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REPORT ON THE POULTRY SURVEY OF DECEMBER 1, 1957

These estimates of poultry numbers on farms in Canada 1/ at December 1 are based on farmers' replies in the semi-annual mail survey and were prepared in co-operation with Provincial Officials. The estimates for December 1, 1956, included for purposes of comparison, have been revised on the basis of the 1956 Census and supersede estimates previously published for December 1, 1956.

Total poultry on farms at December 1, 1957, estimated at 49,990,000 birds, showed an increase of 6 per cent from the revised total of 46,991,000 on hand at December 1, 1956. The estimate for December 1, 1957 is composed of 45,979,000 hens and chickens, 3,397,000 turkeys, 272,000 geese and 342,000 ducks.

The estimate of 45,979,000 hens and chickens is 6 per cent higher than the December 1956 estimate of 43,270,000. A substantial increase (13 per cent or 2,300,000 birds) occurred in Ontario; Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia had more moderate increases while the three Maritime Provinces and Saskatchewan had moderate decreases from the number of birds on hand at December 1, 1956.

Hens and pullets 6 months old and over increased 2 per cent to 28,110,000. Increases in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia were largely offset by decreases in all other provinces. Pullets from 2 to 6 months of age, most of which would have been already laying at December 1, increased 9 per cent to 5,451,000 as compared with 5,010,000 last year though decreases took place in all provinces east of Ontario. Estimates of 4,568,000 cocks and cockerels and 7,850,000 chicks were respectively 16 and 18 per cent higher than the revised estimates for these categories at December 1, 1956. Increases in the number of chicks correspond with hatchery statistics compiled by Production Services, Canada Department of Agriculture, which indicate a considerable increase in placement of broiler chicks during the fall period of 1957.

A 9 per cent increase in turkeys, which are estimated at 3,397,000 as compared to 3,105,000 at December 1, 1956, was due entirely to a marked increase of 35 per cent in Ontario and a 6 per cent increase in Manitoba. Decreases ranging from 2 to 20 per cent occurred in five provinces while two provinces showed no change. A larger than usual proportion of output, especially in the Western Provinces, was marketed prior to December 1, in 1957. Geese decreased 4 per cent and ducks increased 3 per cent from the revised estimate for December 1, 1956.

1/ Current estimates for Newfoundland are not available. The Census of June 1, 1956 reports 108,707 head of poultry on farms. By class, the number reported was: hens and chickens, 105,783; turkeys, 2,084; geese, 307; ducks, 533. Elsewhere than on farms there were 180,041 hens and chickens and 2,910 other poultry.

Prepared in Livestock Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION

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TABLE 1. TOTAL POULTRY ON FARMS IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1956^{1/} & 57

PROVINCE	1957					1/ 1956 Total	Dec. 1, 1957 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1956
	Hens and Chickens	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks	Total		
- thousand birds -							%
Prince Edward Island	516	12	10	9	547	586	93
Nova Scotia	1,500	40	2	1	1,543	1,575	98
New Brunswick	698	40	4	2	744	786	95
Quebec	7,725	550	10	50	8,335	8,165	102
Ontario	20,500	1,485	97	140	22,222	19,535	114
Manitoba	3,200	345	30	25	3,600	3,538	102
Saskatchewan	3,930	310	38	44	4,322	4,408	98
Alberta	4,940	410	70	55	5,475	5,235	105
British Columbia	2,970	205	11	16	3,202	3,163	101
CANADA	45,979	3,397	272	342	49,990	46,991	106

TABLE 2. HENS AND CHICKENS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1956^{1/} & 57

