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REPORT ON THE POULTRY SURVEY OF DECEMBER 1, 1964

The total of all poultry on farms in Canada (1) at December 1, 1964 estimated at 58.8 million birds, was about 5 per cent higher than at December 1, 1963 when the comparable total was 56.2 million birds. The estimate for December 1, 1964 includes 54,624,000 hens and chickens; 3,739,000 turkeys; 209,000 geese and 242,600 ducks.

The estimate of 54.6 million hens and chickens is 5 per cent higher than the December 1963 estimate of 52.2 million. Although the number of laying hens 6 months old and over was up 12 per cent, the number of pullets 2 months to 6 months old was down 4 per cent from December 1, 1963. There were 7 per cent fewer egg-type pullet chicks placed during the latter half of 1964 compared to the same period in 1963. As a result the number of layers is expected to decline to below the year earlier level by about mid 1965. Spring placements will determine whether or not this downward adjustment persists through the balance of the year.

There were 7 per cent more turkeys on farms at December 1, 1964 than at December 1, 1963. Increases are indicated in all provinces except Saskatchewan. There were fewer geese and ducks on farms than a year ago. Year-to-year changes in the numbers left on farms at December 1 do not directly reflect changes in production. The proportion of total production marketed before December 1 varies from year to year.

Estimates of poultry numbers on farms are based on semi-annual mailed questionnaire surveys conducted in co-operation with Provincial Government Departments at June 1 and December 1 and on hatchery statistics compiled by the Canada Department of Agriculture. The semi-annual estimates of poultry numbers provide a basis for monthly estimates of number of layers and egg production. Revised monthly estimates of egg production for the period June-December will appear in the January report 'Production of Eggs', Catalogue Number 23-003.

- (1) Current estimates for Newfoundland are not available. The Census of June 1, 1961 reports 231,385 head of poultry on farms. By class, the number reported were: hens and chickens, 227,929; turkeys, 2,468; geese, 467; ducks, 521. Elsewhere than farms there were 61,003 hens and chickens and 1,305 other poultry.

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Table 1. Poultry on Farms in Canada, by Province, as at December 1, 1963-64

	1963 Total	1964				Total	Dec. 1/64 as a % of Dec. 1/63 %
		Hens and Chickens	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks		
		thousand birds					
Prince Edward Island	341.0	319.0	6.0	4.0	3.0	332.0	97
Nova Scotia.....	1,854.0	1,800.0	48.0	0.6	1.0	1,849.6	100
New Brunswick.....	891.2	865.0	25.0	1.4	0.6	892.0	100
Quebec.....	13,369.0	13,200.0	725.0	10.0	50.0	13,985.0	105
Ontario.....	21,885.0	21,850.0	2,000.0	65.0	110.0	24,025.0	110
Manitoba.....	4,345.0	4,425.0	255.0	40.0	15.0	4,735.0	109
Saskatchewan.....	2,990.0	2,625.0	120.0	20.0	15.0	2,780.0	93
Alberta.....	5,245.0	4,600.0	325.0	60.0	35.0	5,020.0	96
British Columbia.....	5,243.0	4,940.0	235.0	8.0	13.0	5,196.0	99
Canada.....	56,163.2	54,624.0	3,739.0	209.0	242.6	58,814.6	105

TABLE 2. Hens and Chickens on Farms, by Province, as at December 1, 1963-64

	Dec. 1, 1963	June 1, 1964	Dec. 1, 1964	Dec. 1/64 as a % of Dec. 1/63 %
A. Total hens and chickens				
Prince Edward Island.....	330.0	445.0	319.0	97
Nova Scotia.....	1,810.0	2,110.0	1,800.0	99
New Brunswick.....	875.0	1,070.0	865.0	99
Quebec.....	12,630.0	13,640.0	13,200.0	105
Ontario.....	19,720.0	24,450.0	21,850.0	111
Manitoba.....	4,090.0	6,270.0	4,425.0	108
Saskatchewan.....	2,810.0	6,050.0	2,625.0	93
Alberta.....	4,850.0	8,600.0	4,600.0	95
British Columbia.....	5,070.0	5,990.0	4,940.0	97
Canada.....	52,185.0	68,625.0	54,624.0	105
B. Hens and Pullets, 6 months and over:				
Prince Edward Island.....	250.0	245.0	260.0	104
Nova Scotia.....	1,080.0	875.0	940.0	87
New Brunswick.....	550.0	470.0	570.0	104
Quebec.....	3,640.0	3,475.0	4,385.0	120
Ontario.....	9,440.0	9,100.0	10,950.0	116
Manitoba.....	2,240.0	2,240.0	2,725.0	122
Saskatchewan.....	1,850.0	1,690.0	1,825.0	99
Alberta.....	2,500.0	2,280.0	2,600.0	104
British Columbia.....	2,425.0	2,510.0	2,540.0	105
Canada.....	23,975.0	22,885.0	26,795.0	112

TABLE 2. Hens and Chickens on Farms, by Province, at December 1, 1963-64 - Concl.

