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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
FUR STATISTICS BRANCH

ADVANCE REPORT
on the
FUR PRODUCTION
of
CANADA
Season
1930 - 1931



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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
OTTAWA - CANADA

Fur Statistics Section

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ADVANCE REPORT ON THE FUR PRODUCTION OF CANADA,
SEASON, 1930-31.

Canada's raw fur production of the season 1930-31 (12 months ended June 30, 1931) had a total value of \$11,604,407, a decrease from the preceding season of \$553,969, or 4½ per cent. The decrease in value is due to the lower prices prevailing in the fur trade, as the number of pelts marketed was greater than in the season 1929-30 for nearly all of the principal kinds of furs. The total number of pelts (comprising the pelts of ranch bred animals and of those taken by trappers) was 4,057,479, compared with 3,798,444 in 1929-30.

The silver fox, for the second season in succession, occupies first place among the fur producers of Canada the total value of the pelts for the season 1930-31 being \$3,216,217, practically the whole of this amount being credited to the ranch bred fox. The number of silver fox pelts sold was 71,816 - more than double the number recorded for any one of the preceding four seasons. The average price per pelt was \$44.78 - the lowest average recorded within recent years for silver fox pelts. Muskrat is next in importance to the silver fox with a total value in 1930-31 of \$2,142,736, and is followed by white fox with \$1,669,599, mink with \$904,350, and beaver with \$740,258. All of these kinds show increases in number of pelts, compared with the preceding season. Other kinds of furs having a production in 1930-31 valued at over \$100,000, are, red fox, ermine, marten, patch or cross fox, coyote, lynx, otter, badger, fisher or pekan, and skunk.

Ontario was first among the provinces in order of value of raw fur production for the season 1930-31, but there was a difference of only \$82,478 in value between it and the province of Quebec. The Northwest Territories was third in order of value with a total of \$1,872,397, and Saskatchewan and Alberta are next, the former with \$1,132,718, and the latter with \$1,118,059. The other provinces fall below the million dollar mark.

The statistics of the present report have been prepared from statements furnished to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics by the Game Departments of all of the provinces (excepting Prince Edward Island) and of the Yukon Territory. For the Northwest Territories the Bureau collects returns directly from the fur traders, while for Prince Edward Island the returns of fur farms have supplied information regarding the pelts of ranch bred animals, and the returns of fur traders the particulars concerning the small number of pelts of animals taken by trappers in that province.

Tables 1 and 2, which follow, give statistics of raw fur production for the season 1930-31, with comparative data for preceding seasons, and tables 3 and 4 show imports and exports of raw furs.

1. Kind, Number, Total Value and Average Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals Taken in Canada, by Provinces, Season 1930-31.

Kind	Number of Pelts	Total Value of Pelts	Average Value per Pelt	
		\$	\$	¢
<u>CANADA</u>				
Badger	8,039	139,923	17.04	
Bear, black and brown	4,632	22,912	4.95	
Bear, grizzly	-	-	-	
Bear, white	261	2,131	8.16	
Bear, unspecified	-	-	-	
Beaver	50,119	740,258	14.77	
Coyote or prairie wolf	21,132	252,190	11.93	
Ermine (weasel)	545,763	415,943	.76	
Fisher or pekan	3,069	137,774	44.89	
Fox, blue	1,127	47,383	42.49	
Fox, patch or cross	8,955	384,479	42.93	
Fox, red	28,671	445,099	15.52	
Fox, silver	71,876	3,216,217	44.78	
Fox, white	71,877	1,669,599	23.23	
Fox, unspecified	279	4,036	14.65	
Lynx	7,976	206,019	25.83	
Marmot	47	21	.51	
Marten	25,879	408,914	15.80	
Mink	97,083	904,350	9.31	
Muskrat	2,639,086	2,142,736	.81	
Otter	8,685	167,578	19.29	
Rabbit, chinchilla	79	43	.54	
Rabbit, other	99,145	7,210	.07	
Raccoon	17,265	86,207	4.99	
Skunk	89,136	106,199	1.19	
Squirrel	248,564	24,815	.10	
Wild cat	464	1,974	4.25	
Wolf	5,682	61,744	10.87	
Wolverine or carcajou	835	5,860	7.02	
Caribou	-	-	-	
Deer	272	403	1.50	
Moose	263	789	3.00	
Cougar	491	982	2.00	
Civet cat	-	-	-	
Gopher	610	31	.05	
Domestic cat	133	59	.29	
Total	4,057,479	11,604,407		

2. Total Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals, by Provinces, Seasons, 1927-28, 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31.

