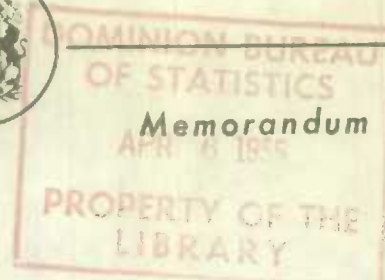


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REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY PIG SURVEY OF MARCH 1, 1955

Prospects for the number of sows to farrow for the 1955 spring pig crop (December 1 to May 31) are now estimated at 21 per cent above the number farrowed last spring. The increases now expected amount to 17 per cent in the East and 26 per cent in the West. These estimates are based on the Quarterly Pig Survey of March 1, in which replies, with respect to pig raising on 8,610 farms, were analysed. The prospect of an increase of 21 per cent over last year was indicated by reported farrowings during the three months December, 1954 to February, 1955 and expected farrowings from March to May, 1955. It represents the prospect of 697,000 sows to farrow for the spring pig crop. About 32 per cent of these, or 223,000, had farrowed by March 1.

The increase over last year now estimated is an upward revision of the estimate made on the basis of breeding and farrowing intentions reported by farmers on the live-stock survey of December 1, 1954 from which a prospective increase of 13 per cent was indicated. An increase of 16 per cent over last year is now expected in Ontario rather than 9 per cent previously indicated and Alberta's increase is now expected to be 23 per cent instead of 7 per cent. Changes from the previous estimates for other provinces are more moderate. (Please see table overleaf).

If the prospective farrowings are fully realized and if the number of pigs saved (alive at weaning age) approximates 7.5 per sow farrowed, which is the spring farrowing average over the last three years, the spring pig crop will be about 5,225,000 pigs as compared with 4,215,000 last year.

In interpretation of these data it should be noted that the Quarterly Pig Survey is a relatively new survey and a longer experience is necessary for assessment of its performance. In the light of limited experience during the past year it is suggested that the estimates published in this report be considered as maximum expectations.

Prepared in Live Stock Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION



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SOWS FARROWED AND TO FARROW FOR SPRING PIG CROP
Dec. 1, 1953-May 31, 1954 and Dec. 1, 1954-May 31, 1955

	TOTAL (DEC.-MAY)			DEC.-FEB.			MARCH-MAY			TOTAL (DEC.-MAY)	
Province	Sows Farrowed 1954 ^{1/}	Sows to Farrow 1955 ^{2/}	1955 as % of 1954	Sows Farrowed 1954	1955 as % of 1954		Sows Farrowed 1954	Sows to Farrow 1955 ^{4/}	1955 as % of 1954	Farrowed and to Farrow 1955 ^{5/}	1955 as % of 1954
	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	%	'000	%
Maritimes	19.2	21.2	110	5.2	5.5	106	14.0	16.5	118	22.0	115
Quebec	116.0	137.0	118	46.4	54.0	116	69.6	84.0	121	138.0	119
Ontario	185.0	202.0	109	75.0	86.0	115	110.0	128.0	116	214.0	116
Total, East	320.2	360.2	112	126.6	145.5	115	193.6	228.5	118	374.0	117
Manitoba	38.0	44.0	116	8.0	11.0	138	30.0	33.0	110	44.0	116
Saskatchewan	61.4	80.0	130	8.0	11.0	138	53.4	74.7	140	85.7	140
Alberta	153.0	164.0	107	40.0	54.0	135	113.0	134.0	119	188.0	123
British Columbia	4.4	5.3	120	1.4	1.5	107	3.0	3.8	127	5.3	120
Total, West	256.8	293.3	114	57.4	77.5	135	199.4	245.5	123	323.0	126
TOTAL, CANADA ^{6/}	577.0	653.5	113	184.0	223.0	121	393.0	474.0	121	697.0	121

1/ Estimate based on Livestock Survey of June 1, 1954.

2/ " " " Intentions reported in Livestock Survey of Dec. 1, 1954.

3/ " " " Pig Surveys of March 1, 1954 and 1955.

4/ " " " Intentions reported in Pig Survey of March 1, 1955.

5/ Sum of estimates of farrowings, December to February and of intended farrowings March to May. Revision of estimate footnoted 2/.

6/ Newfoundland not included.