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## REPORT ON THE LIVESTOCK SURVEY OF DECEMBER 1, 1954

## - H O G S -

Estimates of the number of hogs on farms in Canada<sup>1/</sup> at December 1, 1954, of the fall pig crop, and of the number of sows expected to farrow for the spring pig crop in 1955 were based on farmers' replies to the annual December survey. Departments of the Provincial Governments co-operated with the Bureau of Statistics in conducting the survey.

Hogs on farms at December 1, 1954, estimated at 5,425,000 increased about 15 per cent. from the total of 4,721,000 at December 1, 1953. Numbers increased in all provinces but Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Increases were greater in the West than in the East, amounting to almost 25 per cent. and 8 per cent., respectively, as between these two broad divisions of the country. Estimates of hogs, by provinces, with the estimates for December 1, 1953 in brackets, were: Prince Edward Island 65,000 (69,000); Nova Scotia 41,000 (42,000); New Brunswick 70,000 (65,000); Quebec 1,093,000 (949,000); Ontario 1,660,000 (1,595,000); Manitoba 364,000 (295,000); Saskatchewan 550,000 (433,000); Alberta 1,530,000 (1,229,000); British Columbia 52,000 (44,000).

The fall pig crop (pigs saved in the June to November period) was 7.3 per cent. larger than that of 1953, with the number of sows farrowed about 10.8 per cent. greater. The average number of pigs saved per sow farrowed decreased from 8.03 in 1953 to 7.78 in 1954. These data on the fall pig crop of 1954 indicate a sharp retrenchment from breeding intentions reported on the June survey, six months earlier. Farmers' intentions at that date indicated a 27 per cent. increase over the fall of 1953 and, whereas some error is associated with forecasting on the basis of intention reports, there is no doubt that this year farmers actually did change their plans, after June 1, with respect to pig production. Modification was due probably in part to the fear of serious price declines which might be expected to occur if the June 1 forecast of intended productions were fully realized. An additional factor was the adverse crop development during the late summer and fall with consequent poor distribution of feed supplies, while at the same time the hog-barley price relationship became much less favourable to hog production.

A moderate increase in production can be expected in 1955. According to intentions reported by farmers at December 1, sows to farrow during the six month period ending May 31 may exceed last year's spring farrowings by about 13 per cent. Increases of 12.5 per cent. and 14 per cent. are expected for East and West, respectively. Intentions reported by farmers in the Quarterly Pig Survey indicate that about 40 per cent. of the December to May farrowings should occur before March 1 in contrast to 32 per cent. last year.

<sup>1/</sup> There are no current estimates available for Newfoundland. The Census of Agriculture showed a total to the nearest hundred, of 1,700 pigs on farms in Newfoundland and 1,300 elsewhere than on farms at June 1, 1951.

Prepared in Live Stock Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION

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Table I: Hogs - Total on Farms, by Provinces, June 1 and December 1, 1954 and 1953

Province	Dec. 1, 1954	June 1, 1954	Dec. 1, 1953	June 1, 1953
- thousands -				
Pr. Edward Island	65	70	69	57
Nova Scotia	41	39	42	39
New Brunswick	70	67	65	56
Quebec	1,093	1,051	949	867
Ontario	1,660	1,560	1,595	1,450
Manitoba	364	360	295	287
Saskatchewan	550	539	433	469
Alberta	1,530	1,408	1,229	1,180
Br. Columbia	52	47	44	42
C A N A D A	5,425	5,141	4,721	4,447

Table II: Hogs - Numbers on Farms, by Age Groups, December 1, 1954 and 1953

Province	1954			1953			Total
	Under 6 Months	Over 6 Months	Total	Under 6 Months	Over 6 Months	Total	1954 as % of 1953
- thousands -							
Pr. Edward Island	52	13	65	54	15	69	94
Nova Scotia	32	9	41	32	10	42	98
New Brunswick	53	17	70	48	17	65	108
Quebec	789	304	1,093	693	256	949	115
Ontario	1,340	320	1,660	1,320	275	1,595	104
Eastern Canada	2,266	663	2,929	2,147	573	2,720	108
Manitoba	228	136	364	192	103	295	123
Saskatchewan	290	260	550	233	200	433	127
Alberta	1,000	530	1,530	871	358	1,229	124
Br. Columbia	32	20	52	30	14	44	118
Western Canada	1,550	946	2,496	1,326	675	2,001	125
C A N A D A	3,816	1,609	5,425	3,473	1,248	4,721	115



