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REPORT ON LIVESTOCK SURVEYS

HOGS, DECEMBER, 1958

According to information received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in the December 1958 survey the number of hogs on farms in Canada^{1/} at December 1 stood at 33 per cent above the December 1957 estimate. The comparison is 6,880,000 hogs on farms at December 1, 1958 and 5,160,000 at that date the previous year. In eastern Canada the estimated number of hogs on farms (3,521,000 head) is 31 per cent higher than the December 1957 figure, while in the West, where there were an estimated 3,359,000 head, the increase is 36 per cent.

Pigs over six months old are estimated at 2,111,000 head, up 31 per cent over the December 1, 1957 estimate. This age group would include the breeding stock together with other hogs. During December 1958 hog gradings increased 32 per cent over December 1957.

Farrowings from June 1 to November 30 in 1958 are estimated at 640,400, which is 36 per cent more than in the same period of 1957. The number of pigs saved from these litters (4,882,000) is 34 per cent greater than the 1957 summer and fall pig crop. The number of pigs weaned in eastern Canada (2,781,000) was up 32 per cent from the 1957 summer-fall pig crop estimate and a 37 per cent increase was evident in western Canada, where the number of pigs weaned is estimated at 2,101,000 head.

Expected farrowings for the December 1958 to May 1959 pig crop are estimated at 765,300 or 23 per cent more than farrowings for the spring period in 1958. A difference of intentions is evident between eastern and western producers. The increase in the East is expected to be 36 per cent but it is only 8 per cent in the West where production now seems to be levelling off. Sows bred prior to December 1 to farrow before March 1, 1959 are estimated at 298,000, made up of 178,700 in eastern Canada and 119,300 in the West.

During 1958 the hog-barley ratio averaged 23.4, down somewhat from the post-war high of 25.5 in 1957 but still well above the 1949-1958 average of 19.9.

Canada totals shown in this report are 9-province totals only. The June 1956 census reported 1,820 pigs on farms in Newfoundland, of which 625 were over six months old.

^{1/} Not including Newfoundland.

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AGRICULTURE DIVISION

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Table 1.- Pigs: Totals on Farms, by Province, June 1 and December 1, 1957 and 1958

Province	June 1, 1957	Dec. 1, 1957	June 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1958
- thousands -				
Prince Edward Is.	45	50	51	60
Nova Scotia	31	34	37	47
New Brunswick	52	61	59	64
Quebec	874	900	1,060	1,175
Ontario	1,565	1,640	1,850	2,175
Manitoba	316	330	455	510
Saskatchewan	633	630	890	900
Alberta	1,300	1,470	1,710	1,890
Br. Columbia	41	45	52	59
C A N A D A	4,857	5,160	6,164	6,880

Table 2.- Pigs: Numbers on Farms, by Age Group and Province, December 1, 1957 and 1958

Province	1957			1958			Total
	Over 6 months	Under 6 months	Total	Over 6 months	Under 6 months	Total	1958 as % of 1957
- thousands -							%
Prince Edward Is.	9	41	50	11	49	60	120
Nova Scotia	8	26	34	13	34	47	138
New Brunswick	16	45	61	18	46	64	105
Quebec	235	665	900	305	870	1,175	131
Ontario	370	1,270	1,640	480	1,695	2,175	133
Eastern Canada	638	2,047	2,685	827	2,694	3,521	131
Manitoba	125	205	330	175	335	510	155
Saskatchewan	300	330	630	390	510	900	143
Alberta	530	940	1,470	700	1,190	1,890	129
Br. Columbia	14	31	45	19	40	59	131
Western Canada	969	1,506	2,475	1,284	2,075	3,359	136
C A N A D A	1,607	3,553	5,160	2,111	4,769	6,880	133

Table 3.- Sows Farrowed, Pigs Born and Pigs Saved^{1/}, June to November, (Fall Pig Crop) 1957 and 1958

Province	1957			1958			Pigs Saved 1958 as % of 1957
	Sows Farrowed	Pigs Born	Pigs ^{1/} Saved	Sows Farrowed	Pigs Born	Pigs ^{1/} Saved	
- thousands -							%
Pr. Edward Is.	5.6	53	42	6.8	62	52	124
Nova Scotia	3.6	34	27	5.0	46	36	133
New Brunswick	6.0	56	46	6.3	59	48	104
Quebec	92.0	845	715	120.0	1,071	935	131
Ontario	164.0	1,550	1,280	225.0	2,195	1,710	134
Eastern Canada	271.2	2,538	2,110	363.1	3,433	2,781	132
Manitoba	28.0	245	210	44.0	400	340	162
Saskatchewan	45.0	400	335	68.0	610	520	155
Alberta	123.0	1,120	955	160.0	1,425	1,200	126
Br. Columbia	4.0	39	32	5.3	48	41	128
Western Canada	200.0	1,804	1,532	277.3	2,483	2,101	137
C A N A D A	471.2	4,342	3,642	640.4	5,916	4,882	134

^{1/} Pigs alive at weaning time or alive, not yet weaned, at December 1.

Table 4.- Estimates of Sows Expected to Farrow December 1958 to May, 1959 and Sows Farrowed December, 1957 to May, 1958.

Province	Farrowed Spring Period 1958	Expected to Farrow Spring Period 1959	Intentions 1959 as % 1958
	- numbers -		%
Pr. Edward Island	5,900	7,800	132
Nova Scotia	4,200	6,000	143
New Brunswick	6,500	8,000	123
Quebec	114,000	145,000	127
Ontario	190,000	270,000	142
Eastern Canada	320,600	436,800	136
Manitoba	45,000	51,000	113
Saskatchewan	91,000	100,000	110
Alberta	162,000	170,000	105
Br. Columbia	5,000	7,500	150
Western Canada	303,000	328,500	108
C A N A D A	623,600	765,300	123



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Table 5.- Estimates of Sows Bred to Farrow, December, 1958 to February, 1959 and
Sows Farrowed December, 1957 to February, 1958

(Based on Quarterly Pig Surveys)

Province	Farrowed 1958	Expected to Farrow 1959	1959 as % of 1958
	- numbers -		%
Maritimes	5,500	8,700	158
Quebec	45,000	65,000	144
Ontario	75,000	105,000	140
Totals, Eastern Canada	125,500	178,700	142
Manitoba	12,000	16,000	133
Saskatchewan	20,000	28,000	140
Alberta	55,000	73,000	133
British Columbia	2,300	2,300	100
Totals, Western Canada	89,300	119,300	134
Totals, C A N A D A	214,800	298,000	139

Table 6.- Hog-Barley Ratios, by Month, 1953-1958

Months	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
January	15.1	28.1	16.2	16.3	23.0	22.7
February	16.1	28.9	15.3	16.3	25.8	25.0
March	17.0	30.7	16.0	15.2	24.7	26.2
April	17.0	30.6	15.9	14.3	24.3	26.4
May	19.0	31.7	17.0	14.7	25.1	28.1
June	20.7	28.3	19.7	18.8	28.3	27.5
July	21.4	23.6	19.0	19.8	29.1	25.2
August	23.2	18.4	19.4	19.6	29.8	24.4
September	23.8	16.3	19.7	20.6	28.5	20.6
October	26.5	15.8	16.4	21.9	23.3	18.9
November	24.8	16.0	16.3	21.5	21.6	18.4
December	27.4	17.1	16.4	22.4	22.9	18.4
Averages	20.6	23.1	17.2	18.4	25.5	23.4

- 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 and for 1949 to 1958 it was 19.9.