	Dec. 1, 1963	June 1, 1964	Dec. 1, 1964	Dec. 1/64 as a % of Dec. 1/63
	thousand birds			%
C. Pullets - Pullets, 2 months to 6 months old intended for laying:				
Prince Edward Island	48.0	70.0	40.0	83
Nova Scotia	160.0	220.0	230.0	144
New Brunswick	70.0	150.0	60.0	86
Quebec	1,040.0	1,215.0	980.0	94
Ontario	2,290.0	2,700.0	2,250.0	98
Manitoba	700.0	750.0	650.0	93
Saskatchewan	415.0	360.0	300.0	72
Alberta	350.0	860.0	355.0	101
British Columbia	645.0	740.0	640.0	99
Canada	5,718.0	7,065.0	5,505.0	96
D. Chicks - Chicks under 2 months old:				
Prince Edward Island	7.0	110.0	4.0	57
Nova Scotia	480.0	900.0	460.0	96
New Brunswick	220.0	380.0	215.0	98
Quebec	6,500.0	8,000.0	6,720.0	103
Ontario	6,790.0	11,300.0	7,250.0	107
Manitoba	720.0	2,900.0	720.0	100
Saskatchewan	265.0	3,700.0	250.0	94
Alberta	1,400.0	4,800.0	1,100.0	79
British Columbia	1,710.0	2,350.0	1,500.0	88
Canada	18,092.0	34,440.0	18,219.0	101
E Others - All chickens, 2 months and older not intended for laying:				
Prince Edward Island	25.0	20.0	15.0	60
Nova Scotia	90.0	115.0	170.0	189
New Brunswick	35.0	70.0	20.0	57
Quebec	1,450.0	950.0	1,115.0	77
Ontario	1,200.0	1,350.0	1,400.0	117
Manitoba	430.0	380.0	330.0	77
Saskatchewan	280.0	300.0	250.0	89
Alberta	600.0	660.0	545.0	91
British Columbia	290.0	390.0	260.0	90
Canada	4,400.0	4,235.0	4,105.0	93

TABLE 3. Turkeys, Geese and Ducks on Farms, by Province, at December 1, 1963-64

	Dec. 1, 1963	June 1, 1964	Dec. 1, 1964	Dec. 1/64 as a % of Dec. 1/63
	thousand birds			%
A. Turkeys:				
Prince Edward Island	4.0	9.0	6.0	150
Nova Scotia	42.0	47.0	48.0	114
New Brunswick	14.0	15.0	25.0	179
Quebec	680.0	710.0	725.0	107
Ontario	1,980.0	2,910.0	2,000.0	101
Manitoba	200.0	885.0	255.0	128
Saskatchewan	140.0	705.0	120.0	86
Alberta	300.0	750.0	325.0	108
British Columbia	150.0	500.0	235.0	157
Canada	3,510.0	6,531.0	3,739.0	107
B. Geese:				
Prince Edward Island	5.0	4.0	4.0	80
Nova Scotia	1.0	0.8	0.6	60
New Brunswick	1.4	1.0	1.4	100
Quebec	12.0	10.0	10.0	83
Ontario	60.0	78.0	65.0	108
Manitoba	40.0	75.0	40.0	100
Saskatchewan	25.0	35.0	20.0	80
Alberta	60.0	80.0	60.0	100
British Columbia	7.0	9.0	8.0	114
Canada	211.4	292.8	209.0	99
C. Ducks:				
Prince Edward Island	2.0	1.6	3.0	150
Nova Scotia	1.0	0.7	1.0	100
New Brunswick	0.8	0.6	0.6	75
Quebec	47.0	67.0	50.0	106
Ontario	125.0	133.0	110.0	88
Manitoba	15.0	18.0	15.0	100
Saskatchewan	15.0	50.0	15.0	100
Alberta	35.0	85.0	35.0	100
British Columbia	16.0	25.0	13.0	81
Canada	256.8	380.9	242.6	94