

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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Ottawa, February 25, 1936.-This report contains a summary of the sheep situation in the four western provinces as at December 1, 1936. The figures were secured from farmers co-operating in the semi-annual survey of live stock and poultry in Canada. The survey was conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with the Provincial Governments.

THE SHEEP SITUATION IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

There were 68,200 more sheep on farms in the four western provinces at December 1, 1936 than at December 1, 1935, according to the results of the December 1936 survey. The number of sheep on farms was 1,368,800. This estimate was 5.2 per cent higher than the sheep population of 1,300,600 reported at December 1, 1935.

Some reduction was indicated in the number of ewes bred to lamb during the period December 1936 to May 1937. The reduction below the 1935 figures amounted to 3.8 per cent, but was not as great as the reduction of 10 per cent shown in last year's figures.

Intentions to market and slaughter sheep and lambs during the period December 1936 to May 1937 were reported by farmers as 15.0 per cent less than the intentions given last year. There was considerable variation in the figures for the various provinces obtained in response to this question.

NUMBERS OF SHEEP ON FARMS

December 1

	1935	1936	Percentage Increase (✓) or Decrease (-)
Manitoba	118,300	113,600	- 4.0
Saskatchewan	328,100	312,000	- 4.9
Alberta	700,000	764,200	✓ 9.2
Total - Prairie Provinces	1,146,400	1,189,800	✓ 3.8
British Columbia	154,200	179,000	✓ 16.1
Total - Western Provinces	1,300,600	1,368,800	✓ 5.2

The substantial increase of 9.2 per cent in numbers of sheep on farms in Alberta more than offset declines in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The Province of British Columbia recorded an increase of 16.1 per cent in the sheep population.

NUMBERS OF SHEEP ON FARMS IN THE FOUR WESTERN PROVINCES

	Thousands	
	June 1	December 1
1931	1,430	1,088
1932	1,498	1,298
1933	1,386	1,383
1934	1,534	1,406
1935	1,493	1,301
1936	1,537	1,369

Both the June 1 and December 1 surveys of 1936 recorded increases in the numbers of sheep on farms in the four western provinces. The increase in numbers is a reflection of satisfactory prices for lambs and favourable feed conditions which obtained during the latter half of 1935 and the first half of 1936.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
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TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
FROM DR. J. H. GOLDSTEIN

Enclosed for the Journal are two papers, one of which is a preliminary report on the work of the Chicago group in the study of the kinetics of the reaction of hydrogen peroxide with various organic compounds.

The second paper is a report on the work of the Chicago group in the study of the kinetics of the reaction of hydrogen peroxide with various organic compounds. The work was done in the laboratory of Dr. J. H. Goldstein, who is now at the University of Chicago.

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Compound	Rate constant, k , min^{-1}	Order of reaction
Hydrogen peroxide	0.001	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.002	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.003	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.004	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.005	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.006	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.007	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.008	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.009	First
Hydrogen peroxide	0.010	First

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NUMBER OF EWES BRED TO LAMB

December to May

	1935-36	1936-37	Percentage Increase (✓) or Decrease (-)
Manitoba	92,100	90,400	-1.8
Saskatchewan	163,700	148,000	-9.6
Alberta	523,600	499,700	-4.6
Total - Prairie Provinces	779,400	738,100	-5.3
British Columbia	117,900	125,100	✓6.1
Total - Western Provinces	897,300	863,200	-3.8

According to the reports submitted, the Province of Saskatchewan will have the greatest percentage reduction in the number of ewes lambing this spring. Reductions are also anticipated for Manitoba and Alberta, but British Columbia producers expect an increase of 6.1 per cent.

SHEEP AND LAMBS INTENDED FOR MARKET AND FARM SLAUGHTER

December to May

	1935-36	1936-37	Percentage Increase (✓) or Decrease (-)
Manitoba	7,400	5,200	-29.7
Saskatchewan	32,800	17,600	-46.3
Alberta	149,600	127,300	-14.9
Total - Prairie Provinces	189,800	150,100	-20.9
British Columbia	14,600	23,600	✓61.6
Total - Western Provinces	204,400	173,700	-15.0

Considerable variation in the intentions to market are apparent in the above figures. The intentions for the period December 1936 to May 1937 range from an increase of 61.6 per cent for the Province of British Columbia to a decrease of 46.3 per cent for the Province of Saskatchewan. The extent to which these estimates will be carried into effect is conjectural on account of feed conditions in the Prairie Provinces. As noted in the previous reports on hogs and cattle, cognizance should be taken of any change since December 1 in the important factors affecting farmers' plans.

PRICES

AVERAGE WEIGHTED PRICE OF SHEEP AND LAMBS AT WINNIPEG

Dollars Per Cwt.

	1935	1936
January	5.12	6.47
February	5.33	6.80
March	5.75	7.03
April	5.58	7.44
May	6.60	8.75
June	5.82	6.33
July	5.26	6.20
August	5.09	5.71
September	4.99	5.59
October	5.20	5.80
November	5.83	5.91
December	6.34	6.78

Average prices for sheep and lambs during 1936 were consistently above 1935. In the latter months of 1936, the gains over corresponding months of 1935 were reduced because of an increase in marketings. Cold storage holdings of mutton and lamb recorded more than a seasonal gain in November and December.

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