Table III: Sows Farrowed, Pigs Born and Pigs Saved<sup>1/</sup>  
June to November, (Fall Pig Crop) 1954 and 1953

Province	1954			1953			Pigs Saved 1954 as % of 1953
	Sows Farrowed	Pigs Born	Pigs Saved	Sows Farrowed	Pigs Born	Pigs Saved	
- thousands -							%
Pr. Edward Is.	6.5	64.0	53.0	7.5	70.5	56.5	94
Nova Scotia	3.8	38.7	33.0	4.1	42.7	33.4	99
New Brunswick	7.0	68.8	55.0	7.0	67.6	51.2	107
Quebec	112.0	1,010.0	844.0	97.0	891.0	744.0	113
Ontario	172.0	1,662.0	1,380.0	161.0	1,633.0	1,406.0	98
Eastern Canada	301.3	2,843.5	2,365.0	276.6	2,704.8	2,291.1	103
Manitoba	29.4	275.0	235.0	26.0	248.0	204.0	115
Saskatchewan	40.0	364.0	307.0	34.0	295.0	248.0	124
Alberta	135.0	1,212.0	1,030.0	120.0	1,082.0	925.0	111
Br. Columbia	4.4	41.0	33.0	3.9	38.2	31.9	103
Western Canada	208.8	1,892.0	1,605.0	183.9	1,663.2	1,408.9	114
C A N A D A	510.1	4,735.5	3,970.0	460.5	4,368.0	3,700.0	107

<sup>1/</sup> Pigs alive at weaning time or alive, not yet weaned, at December 1.

Table IV: Estimates of Sows Bred to Farrow December, 1954 to May, 1955  
and Sows Farrowed December, 1953 to May, 1954

Province	Expected to Farrow Spring Period 1955	Farrowed Spring Period 1954	Intentions 1955 as % 1954
Pr. Edward Is.	7,600	7,700	99
Nova Scotia	4,400	3,800	116
New Brunswick	9,200	7,700	119
Quebec	137,000	116,000	118
Ontario	202,000	185,000	109
Eastern Canada	360,200	320,200	112
Manitoba	44,000	38,000	116
Saskatchewan	80,000	61,400	130
Alberta	164,000	153,000	107
Br. Columbia	5,300	4,400	120
Western Canada	293,300	256,800	114
C A N A D A	653,500	577,000	113

Table V

Hog-Barley Ratio - By Months

1942-1954

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
January	20.0	21.4	18.1	18.3	17.1	20.7	17.1	21.0	16.3	17.0	14.6	15.1	28.1
February	20.0	21.4	18.1	18.3	17.3	21.4	19.6	21.2	17.3	17.2	14.7	16.1	28.9
March	19.7	22.0	18.2	18.3	17.1	19.7	20.6	22.0	16.4	17.4	15.4	17.0	30.7
April	19.5	22.0	18.2	18.4	18.3	18.1	19.3	21.5	14.6	16.4	16.5	17.0	30.6
May	18.9	21.9	18.2	18.5	18.3	18.1	18.7	21.0	15.0	20.2	17.4	19.0	31.7
June	18.3	21.2	18.3	19.0	18.4	18.1	19.2	21.5	16.5	24.3	17.2	20.7	28.3
July	19.4	20.5	18.3	19.1	18.4	18.1	19.9	19.8	17.3	26.1	17.5	21.4	23.6
August	21.3	16.2	18.3	18.0	20.3	18.1	22.8	20.2	18.6	25.1	15.9	23.2	18.4
September	21.0	16.2	18.3	18.2	21.0	19.6	24.1	17.2	17.8	21.2	15.2	23.8	16.3
October	23.4	16.1	18.3	17.2	19.6	17.8	22.4	15.9	16.7	17.0	14.4	26.5	15.8
November	23.5	16.5	18.3	17.0	19.5	14.4	20.7	15.5	16.1	15.2	14.2	24.8	16.0
December	23.5	16.7	18.3	17.0	19.5	13.9	21.7	16.6	17.4	15.8	16.3	27.4	17.1
A v e r a g e	20.6	19.0	18.2	18.1	18.7	17.9	20.3	19.1	16.6	19.1	15.7	20.6	23.1

- Note -

The hog-barley ratio is the number of bushels of No. 1 feed barley required to equal the value of 100 pounds B1 (live) hogs, both prices at Winnipeg. The long-time average ratio (1913-1949, 1930 omitted due to extreme abnormality) was 18.3. The average ratio 1939-1949 was 20.4

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