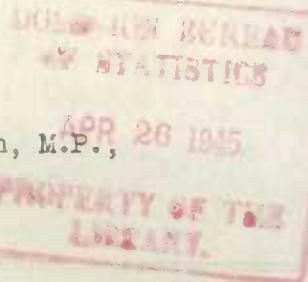


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### PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE FUR PRODUCTION OF CANADA SEASON 1943-44

The statistics of raw fur production are prepared from statements furnished the Bureau by the Provincial game departments (excepting Prince Edward Island). Those for Prince Edward Island are based on returns made to the Bureau by the traders who handled the furs produced in the province.

#### SUMMARY

A new record value of raw fur production was established in the year ending June 30, 1944 when a total of \$32,364,000 worth of pelts were taken by trappers or sold from fur farms. The 1943-44 figure represents an increase of \$3.8 million or 13.5 per cent from the previous high recorded in 1942-43. Higher prices for almost all types of furs were largely responsible for the increase in value although the take of certain classes of animals was also higher. On a provincial basis Ontario was the leader with total raw fur production valued at slightly over \$7 million, with Quebec and Alberta in second and third place at approximately \$6 million and \$4.7 million, respectively. All provinces except Nova Scotia and New Brunswick reported higher values in 1943-44 than in the previous twelve-month period. Values from the Northwest Territories were lower in 1943-44.

Pelts of mink contributed the largest amount of the total value of raw furs in 1943-44 at a valuation of over \$7 million. Silver fox furs, including the new types, were in second place at slightly over \$5 million. Beaver and muskrat, largely taken by trappers, ranked third and fourth according to the value of pelts taken. The highest value of pelts was again that of the fisher at \$76.21 per pelt, and the average value of new type fox at \$58.95 per pelt and lynx at \$51.96 per pelt ranked second and third. The only pelts showing a decline in value in 1943-44 were those of muskrat which declined from \$2.74 to \$2.29 per pelt and those of badger from \$6.91 to \$4.14 per pelt. The value of mink pelts, including new type, increased sharply from an average of \$11.08 in 1942-43 to an average of \$19.55 per pelt in 1943-44.

Table 1

Total Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals, by Provinces,  
Seasons, 1941-42, 1942-43 and 1943-44

	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island .....	735,189	760,385	795,434
Nova Scotia .....	532,059	920,515	764,863
New Brunswick .....	834,671	864,489	834,741
Quebec .....	3,894,630	4,562,354	6,167,605
Ontario .....	3,965,003	5,806,743	7,129,781
Manitoba .....	2,596,436	3,242,655	3,832,641
Saskatchewan .....	2,245,275	2,440,942	3,437,777
Alberta .....	5,162,636	4,542,818	4,686,311
British Columbia .....	1,655,137	1,860,990	2,736,991
Northwest Territories .....	2,840,701	3,165,107	1,510,511
Yukon Territory .....	398,132	338,035	467,188
TOTAL .....	24,859,869	28,505,033	32,363,843

Table 2

Number and Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals taken in Canada,  
Seasons 1942-43 and 1943-44

	1942-43		1943-44		
	Total Number	Value	Wildlife Number	Ranch Raised Number	Total Value
	\$	\$		\$	
Badger .....	7,575	52,331	11,212	-	46,470
Bear, grizzly .....	-	-	8	-	160
Bear, white .....	65	385	80	-	2,000
Bear, unspecified .....	1,032	3,293	1,442	-	4,751
Beaver .....	102,241	3,026,652	128,801	15	4,773,988
Chinchilla .....	-	-	-	5	78
Coyote or prairie wolf 1/	43,477	673,211	59,032	142	950,318
Ermine (weasel) .....	707,726	1,116,097	800,663	-	1,741,481
Fisher .....	2,165	109,611	3,303	16	252,937

1/ Coyote or prairie wolf pelts for Manitoba are included with wolf pelts.

Table 2 (Concluded)

Number and Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals taken in Canada,  
Seasons 1942-43 and 1943-44

	1942-43		1943-44		Total Value
	Total Number	Value	Wildlife Number	Ranch Raised Number	
Fitch .....	543	1,415	-	374	1,020
Fox, blue .....	3,141	82,854	306	2,421	86,436
Fox, cross .....	34,796	611,895	40,126	862	770,063
Fox, red .....	139,304	1,741,709	189,589	892	2,645,757
Fox, silver .....	187,753	4,663,079	4,257	122,415	4,301,788
Fox, platinum .....	3,414}	141,321}	-	2,662	276,434
Fox, white marked .....			-	10,378	492,340
Fox, white .....	74,190	2,104,645	18,133	-	602,411
Fox, unspecified .....	148	1,564	298	-	5,039
Lynx .....	7,606	336,783	9,780	6	508,474
Marten .....	15,087	595,057	19,472	35	902,901
Mink .....	527,663	5,848,242	159,295	204,680	7,114,678
Muskrat .....	2,068,468	5,671,910	1,980,893	242	4,546,102
Nutria .....	83	286	-	90	504
Otter .....	9,200	177,845	12,050	-	289,179
Rabbit .....	1,080,285	214,256	592,825	331	175,044
Raccoon .....	23,189	115,784	33,267	200	178,962
Skunk .....	143,277	320,230	219,099	-	682,702
Squirrel .....	2,227,161	766,319	1,601,182	-	817,813
Wild cat .....	2,117	27,958	2,214	-	36,454
Wolf <u>1/</u> .....	6,599	97,596	9,967	-	153,163
Wolverine .....	300	2,521	385	-	4,365
House cat .....	366	184	62	-	31
TOTAL .....	7,418,971	28,505,033	5,897,741	345,766	32,363,843

1/ Coyote or prairie wolf pelts for Manitoba are included with wolf pelts.



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Table 3

Average Value of Pelts of Fur-bearing Animals taken in Canada,  
Seasons 1941-42, 1942-43 and 1943-44

	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44
	\$	\$	\$
Badger .....	6.64	6.91	4.14
Bear, black or brown .....	2.44	-	-
Bear, grizzly .....	-	-	20.00
Bear, white .....	7.86	5.92	25.00
Bear, unspecified .....	2.51	3.19	3.29
Beaver .....	22.55	29.96	37.06
Coyote or prairie wolf .....	11.76	15.48	16.06
Ermine (weasel) .....	1.20	1.58	2.18
Fisher .....	48.21	50.63	76.21
Fitch .....	1.42	2.61	2.73
Fox, blue .....	21.20	26.38	31.70
Fox, cross .....	15.53	17.59	18.79
Fox, red .....	8.81	12.50	13.89
Fox, silver .....	22.96	24.84	33.96
Fox, new type 1/ .....	41.54	41.39	58.95
Fox, white .....	25.74	28.37	33.22
Fox, unspecified .....	8.39	10.57	16.90
Lynx .....	41.07	44.28	51.96
Marten .....	38.63	39.44	46.29
Mink .....	10.02	11.08	19.55
Muskrat .....	2.06	2.74	2.29
Nutria .....	5.06	3.45	5.60
Otter .....	15.79	19.33	24.00
Rabbit .....	0.10	0.20	0.30
Raccoon .....	4.00	4.99	5.35
Skunk .....	1.89	2.24	3.12
Squirrel .....	0.31	0.34	0.51
Wild cat .....	8.95	13.21	16.47
Wolf .....	11.66	14.79	15.37
Wolverine .....	6.14	8.40	11.34
House cat .....	0.35	0.50	0.50

1/ Includes platinum and white marked fox.