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# LIVE STOCK SURVEY - DECEMBER 1, 1937

Ottawa, March 21, 1938.-The Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, publishes in this bulletin results of the semi-annual live stock survey made at December 1, 1937. The numbers of live stock on farms at December 1, 1937, production for the period June to December 1937 and expected production and marketings for the period December 1937 to May 1938 were obtained from farmers by means of the card survey. In appraising the estimates based on these returns it should be noted that the "intentions to market" and "expected production" were reported at December 1, 1937. Hence changes in factors affecting marketings and breeding since that date may modify the original estimates.

# SUMMARY

# Hogs

Numbers of hogs on farms at December 1, 1937 were 16.8 per cent below those at the same date in the previous year, and intended marketings for this spring were reported as 12.6 per cent less. A decrease of 16.4 per cent was reported in the number of sows expected to farrow this spring as compared with last spring.

# Cattle

Numbers of cattle on farms at December 1, 1937 were 3.1 per cent below those at December 1, 1936. The intended marketings of cattle during the winter and spring months showed an increase of 16.5 per cent over a year ago, but the decline in cattle prices in the latter part of 1937 has considerably affected the "intentions" estimates as of December 1. A decrease of 2.8 per cent was shown in the number of cows expected to calve this spring.

# Sheep

The number of sheep on farms at December 1, 1937 was 1.8 per cent greater than at December 1, 1936. An increase in marketings of 17.8 per cent for the period December to May 1937-38 was forecast by the survey. A decline of 2.2 per cent was shown in the estimates of the number of ewes expected to lamb this spring.

# Chickens

The number of hens and chickens on farms at December 1, 1937 was 9.0 per cent below the figure for December 1, 1936.

#### HOGS

The number of hogs on farms in Canada at December 1, 1937 was estimated at 3,680,400 compared with 4,422,400 at December 1, 1936. The reduction in hog population amounted to 16.8 per cent with the heaviest declines recorded in Saskatchewan and Alberta. This reduction was the result of an unfavourable hog-feed ratio in the latter in Saskatchewan and Alberta. The increase in numbers with drought in 1936 and 1937 a large harvest of feed grains in 1936. The rate of increase in hog production in the Maritime Provinces appears to be slowing down.

Table 1
Hogs on Farms at December 1, 1936 and 1937

		1936	The second second second		1937		Percent-
	Under 6 Months	Over 6 Months	Total	Under 6 Months	Over 6 Months	Total	age Change
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	411111111111111111111111111111111111111
Pr. Ed. Island Nova Scotia	27,100 37,800	14,000	41,100 54,300	32,000 35,400	15,700 22,900	47,700 58,300	+16.1
New Brunswick Quebec	46,300 424,300	28,600	74,900 730,300	44,600 379,300	30,300	74,900	+ 7.4
Ontario Manitoba	1,197,400		244.100	1,030,600	460,500	719,200	- 1.5 -11.8
Saskatchewan Alberta	430,600 609,700	236,300	666,900 855,700	130,700	87,400 165,400	218,100	-10.6 -42.6
British Columbia	42,700	22,500	65,200	389,300 36,500	237,300 25,000	626,600	-26.8 - 5.7
TOTAL CANADA	2,978,300	1,444,100 4	1,422,400	2,296,000	1,384,400	3,680,400	-16.8

Table 2

Hogs on Farms in Canada

June 1 and December 1, 1931 to 1937

Thousands

	June 1	December 1
1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936	No 4,700 4,639 3,801 3,654 3,549 4,145 3,963	No. 4,264 4,125 3,588 3,649 3,951 4,422 3,680

The number of sows farrowing in the period June to November 1937 was 25.6 per cent less than the number reported for the same period of 1936, with a similar decline in the number of pigs born.

