

23-204

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Hon. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce



Memorandum

SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION

1957

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AUG 21 1957
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The 1957 wool clip from sheep on farms in Canada totalled 6,050,000 pounds, a decrease of 2 per cent from the revised estimate of 6,165,000 pounds in 1956. This decline in shorn wool production may be attributed to fewer sheep shorn this spring, together with a lighter average fleece weight. The comparable estimates are as follows (1956 in brackets): sheep shorn, 840,300 head (847,000); average fleece weight, 7.2 pounds (7.3).

All of the drop in shorn wool production occurred in Eastern Canada, as the West held steady at 2,946,000 pounds. Eastern farmers reported fewer sheep shorn and lighter fleeces, compared to what was reported in 1956. The estimates based on these reports are: 455,300 sheep shorn in 1957, as against 464,500 in 1956, and fleeces averaging 6.8 pounds compared to 6.9 pounds in 1956. Sheep shorn on western farms and ranches, estimated at 385,000 head, were slightly more than the 382,500 shorn in 1956. The average fleece weight remained at 7.7 pounds.

This information is derived from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual wool survey. The 1956 figures have been revised to bring them into line with census information. The survey has not yet been extended to the Province of Newfoundland; consequently the Canada total figures shown in the table are for nine provinces only.

Table 1.-Shorn Wool Production, by Province, 1956 and 1957

	Sheep Shorn		Average Fleece Weight 2/		Production 2/	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	number		pounds		'000 pounds	
Prince Edward Island	16,900	16,900	7.1	7.2	120	123
Nova Scotia	46,000	43,900	6.0	6.0	276	265
New Brunswick	32,600	33,500	6.6	6.3	215	212
Quebec	175,000	167,500	6.5	6.6	1,138	1,104
Ontario	194,000	193,500	7.6	7.2	1,475	1,400
Totals, East	464,500	455,300	6.9	6.8	3,224	3,104
Manitoba	38,000	36,500	6.8	6.3	259	230
Saskatchewan	80,000	81,000	7.8	7.5	624	610
Alberta	219,000	225,000	7.8	7.9	1,708	1,776
British Columbia	45,500	42,500	7.7	7.7	350	328
Totals, West	382,500	385,000	7.7	7.7	2,941	2,946
TOTALS, CANADA	847,000	840,300	7.3	7.2	6,165	6,050

1/ Not including Newfoundland.

2/ Greasy basis.

Prepared in Livestock Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION

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