West	109.5	846.0	1,497.0	178.0	452.5	534.0	1,569.0	5,186.0
Totals, CANADA	229.2	3,092.0	1,912.2	668.5	691.6	1,044.0	2,741.5	10,379.0

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.





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Table 2.- Number of Sheep on Farms in Canada, by Age Group and Province,  
at December 1, 1956<sup>1/</sup> and 1957

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	Sheep over 1 year old	Lambs	Total	Sheep over 1 year old	Lambs	Total
	- thousand head -					
Pr. Edward Isld.	15.8	2.7	18.5	15.4	3.1	18.5
Nova Scotia	41.5	8.5	50.0	37.7	8.3	46.0
New Brunswick	31.5	6.5	38.0	31.0	7.0	38.0
Quebec	161.0	34.0	195.0	151.0	37.0	188.0
Ontario	176.0	64.0	240.0	188.0	60.0	248.0
Totals, East	425.8	115.7	541.5	423.1	115.4	538.5
Manitoba	35.5	11.5	47.0	34.5	12.5	47.0
Saskatchewan	79.0	23.0	102.0	78.0	28.0	106.0
Alberta	210.0	125.0	335.0	230.0	135.0	365.0
Br. Columbia	42.0	11.0	53.0	43.5	11.5	55.0
Totals, West	366.5	170.5	537.0	386.0	187.0	573.0
Totals, CANADA	792.3	286.2	1,078.5	809.1	302.4	1,111.5

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.

Table 3.- Number of Horses on Farms in Canada, by Province, at December 1, 1956<sup>1/</sup> and  
1957

	1956 <sup>1/</sup>	1957	1957 as % of 1956
	- thousand head -		%
Prince Edward Island	14.5	13.0	89.7
Nova Scotia	17.5	16.0	91.4
New Brunswick	19.0	17.5	92.1
Quebec	157.0	150.0	95.5
Ontario	127.0	125.0	98.4
Totals, East	335.0	321.5	96.0
Manitoba	73.0	69.0	94.5
Saskatchewan	164.0	153.0	93.3
Alberta	147.0	134.0	91.2
British Columbia	26.5	25.0	94.3
Totals, West	410.5	381.0	92.8
Totals, CANADA	745.5	702.5	94.2

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.