Province	Season 1927-28	Season 1928-29	Season 1929-30	Season 1930-31
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island	838,525	794,611	646,685	760,764
Nova Scotia	398,305	442,096	531,990	427,351
New Brunswick	435,027	551,663	351,709	504,160
Quebec	3,500,194	2,589,955	1,658,358	2,106,108
Ontario	4,401,889	4,346,894	2,880,039	2,188,586
Manitoba	1,461,116	1,292,275	809,673	698,261
Saskatchewan	1,869,551	2,208,546	1,328,545	1,132,718
Alberta	1,661,692	2,473,185	1,174,163	1,118,059
British Columbia	1,580,562	1,449,786	849,276	650,779
Northwest Territories	2,000,968	2,111,543	1,632,446	1,872,397
Yukon Territory	610,348	484,919	295,492	145,224
Total for Canada	18,758,177	18,745,473	12,158,376	11,604,407

† Subject to revision.

3. Number, Value and Average Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals taken in Canada, Seasons, 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31.

Kind		Season 1928-29	Season 1929-30	Season 1930-31
Badger	No.	34,761	14,793	8,039
	\$	740,285	269,653	139,923
	Av. Val.\$	21.30	18.23	17.04
Bear, black and brown	No.	6,694	6,424	4,632
	\$	45,473	38,431	22,912
	Av. Val.\$	6.79	5.98	4.95
Bear, grizzly	No.	56	26	-
	\$	684	316	-
	Av. Val.\$	12.21	12.15	-
Bear, white	No.	304	331	261
	\$	6,472	4,598	2,131
	Av. Val.\$	21.29	13.89	8.16
Bear, unspecified	No.	134	164	-
	\$	1,262	1,181	-
Beaver	No.	57,043	47,775	50,119
	\$	1,517,706	1,025,033	740,258
	Av. Val.\$	26.61	21.46	14.77
Coyote or Prairie wolf ^x	No.	51,736	32,411	21,132
	\$	847,679	468,475	252,190
	Av. Val.\$	16.38	14.45	11.93
Ermine (weasel)	No.	888,964	719,909	545,763
	\$	1,198,858	625,328	415,943
	Av. Val.\$	1.35	.87	0.76
Fisher or pekan	No.	6,606	4,274	3,069
	\$	397,185	240,700	137,774
	Av. Val.\$	60.12	56.32	44.89
Fox, blue	No.	316	827	1,127
	\$	23,090	44,666	47,883
	Av. Val.\$	73.07	54.01	42.49
Fox, patch or cross	No.	8,472	6,662	8,955
	\$	638,241	397,501	384,479
	Av. Val.\$	75.34	59.67	42.93
Fox, red	No.	37,964	28,719	28,671
	\$	1,132,186	624,410	445,099
	Av. Val.\$	29.82	21.74	15.52
Fox, silver	No.	26,259	33,555	71,816
	\$	2,738,373	2,716,264	3,216,217
	Av. Val.\$	104.28	80.95	44.78
Fox, white	No.	18,572	37,617	71,877
	\$	993,259	1,238,917	1,669,599
	Av. Val.\$	53.48	32.94	23.23
Fox, unspecified	No.	164	318	279
	\$	4,760	5,789	4,086
Lynx	No.	11,604	7,621	7,976
	\$	545,703	298,180	206,019
	Av. Val.\$	47.03	39.13	25.83

x Coyote or prairie wolf pelts from Manitoba are included with wolf pelts.

3. Number, Value and Average Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals taken in Canada, Seasons, 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31, Cont'd.