Table 3

Sows Farrowed, June to November, 1936 and 1937

	1936	1937	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island	5,500	5,800	
Nova Scotia	5,800	6,100	+ 5.5
New Brunswick	8,900		+ 5.2
Quebec		8,500	- 4.5
Ontario	89,300	74,100	-17.0
Manitoba	164,400	131,500	-20.0
Saskatchewan	23,200	17,900	-22.8
Alberta	71,600	38,000	-46.9
	99,200	65,100	-34.4
British Columbia	5,600	5,100	- 8.9
TOTAL CANADA	473,500	352.100	-25.6

Table 4

Pigs Born, June to November, 1936 and 1937

	1936	1937	Percentage Change
7	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island	56,500	58,400	+ 3.4
Nova Scotia	60,500	62,400	+ 3.1
New Brunswick	86,400	80,800	- 6.5
Quebec	856,900	710,000	
Ontario	1,643,900	1,341,600	-17.1
Manitoba	213,000		-18.4
Saskatchewan	605,500	160,000	-24.9
Alberta		317,000	47.6
British Columbia	938,800	615,900	-34.4
Di Tottoni Oolumbia	57,600	50,200	-12.8
TOTAL CANADA	4,519,100	3,396,300	-24.8

Pigs saved from fall farrowings in 1937 were 23.1 per cent less than the number reported in 1936. This decline in production was apparent in all provinces with the exception of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The decreases were particularly heavy in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Table 5
Pigs Saved June to November, 1936 and 1937

	1935	1937	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia	48,500 49,400 67,900 697,200 1,315,100 162,900 467,400 751,900 46,000	49,900 51,800 67,600 593,800 1,091,700 130,100 247,800 501,800 40,200	+ 2.9 + 4.9 - 0.4 -14.8 -17.0 -20.1 -47.0 -33.3 -12.6
TOTAL CANADA	3,606,300	2,774,700	-23.1

The number of hogs intended for market and farm slaughter from December to May 1937-38 shows a decline of 12.6 per cent compared with the same period a year ago. For the first 15 weeks of the above-mentioned period the commercial marketings have been 16.4 per cent below those of a year ago.

Table 6

Hogs Intended for Market and Farm Slaughter
December to May 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change	
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Cntario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia	No. 33,000 26,700 37,100 430,200 994,800 119,000 357,000 541,100 39,300	No. 40,900 36,200 47,600 431,500 883,000 124,100 235,400 409,900 45,000	+23.9 +35.6 +28.3 + 0.3 -11.2 + 4.3 -34.1 -24.2 +14.5	
TOTAL CANADA	2,578,200	2,253,600	-12.6	

A further decline in production this spring is indicated by the decrease of 16.4 per cent reported in the number of sows to farrow from December to May 1937-38. Declines are anticipated in all provinces, with the greatest reported in Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Alberta.

Table 7

Sows to Farrow

December to May 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island	5,800	6,600	2 0
Nova Scotia	6,900	6,800	- 2.9
New Brunswick	12,900	12,600	- 1.4
Quebec	145,400	127,400	- 2.3
Ontario	146,200	133,400	-12.4
Manitoba	26,700		- 8.8
Saskatchewan	79,400	24,400	- 8.6
Alberta	112,100	45,800	-42.3
British Columbia		91,800	-18.1
or a serie of minta	7,400	5,600	-24.3
TOTAL CANADA	543,800	454,400	-16.4

#### CATTLE

Numbers of all cattle on farms at December 1, 1937 were 3.1 per cent below those at the same date in 1936. Although increases in the cattle population occurred in six of the nine provinces, the heavy reduction as a result of the drought in Saskatchewan and Alberta more than offset the gains in other provinces.

Table 1
Cattle on Farms, December 1, 1936 and 1937

	1936	1937	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	0.
Prince Edward Island	84,500	90,000	+ 6.5
Nova Scotia	217,900	232,700	
New Brunswick	210,100	217,000	+ 6.8
Quebec	1,537,800		+ 3.3
Ontario	2,503,200	1,643,800	+ 6.9
Manitoba	710,000	2,619,200	+ 4.6
Saskatchewan		757,800	+ 6.7
Alberta	1,366,200	960,400	-29.7
	1,364,900	1,216,700	-10.9
British Columbia	342,800	342,300	- 0.1
TOTAL CANADA	8,337,400	8,079,900	- 3.1

The number of cattle intended for market and farm slaughter from December 1937 to May 1938 was reported as 16.5 per cent greater than for the same period a year ago. With the exception of Saskatchewan, increased marketings were anticipated in all provinces.