	Dec. 1, 1957	June 1, 1957	Dec. 1 1956 ^{1/}	Dec. 1, 1957 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1956	
- thousand birds -					%
A. Total Hens and Chickens					
Prince Edward Island	516	770	550	94	
Nova Scotia	1,500	1,832	1,530	98	
New Brunswick	698	1,090	730	96	
Quebec	7,725	11,300	7,500	103	
Ontario	20,500	27,825	18,200	113	
Manitoba	3,200	6,350	3,150	102	
Saskatchewan	3,930	8,100	4,010	98	
Alberta	4,940	9,750	4,700	105	
British Columbia	2,970	4,220	2,900	102	
CANADA	45,979	71,237	43,270	106	
B. Hens and Pullets, 6 Months and Over					
Prince Edward Island	320	375	345	93	
Nova Scotia	1,020	810	1,090	94	
New Brunswick	480	430	500	96	
Quebec	3,575	3,500	3,760	95	
Ontario	12,000	8,900	11,400	105	
Manitoba	2,475	2,150	2,400	103	
Saskatchewan	2,800	2,655	3,000	93	
Alberta	3,375	2,900	3,200	105	
British Columbia	2,065	1,700	1,950	106	
CANADA	28,110	23,420	27,645	102	

^{1/} Revised on the basis of the 1956 Census

TABLE 2. (CONCL'D) HENS AND CHICKENS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1956^{1/} & 57

PROVINCE	Dec. 1, 1957	June 1, 1957	Dec. 1, 1956 ^{1/}	Dec. 1, 1957 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1956
- thousand birds -				%
C. <u>Pullets, 2 Months to 6 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	138	80	140	99
Nova Scotia	120	587	150	80
New Brunswick	63	185	110	57
Quebec	1,125	1,700	1,290	87
Ontario	1,600	6,250	1,100	145
Manitoba	350	725	350	100
Saskatchewan	755	445	670	113
Alberta	940	1,225	900	104
British Columbia	360	1,050	300	120
CANADA	5,451	12,247	5,010	109
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D. <u>Cocks and Cockerels Over 2 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	53	25	60	88
Nova Scotia	60	60	55	109
New Brunswick	45	95	70	64
Quebec	1,025	1,200	850	121
Ontario	2,400	2,275	1,950	123
Manitoba	160	375	190	84
Saskatchewan	360	400	335	107
Alberta	345	875	325	106
British Columbia	120	160	110	109
CANADA	4,568	5,465	3,945	116
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E. <u>Chicks Up to 2 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	5	290	5	100
Nova Scotia	300	375	235	128
New Brunswick	110	380	50	220
Quebec	2,000	4,900	1,600	125
Ontario	4,500	10,400	3,750	120
Manitoba	215	3,100	210	102
Saskatchewan	15	4,600	5	300
Alberta	280	4,750	275	102
British Columbia	425	1,310	540	79
CANADA	7,850	30,105	6,670	118

^{1/} Revised on the basis of the 1956 Census.

TABLE 3. TURKEYS, GEESE AND DUCKS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1956^{1/} & 57

PROVINCE	Dec. 1, 1957	June 1, 1957	Dec. 1, 1956 ^{1/}	Dec. 1, 1957 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1956
	- thousand birds -			%
<u>TURKEYS</u>				
Prince Edward Island	12	11	15	80
Nova Scotia	40	56	40	100
New Brunswick	40	42	50	80
Quebec	550	610	615	89
Ontario	1,485	1,650	1,100	135
Manitoba	345	780	325	106
Saskatchewan	310	900	315	98
Alberta	410	860	410	100
British Columbia	205	333	235	87
CANADA	3,397	5,242	3,105	109
<u>G E E S E</u>				
Prince Edward Island	10	9	10	100
Nova Scotia	2	2	3	67
New Brunswick	4	4	4	100
Quebec	10	10	11	91
Ontario	97	96	100	97
Manitoba	30	34	38	79
Saskatchewan	38	48	41	93
Alberta	70	80	65	108
British Columbia	11	12	11	100
CANADA	272	295	283	96
<u>D U C K S</u>				
Prince Edward Island	9	6	11	82
Nova Scotia	1	1	2	-
New Brunswick	2	2	2	100
Quebec	50	40	39	128
Ontario	140	124	135	104
Manitoba	25	40	25	100
Saskatchewan	44	67	42	105
Alberta	55	90	60	92
British Columbia	16	24	17	94
CANADA	342	394	333	103

^{1/} Revised on the basis of the 1956 Census.