Kind		Season 1928-29	Season 1929-30	Season 1930-31
Marmot	No.	-	138	41
	\$	-	69	21
	Av. Val. \$	-	.50	0.51
Marten	No.	34,497	27,396	25,879
	\$	1,081,350	516,817	408,914
	Av. Val. \$	31.35	18.86	15.80
Mink	No.	79,548	81,328	97,083
	\$	1,663,114	1,010,198	904,350
	Av. Val. \$	20.91	12.42	9.31
Muskrat	No.	2,785,994	2,109,232	2,639,086
	\$	3,924,949	1,781,651	2,142,736
	Av. Val. \$	1.41	.84	0.81
Otter	No.	10,691	12,318	8,685
	\$	361,753	344,212	167,578
	Av. Val. \$	33.84	27.50	19.29
Rabbit, chinchilla	No.	-	121	79
	\$	-	109	43
	Av. Val. \$	-	.90	0.54
Rabbit, other	No.	236,163	232,501	99,145
	\$	31,059	23,225	7,210
	Av. Val. \$	.13	.10	0.07
Raccoon	No.	25,576	22,776	17,265
	\$	203,044	148,540	86,201
	Av. Val. \$	7.94	6.52	4.99
Skunk	No.	118,196	103,681	89,186
	\$	222,240	137,544	106,199
	Av. Val. \$	1.88	1.33	1.19
Squirrel	No.	686,612	252,476	248,564
	\$	135,351	33,154	24,815
	Av. Val. \$	.20	.13	0.10
Wild cat	No.	1,728	827	464
	\$	11,742	5,469	1,974
	Av. Val. \$	7.80	6.61	4.25
Wolf ^x	No.	13,162	7,798	5,682
	\$	243,747	137,219	61,744
	Av. Val. \$	18.52	17.95	10.87
Wolverine or carcajou	No.	1,397	1,015	835
	\$	25,003	9,871	5,860
	Av. Val. \$	17.90	9.73	7.02
Caribou	No.	446	428	-
	\$	1,069	1,290	-
	Av. Val. \$	2.40	3.01	-
Deer	No.	2,439	2,183	272
	\$	5,116	4,659	408
	Av. Val. \$	2.10	2.13	1.50
Moose	No.	456	541	263
	\$	1,498	2,863	789
	Av. Val. \$	3.29	5.29	3.00

x Coyote or prairie wolf pelts from Manitoba are included with wolf pelts.

3. Number, Value and Average Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals taken in Canada, Seasons, 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31, Cont'd.

Kind		Season 1928-29	Season 1929-30	Season 1930-31
Cougar	No.	530	492	491
	\$	2,539	1,657	982
	Av. Val. \$	4.79	3.37	2.00
Civet cat	No.	229	408	-
	\$	151	130	-
	Av. Val. \$	.66	.32	-
Gopher	No.	1,502	358	610
	\$	75	18	31
	Av. Val. \$	.05	.05	0.05
Domestic cat	No.	1,513	801	133
	\$	457	239	39
	Av. Val. \$	.30	.30	0.29
Total number of pelts		5,150,328	3,798,444	4,057,479
Total value of pelts		\$ 18,745,473	12,158,376	11,604,407

Imports and Exports of Raw Furs
(Compiled by the External Trade Branch)

3. Statement Showing the Values of Raw Furs Imported for Consumption, into Canada, during the twelve months ending June 30, 1930 and 1931.

Kind	1930		1931	
		\$		\$
<u>Fur Skins, undressed:</u>				
Produce of marine animals.....		9,341		3,628
Fox skins.....		1,300,566		450,187
Kolinsky skins.....		327,523		208,469
Mink skins.....		483,561		342,222
Muskrat skins.....		1,009,553		1,066,221
Persian lamb skins.....		467,699		453,976
Rabbit skins.....		416,218		206,206
Fur skins, n.o.p.....		3,504,136		2,724,475
Fur tails in the raw state.....		388		99
Total Value of Raw Furs imported.....		7,518,885		5,455,483

4. Statement Showing the Numbers and Values of Raw Furs of Canadian Origin Exported from Canada during the twelve months ending June 30, 1930 and 1931.

Kind	1930		1931	
	No.	\$	No.	\$
<u>Fur Skins, Undressed:</u>				
Beaver skins.....	92,326	2,547,211	75,208	1,388,382
Fisher skins.....	5,267	367,162	3,668	222,955
Fox skins, black and silver.....	38,227	2,649,113	101,263	4,640,506
Fox skins, other than black and silver.....	66,235	2,648,725	61,947	1,938,551
Lynx skins.....	9,499	467,867	9,101	315,890
Marten skins.....	31,626	963,339	26,042	474,806
Mink skins.....	108,464	1,866,873	118,153	1,292,102
Muskrat skins.....	1,555,521	1,644,829	1,904,902	1,353,019
Seal skins.....	22,636	88,608	13,331	32,270
Wolf skins.....	64,903	1,065,201	33,812	396,273
Fur skins, n.o.p.....	-	2,878,471	-	1,489,334
Total Value of Raw Furs exported.....	-	17,187,399	-	13,544,088

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