Table 2
Cattle Intended for Market and Farm Slaughter
December to May 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	5,000
Prince Edward Island	13,800	16,800	+21.7
Nova Scotia	26,600	33,400	+25.6
New Brunswick	25,400	27,400	+ 7.9
Quebec	185,800	233,700	
Ontario	539,500		+25.8
Manitoba	62,900	653,600	+21.1
Saskatchewan		96,500	+53.4
Alberta	160,500	132,600	-17.4
	208,600	236,000	+13.1
British Columbia	33,300	33,500	+ 0.6
TOTAL CANADA	1,256,400	1,463,500	+16.5

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The number of cows expected to calve in the six months December to May 1937-38 was reported as 2.8 per cent less than in the same months of 1936-37. Saskatchewan farmers anticipated a decrease of 21.9 per cent.

Table 3

Cows Expected to Calve
December to May, 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island	38,000	39,700	1 1 5
Nova Scotia	87,900	86,700	+ 4.5
New Brunswick	104,300		- 1.4
Quebec	983,100	102,100	- 2.1
Ontario	837,300	1,021,900	+ 3.9
Manitoba		836,000	- 0.2
Saskatchewan	229,700	242,800	+ 5.7
Alberta	470,400	367,200	-21.9
	515,300	469,700	- 8.8
British Columbia	91,300	98,300	+ 7.7
TOTAL CANADA	3,357,300	3,264,400	- 2.8

#### SHEEP

An increase of 1.8 per cent was shown in the number of sheep on farms at December 1, 1937. The province of Manitoba recorded an increase of 21.3 per cent.

Decreases occurred in Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and New Brunswick.

Table 1
Sheep on Farms, December 1, 1936 and 1937

	1936	1937	Percentage Change
	Nc.	No.	
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia	38,500 106,500 85,400 501,900 524,400 113,600 312,000 764,200 179,000	38,700 110,500 83,900 515,800 576,200 137,800 297,300 738,000	+ 0.5 + 3.8 - 1.8 + 2.8 + 9.9 +21.3 - 4.7 - 3.4
TOTAL CANADA	2,625,500	2,673,800	+ 1.8

Intended marketings and farm slaughterings of sheep and lambs from December to May 1937-38 were reported as 17.8 per cent greater than in the same period a year ago. Substantial increases were shown for all provinces with the exception of Saskatchewan where a decline of 23.9 per cent was anticipated.

Table 2
Intended Marketings and Farm Slaughterings of Sheep and Lambs
December to May 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta	No. 3,200 12,300 7,700 76,500 70,200 5,200 17,600 127,300	No. 3,500 16,900 9,200 92,400 91,900 9,000 13,400 132,300	+ 9.4 +37.4 +19.5 +20.8 +30.9 +73.1 -23.9
British Columbia TOTAL CANADA	23,600 343,600	36,300 404,900	+ 3.9 +53.8 +17.8

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The number of ewes expected to lamb in the spring of 1938 was reported as 2.2 per cent less than for the spring of 1937. Increases in production were anticipated for Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba.

Table 3

Ewes Expected to Lamb

December to May 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick	31,500 81,300	31,200	- 1.0
	61,800	84,800 61.400	+ 4.3
Quebec	359,900	362,100	- 0.6 + 0.6
Ontario	418,600	432,100	+ 3.2
Manitoba Saskatchewan	90,400	106,700	+18.0
Alberta	148,000	137,400	- 7.2
British Columbia	499,700 125,100	443,900	-11.2
	120,100	117,400	- 6.2
TOTAL CANADA	1,816,300	1,777,000	- 2.2

#### POULTRY

The number of hens and chickens on farms at December 1, 1937 was 39,564,000 compared with 43,491,600 at December 1, 1936. The decline amounted to 9.0 per cent. Increases in poultry numbers occurred in Manitoba and Nova Scotia.

Table 1

Hens and Chickens on Farms

December to May 1936-37 and 1937-38

	1936-37	1937-38	Percentage Change
	No.	No.	
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia	775,100 815,700 1,002,700 6,727,300 15,280,800 3,060,800 8,437,000 5,428,300 1,963,900	734,500 820,500 986,800 6,550,700 13,947,700 3,151,000 6,515,300 4,992,000 1,865,500	- 5.2 + 0.6 - 1.6 - 2.6 - 8.7 + 2.9 - 22.8 - 8.0 - 5.0
TOTAL CANADA	43,491,600	39,564,000	- 9.0



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